



ADAT SHALOM-BETH ACHIM
LEARNING COMMUNITY

HANDBOOK & CALENDAR



2018-2019



CONTENTS

MISSION AND VISION	3
SCHEDULE AND CLASSROOMS	4
Schedule of Classes	4
Classroom Teachers 2018-2019 (5779).....	4
EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY	4
CURRICULUM: OVERARCHING THEMES	5
SPECIAL NEEDS	6
Opening the Doors.....	6
Buddies.....	6
IEP/504 Plans	6
CLERGY INVOLVEMENT	7
HOME ENRICHMENT	7
THE BASICS	8
Arrival Time.....	8
Tefillah / Prayer.....	8
Chuggim (Choice Activities)	8
Books and Supplies	8
What to Wear	9
What to Bring	9
What NOT to Bring.....	9
Snacks at the Shalom Shuk	10
Bagels.....	10
Birthdays.....	10
Teen Madrichim	10

GET INVOLVED	11
Parent Committee	11
Youth Engagement	11
Adult Learning.....	11
Family Education	11
SHABBAT FOR FAMILIES	12
HOLIDAYS & CELEBRATIONS.....	12
COMMUNICATION	13
Email.....	13
Facebook.....	13
Remind App	13
PARKING LOT SAFETY.....	14
Carpool and Drop-off/Pick-up.....	14
HEALTH	15
Allergies/Medical Conditions	15
Illness	15
SNOW DAYS & COLD WEATHER CLOSINGS	16
HEBREW/PRAYER CURRICULUM	17
BAR AND BAT MITZVAH.....	18
Setting the Bar or Bat Mitzvah Date	18
B'nai Mitzvah Connections	18
CALENDAR.....	19
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION.....	0
CONTACT INFORMATION	1

MISSION AND VISION

Mission Statement

Adat Shalom-Beth Achim Learning Community, the educational program of Adat Shalom Synagogue, is committed to enriching the lives of students and families within our congregation in a nurturing environment through diverse Jewish educational experiences according to the values of Conservative Judaism as they relate to God, Torah, holidays, prayer, history, the Hebrew language and the State of Israel. Our school promotes connections between and among families, the synagogue, the community and the State of Israel, creating a path to a happy and meaningful Jewish life.

Our Vision

Our Students take pride in being Jewish through education focused on age appropriate, experiential learning that enhances each student's appreciation for lifelong learning and living as Jews. As an important part of our synagogue community, students gain an understanding of the way Conservative Judaism is practiced at Adat Shalom. They have a strong sense of Jewish values, ethics, Torah, traditions, Israel, and tikkun olam (social action) and have the opportunity to lead as well as participate in tefillot (communal prayer). Their understanding of Judaism gives them a sense of who they are and an appreciation of their role in the larger Jewish community that will last a lifetime.

Our Learning Environment is warm and nurturing. Students feel safe and free to express themselves. Our learning environment is one of mutual honor and respect. Dedicated, creative and enthusiastic teachers guide our students using different learning modalities while meeting the needs of each student. They create a student-centered, active learning environment which extends beyond the classroom into the lives of our students and their families.

Our Families are part of a diverse, engaged and motivated community. They are connected to each other, to Adat Shalom Synagogue, and to the larger Jewish community. By offering meaningful experiences, celebrating holidays and Shabbat, our school provides students and their extended families with opportunities for ongoing spiritual growth.

SCHEDULE AND CLASSROOMS

Schedule of Classes

Grades Pre-K through 1

Sundays only, 9 am to noon

Grades 2 through 6

Sundays, 9 am to noon and Wednesdays, 4:30 to 6:15 pm

Grade 7

Mondays, 6 to 8 pm and Wednesdays, 4:30 to 6:15 pm

Classroom Teachers 2018-2019 (5779)

