



MISSOURI TORAH INSTITUTE
 – ישיבה ומתיבתא ד'מיזורי –

EYE ON MTI

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A YEAR OF GROWTH

FROM THE DESK OF
 THE ROSH YESHIVA

RABBI SHMUEL WASSER

At MTI, our perspective is to encourage and facilitate true internal growth within each Talmid. Our Chazal teach us that each human being is great, and bears Tzelem Elokim; that we each have a Neshama that is wrought from Hashem's throne. Indeed, after Adam Harishon's creation, the Malachim almost mistook him for Hashem Himself, and began Davening to him! That greatness of Adam is inherent in every person, and continues to this very day.

During our journey through life, we are each responsible for developing our own greatness through commitment to Limud Hatorah and Mussar. Through Torah, we ultimately enable ourselves to rise to the daily challenges presented by the Yetzer Hora. At MTI, our goal is to help each Talmid understand the nature of those challenges and instill in them the tools and skills that they will need to succeed. We are truly excited by the Brachos that have been showered upon us most recently with the opportunity to carry out our mission of Chinuch within a grand and magnificent facility, well suited for this incredible task.

We look forward to an amazing year of Nachas from each of our wonderful Talmidim!



FROM THE DESK OF
 THE MENAHEL

RABBI DOVID GOLDMAN

This year has started off in an amazing way! I am excited for the opportunity we have to engage all our Talmidim by creating and maintaining a Yeshiva where they work together with Rebbeim and teachers to experience academic, emotional, and spiritual growth. This growth is appropriate for their individual capacity, developing a love for Hashem, for themselves, and for learning.

One ingredient in learning to love yourself is coming to embrace the unique way you think and learn. This year, MTI Rebbeim and teachers are engaging in professional learning about the different domains of learning, helping us identify how individual students learn and how certain lessons and skills rely on specific intelligences. Along with this professional learning, we hope to engage our students in learning about how they learn.

Metacognition – thinking about thinking – has already become the big buzzword in

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MTI GROWS

RABBI JOSH BREGMAN
JOINS THE MTI FAMILY AS
VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT

Rabbi Bregman (a native of Valley Village, CA) moved to St. Louis from Queens, NY to run MTI's development office. Rabbi Bregman's friendly and warm demeanor, along with his skill and experience in optimizing development campaigns made him very successful at his prior position at Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim of Queens. He ran a broad scope of fundraising projects and raffle campaigns, significantly increasing the bottom line from each campaign. His goal at MTI is to maximize fundraising opportunities for the Yeshiva, helping them to thrive and succeed like never before.

He is an alumnus of Kollel Ner Dovid in Queens where he learned for 9 years, after learning for two years in Chofetz Chaim in Israel and Bais Medrash Ner Aryeh in Valley Village, CA. He attended Touro College for his undergraduate studies, and holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Trident University. In addition, he's a graduate of Torah Umesorah's Leadership and Fundraising Academy (TULFA).

We welcome Rabbi Bregman to our Yeshiva and community together with his wife, Chana, and their three children, Yehuda Baruch, Elkie and Menachem Simcha.

focus on n



David B

HOBBIES: I enjoy origami, drawing, and playing video games.
WHY I CHOSE MTI: They offer so many opportunities, like the night Seder, ping pong, and workbooks. The teachers are nice and caring, like the Torah and Gemara learning. I also like the Beis Midrash.

Davie

HOBBIES: I enjoy playing video games and reading.
WHY I CHOSE MTI: It is more than just a school. The people here are kind and friendly. The teachers are nice and caring. I have already learned a lot and look forward to learning more.

Eliezer Cunni

HOBBIES: I enjoy playing video games and reading.
WHY I CHOSE MTI: It is a challenging and fun environment. There's enough support on the side. The Rebbeim are very supportive. I feel MTI is a great place to learn.

Shua Dr

HOBBIES: Listening to music and playing video games.
WHY I CHOSE MTI: The MTI Approach is an element in a person, which pushes them to do things by himself, and not because of others. This is a great approach.

Aryeh Leib Frow

HOBBIES: I enjoy playing video games and reading.
WHY I CHOSE MTI: The learning is challenging and fun. It's fun and challenging. The teachers are amazing. The teachers are great. I think it's a great place to learn.

A new year has dawned, and with it comes our newest 9th grade class, ready for the challenges of high school.

This year we are honored to have the privilege of being Mechanech 11 new students who hail from St. Louis and beyond, making MTI their home away from home.

ninth grade

Adalov, Tucson, AZ

ing and puzzle solving. much - the school trips, kout room. I especially ing. I feel I can grow at edrash and 12th Grade.

Clubb, Trenton, IL

oy playing video games. n a school; it is a home. dly. All the Rabbis here learnt so much at MTI ward to learning more.

ingham, Denver, CO

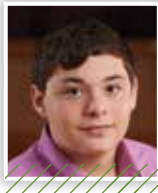
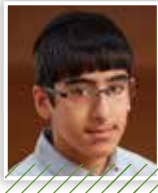
reading and exercising. m and welcoming with n time for your hobbies warm and the kids are place where I can grow.

asui, Oak Park, MI

usic and playing sports roach. It really invokes hes him to do the right se he's being forced to. roach to life in general.

owitz, St. Louis, MO

ping pong and relaxing. at everyone's level, and gym and art room are hink I can grow in MTI.



Beuuy Gartunkel, Savannah, GA

HOBBIES: I enjoy sports, trips and eating.

WHY I CHOSE MTI: The guys here are great and the dorms are fun. The Rabbis are amazing and the sports are good. They have a nice fountain and an awesome building with a gym and a workout room.

Moshe Keut, St. Louis, MO

HOBBIES: I enjoy learning, sports, eating and hanging out.

WHY I CHOSE MTI: The Rebbeim are warm and welcoming, and the guys are chilled out and very nice. The building is also really nice! I hope I can accomplish learning and shteiging at MTI.

Yaakov Koenig, Spring Valley, NY

HOBBIES: I enjoy biking, sports, and learning.

WHY I CHOSE MTI: Everyone here is nice and they offer so many classes on so many levels. I feel that I can accomplish a lot at MTI.

Abe Schulman, Columbus, OH

HOBBIES: I enjoy playing sports with friends, especially soccer and ping pong.

WHY I CHOSE MTI: The Rebbeim are supportive and create a warm environment. The guys are fun to hang out with. And there are trips every week. The teachers are helpful and understanding; they help us get a good secular education. The food is very good, and the dorms are comfortable.

Eyal Shwartzman, Buenos Aires, Argentina

HOBBIES: I enjoy sports, eating and sleeping.

WHY I CHOSE MTI: It's a nice and fun