Pre-K	103	Orit Hamburger & Kelly Bressler
K / Gan	104	Shelly Tarockoff
1 / Alef	105	Marilyn Wolfe
2A / Bet 1	102	Rivkah Nachlas
2B / Bet 2	101	Ettie Schargorodsky
3 / Gimel	106	Abbi Tarockoff
4 / Daled	107	Eva Feuerstein
5 / Hay	108	Aron Kaufman
6 / Vav	109	Hadass Zaid & Ariel Stollman
7 / Zayin	107/108	Sammi Shapiro & Abbi Tarockoff (M)
	Youth Lounge	Michael Wolf & Emily Hollenberg (W)
Art	110	Marla Schram-Wolfe, Brittany Diskin
Opening the Doors		Debbi Stybel

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

In the Book of Proverbs, there is a profound statement: "Educate a youth according to his path, so that when he is old he will not stray from it." Here, we try to put that statement into practice: we try to find out what will help each child succeed, so that our educational process has a long-term impact on each student. ***Our goal is to make Judaism accessible, meaningful, and relevant for our students and their families.***

CURRICULUM: OVERARCHING THEMES

- **Pre-K:** Jewish holidays and experiences are meaningful and fun. I can be an active part of my synagogue and community. There are Jews all around the world and I am part of a larger Jewish community.
- **Kindergarten:** The symbols and ritual objects of Jewish life, including Shabbat, have relevance for my family and myself. I can talk about God and God's role in the universe. I can use Jewish values to be kind to others.
- **First Grade:** My Jewish acts help me discover the beauty and order of sacred time and my place in the Jewish story. I am part of the ongoing story of Torah and the Jewish people.
- **Second Grade:** We are created B'tzelem Elohim, in the image of God, and therefore have certain responsibilities in how we conduct ourselves among our family and peers. This concept is called Derekh Eretz, and our responsibilities are called Mitzvot. I am part of the ongoing story of Torah and the Jewish people.
- **Third Grade:** Mitzvot, or commandments, have two forms: between us and God and between us and other people. I am part of the ongoing story of Torah and the Jewish people. I can understand the cycle of the year through the Jewish calendar.
- **Fourth Grade:** Being Jewish in a modern world is challenging but rewarding. I am part of many communities, but in each of them I remain a Jew with certain responsibilities and expectations. The Torah and its stories are mine to experience, and I can build my confidence in my Jewish knowledge by exploring holidays and my communities in Michigan and Israel.
- **Fifth Grade:** The Jewish values which are part of my life can help me make a difference in my Jewish community. I begin to explore Jewish history and life cycle events as I take my place in the Jewish world. I continue to develop my understanding of the texts of our tradition.

- **Sixth Grade:** As I begin to prepare to become a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, what does it mean to take my place in the Jewish community? How do my roles and responsibilities change? I continue to explore Jewish history and life cycle events, as well as my relationship to Israel, as I grow and learn.
- **Seventh Grade:** I seek to understand contemporary Judaism through the lenses of history, including the Holocaust, and Israel today through multiple narratives and viewpoints.
- **Prayer (all grades):** Students spend time in their classrooms studying the meanings of prayers, how to read and/or chant them, and understanding their core vocabularies. The list of prayers each grade focuses upon is on page 17.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Opening the Doors

We welcome children with differentiated needs into our classrooms. An Opening the Doors specialist works with students who have learning challenges and/or special needs, as well as with their teachers and madrichim on methods of inclusion and integration and differentiated learning strategies. *Opening the Doors is a program of the Jewish Community Center of Metro Detroit.*

Buddies

Students who need a teen buddy/shadow are provided with one at no cost to the family. These teens are specially trained to work one-on-one with students with special needs, and often work with the same child for multiple years. In cases where an adult paraprofessional is needed, please contact the office to discuss arrangements and costs. If the Learning Community determines that your child's needs are best met via an adult paraprofessional, we will be in touch with you.

IEP/504 Plans

We request that if an IEP or 504 plan (or similar) exists, that families provide those to us so that we can aim to achieve the same benchmarks and understand the specifics of your child's needs.

CLERGY INVOLVEMENT

Our clergy are actively involved and play an integral role in our classes and family education programs. Clergy regularly visit classrooms to teach new melodies, explore prayers, teach varying topics, and answer student questions.

HOME ENRICHMENT

Pre-K – 1: Ask your child to tell you a story from the Torah that he/she has learned. Find Jewish objects in your home. Do something special on Shabbat. Read a Jewish book together. Come to synagogue as a family when possible and bring your children to either Tot Shabbat or Shabbat family programming.

2 and 3: Encourage your child to complete his/her 20 minutes of reading each night using PJ Library Jewish books. Encourage your child to practice Hebrew reading for five minutes a day, three days a week. Ask your child to teach you Hebrew if you do not read it. If you need resources, we can help! Bring your child to Shabbat family programming and learn together. Come to synagogue as a family when possible. Do something special on Shabbat.

4 through 7: Encourage your child to complete his/her 20 minutes of reading each night using PJ Our Way Jewish chapter books and help your child practice prayers he/she is learning (a list of prayers each grade will learn is on page 17 of this handbook). We recommend five to ten minutes a day, three to four times per week. Come to Shabbat services (Friday or Saturday) at least once a month as a family and learn with your child at Shabbat family programming. Celebrate holidays together and have your child help lead blessings and prayers at home.

THE BASICS

Arrival Time

Students may arrive as early as 3:45 p.m. on Wednesdays to do homework, play outside on the playground, or relax and have a snack. Our formal afternoon begins at 4:30 p.m. On Sundays, we encourage you to arrive between 8:45 a.m. and 9 a.m. On Mondays, students may begin to arrive at 5:30 p.m. See page 14 for parking lot information.

Tefillah / Prayer

Every Sunday, after students settle into their classrooms, we have a K-6 musical *Tefillah* and *Havdalah* led by Hazzan Gross at 9:15 a.m. At the same time, our Pre-K class has their own service in their classroom. Every Wednesday at 4:40 pm we participate in a fun, engaging afternoon service (*Mincha*) in the Youth Lounge, led by Hazzan Gross.

Students become familiar with prayers, learn to lead services, and connect with our clergy and educators. Students are expected to participate respectfully in the service, sit with their classes, and refrain from playing on their phones or eating during this time.

Chuggim (Choice Activities)

For thirty minutes each week, third through sixth graders will be able to choose a specialty activity. Choices will include art, music, choir, Modern Hebrew, and more. Students will be able to select a new specialty every few months. 3/4 Chuggim will take place Sundays at 11:30, and 5/6 Chuggim will take place Wednesdays at 5:10.

Books and Supplies

Your children will receive all materials from which to learn during the year. Most materials will remain in the classroom. Homework can be completed using handouts and/or your child's prayer book (*siddur*). If your child is in fourth grade or above and you do not have a prayer book at home, please contact the school office.

What to Wear

Boys should wear a *kippah* to class; girls may if they choose. We have extras in the office but have found that children tend to prefer a special one of their own that they have selected. Students and *madrachim* who have already become *bar* or *bat mitzvah* are encouraged to bring *tallit* and/or *tefillin* on Sundays.

We ask that students dress respectfully. If it would not be permitted in your regular school, it's probably not appropriate for Adat Shalom either. Please label your belongings.

Please note that during the winter months, students often wish to go outside during their breaks. Students should come with appropriate gear for the weather.

What to Bring

- ✓ *Tik* (school bag) – Returning students should bring their bags with them. New students will receive one on the first day of school. If your bag has torn, please let us know and you can receive a new one.
- ✓ Kosher (no meat, though!) & nut free snack or money (\$1 to \$1.50)
- ✓ Money for tzedakah (we recommend 25¢ per class session) so we can make the world a better place.

What NOT to Bring

- ✗ Cell phones (unless turned off during class; they may be used during a break)
- ✗ Hand-held computer games or other electronics
- ✗ Fidget spinners and cubes (or any other fidget that makes noise and/or can be misused as a toy)
- ✗ Toys, unless discussed with the office

Snacks at the Shalom Shuk

For 50¢ to 75¢ per item, students may purchase snacks and/or drinks before school. All snacks are kosher and nut free, and we always have dairy free and gluten free options available. If you would like to send a snack from home, please ensure it is kosher and nut free. Cream cheese may be purchased for 25 cents at the Shalom Shuk.

Bagels

Plain bagels and juice/water will be available by pre-order. Limited numbers of bagels will be available in the Shalom Shuk on Sundays and Wednesdays. **If you want to make sure your child has a bagel (and save money), please order in advance.** During the first week of school, we will have plenty of bagels and other snacks available for purchase before the pre-orders are processed. *See the enclosed form.*

Birthdays

If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday at Adat Shalom during class hours, please let your child's teacher know in advance. There are many nut-free, kosher treats available. Class lists with mailing addresses will be made available shortly after the school year begins, and we encourage you to invite the class to your child's birthday celebration.

Teen Madrichim

A *madrich* is a guide, and our school has an amazing cohort of teens who choose to continue being part of the Adat Shalom community on a weekly basis! Beginning in eighth grade, teens may volunteer or work within the school as teaching assistants, buddies, and office assistants.

Teens complete regular training and learn how to best assist the classroom teachers and their students. *Madrichim* often work with students one-on-one in Hebrew reading, help students with projects, run stations or games, and more.

GET INVOLVED

Parent Committee

If you are interested in being part of our parent committee, please contact Amy Newman, head of the education committee, at amynewman2010@gmail.com

Youth Engagement

Helping your children feel a connection to other children and the Adat Shalom community is one of our goals. We offer programs throughout the year for K-5th grades, 6th-7th grades, and 8-12th grades. Events such as Kids' Night Out, Kids' Afternoon of Fun, Middle School events, Teen Volunteer Corps Projects and other programs create opportunities for your kids to foster friendships that could last a lifetime. We encourage participation in area youth groups and experiences as well.

Adult Learning

Throughout the year our clergy and guest speakers offer an array of adult learning opportunities for you to learn and grow, enrich your life and deepen your soul: weekly Torah Study, regular Soulful Yoga, lectures and parenting classes.

In addition to a wide variety of learning opportunities, volunteers create and arrange programs to meet the interests of the congregation. Sisterhood, Men's Club, Young Adult Group, Social Action Committee, and Tikkun Adat provide a link to the synagogue community through social, cultural, educational, spiritual and volunteer opportunities.

Family Education

Family education opportunities take place throughout the year. Some are grade-specific, and other programs are open to the congregation. More information will be provided on a regular basis ahead of each program, and dates can be found in the calendar at the end of this handbook.

SHABBAT FOR FAMILIES

Childcare is available every Shabbat and festival morning from 10 am until the end of services, in the Muscle Room.

Tot Shabbat takes place monthly from November through April with Hazzan Gross and is geared to families with children birth through age 5, from 10 to 10:45 am. During the year, join us for Friday evening *Shabbat Rocks: Family Edition* and *Shabbat Apella: Family Edition* services.

Saturday Morning Live takes place from November through April, from 11 am until the end of services. This monthly session, led by Michael Wolf and Dr. Melissa Ser, is geared to parents and their children ages 6-11. Together we explore the prayers of our service, Jewish values, the Torah portion, and more.

Youth and Family Shabbat will highlight our students' accomplishments and growing comfort with leading prayer. These will take place on December 7 and May 10, and will be followed by catered, sit-down meals with full table service so that we may all enjoy Shabbat together!

HOLIDAYS & CELEBRATIONS

During the **High Holidays**, we offer family services as well as youth activities. Erev **Simchat Torah** is fun for all ages, and our celebration includes dancing and singing with the Torah scrolls, delicious treats to celebrate the sweetness of Torah, and even a raffle!

Purim's Carnival and Megillah Reading is an event you will not want to miss! Mark your calendars now for the evening of March 20. During class hours, students will take part in trivia and costume contests and so much more, and then the Carnival begins at 6 pm – followed by the reading of the Book of Esther (the Megillah), so we can boo Haman!

On **Sukkot, Passover, and Shavuot** we offer a *PJs & Stories* program during which preschoolers and kindergartners can take part in an engaging story and project – and, of course, wear pajamas to shul!

COMMUNICATION

Email

Every week during the school year, usually on Tuesday night, we send out an email to all addresses in our system. These emails contain important highlights of the coming week, dates to remember, special notices, information about upcoming programs of interest, and any changes to our regularly scheduled programming. In addition, teachers send out emails regularly.

If you do not receive teacher emails, please contact your child's teacher directly to be sure he or she has the correct email address. If you do not receive Learning Community emails, please make sure we have your correct email address and that you have not opted-out of emails from us.

Facebook

We have a closed Facebook group, called "Adat Shalom-Beth Achim Learning Community." Please request to join! You can also "like" Adat Shalom Synagogue's Facebook page to get updates on synagogue activities and items of interest.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ASBA.learningcommunity>
<https://www.facebook.com/adatshalomsyn>

Remind App

Reminders and cancellations are sent out via text message on **Remind**. You may download the Remind app onto your smartphone, or text the message **@asbalc** to **81010**, and you will receive text reminders. This is a great way to make sure you don't miss out on special programs or announcements about cancellations! You can also reply directly to Melissa Ser through Remind or ask questions about messages you received.

PARKING LOT SAFETY

We want to make sure that all our students and teen drivers are safe. Please take extra care when entering and exiting the parking lot during drop-off and pick-up, watch your surroundings, and drive slowly and cautiously through the parking lot. The 13 Mile Road exit is EXIT ONLY. Cars may enter and/or exit on Middlebelt Road.

Carpool and Drop-off/Pick-up

EARLY PICK UP: If you need to pick your child up early, please come to the school office and request that one of our staff call the classroom for your child. There is a sign-out sheet in the office. Please do not go to the classroom to retrieve your child.

DROP-OFF: Please drop your child or carpool off at the Canner Entrance near the office. This is the only entrance which will be open during drop-off. Be mindful of children and adults crossing at the entrance, and of icy conditions during the winter months.

CARPOOL LINE PICK-UP: Please use the Kaufman Entrance (the circular drive near the playground). This door is exit only. Do not leave your car unattended in the circle.

IN PERSON PICK-UP: Please park in the parking lot and enter through the Canner Entrance to pick up your children. Children will not be permitted to wait outside at the Canner entrance. There is a convenient lounge at the entrance for you to use while waiting.

Preschool, kindergarten, and first grade students must be walked to and picked up from their classrooms by a parent or an older sibling, unless you give other instructions, in writing, to the teacher/office. However, these students may not be given permission to wait outside the building unattended.

Please do not park in the fire lane or leave your car unattended at the Kaufman Entrance or the Canner entrance.

HEALTH

Allergies/Medical Conditions

If your child has an allergy or medical condition, we must have an emergency protocol and current emergency medications, epi-pens, and/or inhalers in our office.

Our school environment is nut free (you may **not** bring food that “may contain tree nuts or peanuts” or are “processed on shared equipment with tree nuts or peanuts”). We do have students in the school with airborne nut allergies. Thank you for keeping all our children safe.

All food served at school and family education programs is nut free, and Shabbat morning Kiddush treats are from Bake Station (nut free/dairy free). *However, food at synagogue-wide programming may not be, so always ask!*

Illness

If your child is not feeling well during school hours, we will call home so that you can arrange early pick up. If your child is sick, has had a fever within 24 hours, is vomiting or has diarrhea, please do not send him or her to school until the symptoms have resolved.

We understand that winter colds will be prevalent for much of the year, and as long as your child is able to focus and take part in class (and it’s just a sniffle), you may send him or her. Signs to stay home: deep, productive cough or fever. Please send extra tissues and a personal hand sanitizer!

When in doubt, stay home. Your child needs the rest, and can always catch up!

SNOW DAYS & COLD WEATHER CLOSINGS

We check the weather reports carefully during actual or anticipated winter storms, and while generally we are closed when Farmington Public Schools have closed for storms, we are not necessarily closed when the schools close for cold temperatures.

We understand that you need to make arrangements for your children on snow days, and will do our best to make a decision by 6:30 am on Sundays and by 1 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Cancellations will be posted on our school Facebook page as well as on local news sources, and will be sent out via email and Remind as well.

Of course, the most important thing is safety: when in doubt, don't venture out. If we are open but your streets are not passable, err on the side of caution please.

HEBREW/PRAYER CURRICULUM

Please note that students are grouped based on their levels and reading competency. Therefore, there is a general outline of what is learned each year, but this may vary based on each student's needs.

PreK	Hebrew through Movement Facility with Havdalah blessings, Shabbat blessings, Modeh Ani, Shema, and blessings for various foods.
K	Hebrew through Movement Prayers through practice in a continuation from Pre-K, and adding many prayers from our morning service.
1	Introduction to Hebrew letters and vowels Hebrew through Movement Prayers through practice in a continuation from K, and adding additional prayers from our morning service.
2	Hebrew reading fluency Prayers through practice in a continuation from 1 st grade, and adding additional prayers from our morning service.
3 / 4	Hebrew reading fluency More in-depth reading and understanding of some of: Modeh Ani, Blessings for foods, Barchu, Blessings for Sukkot, Passover, Chanukah, Purim, Tu Bshevat, Shabbat, and Yom Haatzmaut, Yotzer Or, Shema, V'ahavta, Ma'ariv Aravim, V'shamru, Mi Chamocha, and Etz Chayim Hi. <i>This material takes approximately two years to complete well. Students who have already mastered this material will move on to the next level.</i>
4 / 5	In-depth reading and understanding of the Amidah for Shabbat (Avot, Gevurot, Kedushah, Kedushat HaYom, Avodah, Hoda'ah, Bircat Shalom)
5 / 6	In-depth reading and understanding of the Torah Service for Shabbat (Ein Kamocha, Av Harachamim, Ki Mitzion, L'cha Adonai, Torah and Haftarah blessings, Ashrei, Mizmor L'David, Aleinu, Adon Olam, Kaddish, Ein Keloheinu) Modern Hebrew as time permits.
6 / 7	In-depth reading and understanding of additional prayers for the Shabbat morning service and Friday evening Shabbat service. Additional prayers and Modern Hebrew as time permits.

BAR AND BAT MITZVAH

Setting the Bar or Bat Mitzvah Date

Synagogue Members: When your child turns 8 years old or enters 3rd grade, you may call Denise Gallagher, the booking coordinator, at (248) 851-5100 to schedule a Bar/Bat Mitzvah date. This date will be scheduled on or after the child's 13th birthday (12th birthday for girls) on the Hebrew calendar. Denise will gladly assist you in determining the Hebrew birth date. There is no booking fee for members.

Non-members: You may reserve a Bar/Bat Mitzvah date *two years* prior to the date of your child's 13th birthday (12th birthday for girls) on the Hebrew calendar, although it is not confirmed until one year prior to the date. There is a non-member usage fee for the Main Sanctuary or Shiffman Chapel for the date of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

B'nai Mitzvah Connections

You and your child will receive an invitation to *B'nai Mitzvah Beginnings* with Hazzan Gross and Melissa Ser. Following that introductory session, you and your child will need to attend each of four workshops during the 12 to 18-month period leading up to your child becoming a bar or bat mitzvah. Each workshop takes place twice per year. These programs are listed on the calendar for your convenience.

For questions, please contact Caren Harwood:
charwood@adatshalom.org or call 248-851-5100, ext. 231

CALENDAR

September

9	Erev Rosh Hashanah
10	Rosh Hashanah, 1 st Day
11	Rosh Hashanah, 2 nd Day
16	Sunday classes begin, 9am Meet the Teacher, 10:45 am Opening Assembly & Consecration of New Students (K and up), 11:15 am Back to School BBQ, noon
18	Erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre)
19	Yom Kippur (no classes) Sounding of Shofar, 8:15 pm
23	Classes in session Pizza in the Hut Sukkah Decorating, noon Sukkot begins at sundown
24	Sukkot, 1 st Day PJs and Stories Sukkot with Rabbi Bergman, 10 am
25	Sukkot, 2 nd Day
26	Wednesday classes begin, 4:30pm
30	Classes in session Shemini Atzeret begins at sundown

October

1	NO CLASSES — Shemini Atzeret Erev Simchat Torah Hakafot and Festivities for all ages, 6:30 pm
2	Simchat Torah
3	Classes in session
7	Classes in session B/M Beginnings, 10:45am
8	Monday classes begin (grades 7- 12), 6 pm Fall Mon. Parent-Tot begins
10	Classes in session
12	Fall Fri. Parent-Tot begins
14	Classes in session Shake, Rattle & Twist, 10:30 am

October (cont.)

14	B/M Connections: Jewish Roots (Ser), 10:45 am
15	Classes in session
17	Classes in session
21	Classes in session Kindergarten Family Program, 10:30 am Kids' Afternoon of Fun, noon
22	Classes in session
24	Classes in session
26-28	75 th Anniversary Weekend
28	Classes in session
29	Classes in session 75 th Anniversary Concert
31	NO CLASSES

November

3	Tot Shabbat, 10 am Saturday Morning Live, 11 am
4	Classes in session Daylight saving ends (fall back) 3 rd Grade Family Program, 10:30 am
5	Classes in session
7	Classes in session
11	Classes in session 1 st Grade Family Program, 10:30 am B/M Connections: Uniform of Prayer (Gross), 10:45 am
12	Classes in session
14	Classes in session
18	Classes in session 6 th Grade Family Program, 10:30am 5 th Grade Visits Sunrise Shake, Rattle & Twist, 10:30 am
19	Classes in session
21	NO CLASSES – THANKSGIVING
25	NO CLASSES – THANKSGIVING
26	Classes in session
28	Classes in session
29	Teen Trip to NYC through Dec 2

December

- 1 Tot Shabbat, 10 am
Saturday Morning Live, 11 am
- 2 Classes in session
Men's Club & Fifth Grade
5th Grade Sing-along at Sunrise
- 2 Chanukah begins at sundown
- 3 Classes in session
- 5 Classes in session
- 7 Youth and Family Shabbat
(Friday Night Service & Dinner)
- 9 Classes in session
B/M Connections: iTorah
(Shere), 10:45 am
4th Grade Traveling Trunk #1
- 10 Classes in session
- 12 Classes in session
- 15 Middle School Night Out, 5:30
pm
- 16 2nd Grade Family Program, 10:30
am
Classes in session
6th Grade It's a Girl Thing/Guy's
Hangout
- 17 Classes in session
Nosh & Drash to Holocaust
Memorial Center
- 19 Classes in session
- 23 NO CLASSES: WINTER BREAK

January

- 6 Classes resume
Shake, Rattle & Twist, 10:30 am
- 7 Classes in session
Winter Mon. Parent-Tot begins
- 9 Classes in session
- 11 Winter Fri. Parent-Tot begins
- 12 Tot Shabbat, 10 am
Saturday Morning Live, 11 am
- 13 Classes in session
B/M Connections: Thinking
Jewishly (Bergman), 10:45 am
4th Grade Traveling Trunk #2,
Parents Invited
- 14 Classes in session

January (cont.)

- 16 Classes in session
- 20 Classes in session
Volunteer Day, 11 am to 1 pm
- 21 No classes; Teen MLK Program
during the day
- 23 Classes in session
- 25-27 Family Camp at Butzel
- 27 Classes in session
6th Grade It's a Girl Thing/Guy's
Hangout
- 28 Classes in session
- 30 Classes in session

February

- 1 Shake, Rattle & Twist, 11:15 am
- 3 Classes in session
4th Grade Traveling Trunk #3
- 4 Classes in session
- 6 Classes in session
- 9 Tot Shabbat, 10 am
Saturday Morning Live, 11 am
Classes in session
Fourth Grade Family Program,
10:30 am
B/M Connections: Jewish Roots
(Ser), 10:45 am
Kids' Afternoon of Fun, noon
- 11 Classes in session
- 13 Classes in session
- 17 NO CLASSES: FEBRUARY BREAK
- 18 NO CLASSES: FEBRUARY BREAK
- 20 NO CLASSES: FEBRUARY BREAK
- 24 Classes in session
B/M Beginnings, 10:45 am
- 25 Classes in session
- 27 Classes in session

March

- 3 Classes in session
7th Grade to Holocaust
Memorial Center (with parents)
4th Grade Traveling Trunk #4
6th Grade It's a Girl Thing/Guy's
Hangout

March (cont.)

4	Classes in session
6	Classes in session
10	Daylight Saving Time Begins (spring forward) Jewish Voice Competition, 2 pm Daddy Daughter Dance, 5 pm
11	Classes in session
13	Classes in session
16	Tot Shabbat, 10 am Saturday Morning Live, 11 am
17	Classes in session B/M Connections: Uniform of Prayer (Gross), 10:45 am Middle School Afternoon of Fun, noon
18	Classes in session
20	Classes in session / Erev Purim Megillah Reading, Carnival & more begin at 6 pm
21	Purim Morning Megillah Reading at B'nai Israel
24	Classes in session
25	Classes in session
27	Classes in session
31	NO CLASSES: SPRING BREAK

April

1	NO CLASSES: SPRING BREAK
3	NO CLASSES: SPRING BREAK
7	Classes resume 6 th Grade It's a Girl Thing/Guy's Hangout
8	Classes in session
10	Classes in session
14	Classes in session Shake, Rattle & Twist, 10:30 am 5 th Grade Family Program, 10:30 am Kids' Afternoon of Fun, noon
15	Classes in session
17	Classes in session
19	Erev Pesach, First Seder

April (cont.)

20	Pesach, Second Seder
21	NO CLASSES: PASSOVER BREAK
22	NO CLASSES: PASSOVER BREAK
24	NO CLASSES: PASSOVER BREAK
26	Passover, 7 th Day PJs and Stories: Passover, 10 am
27	Passover, 8 th Day
28	Classes in session School-wide Israel Day B/M Connections: iTorah (Shere), 10:45 am
29	Classes in session Spring Mon. Parent-Tot begins

May

1	Classes in session
1	Erev Yom Hashoah Observance led by 7 th Gr. & Clergy, 5:45pm
3	Spring Fri. Parent-Tot begins Shake, Rattle & Twist, 11:15 am
5	Classes in session B/M Connections: Thinking Jewishly (Bergman), 10:45 am 4 th and 5 th Grade Traveling Trunk Bus Tour
6	Classes in session
8	Classes in session Yom Hazikaron / Erev Yom Haatzmaut
10	Youth and Family Shabbat (Friday Night Service & Dinner)
12	Classes in session Mother's Day
13	Classes in session
15	Last Wednesday classes
19	Last Sunday classes Community Tefillah parents invited , 9:15 am Third Grade Siddur Celebration, 11 am End of Year BBQ, noon Last Monday classes
20	

***B/M = B'nai Mitzvah**

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

DR. MELISSA SER joined Adat Shalom's professional staff in July 2012. She earned a BA from Florida State University and an MA and PhD from the University of Rochester, and she studied Rabbinics at Hebrew Union College. She holds an MA in Jewish Educational Leadership from the Jewish Theological Seminary and is a participant in the 8th cohort of the Mandel Teacher Educator Institute. She was recognized in 2018 as a Conservative Jewish Educator (CJE) by the Jewish Educators Assembly. She is also adjunct faculty at Eastern Michigan University in the Modern Languages department (Hebrew).

An educator for over 20 years, Melissa spent almost a decade in Jerusalem, as the Academic Coordinator for the Ramah Jerusalem High School and the Director of the Ramah Jerusalem Day Camp. She also served as the Youth Director and Interim Education Director at Temple B'rith Kodesh in Rochester, New York. Melissa prides herself on keeping an open line of communication and fostering a sense of warmth and growth in all formal educational programming for our synagogue's youth.

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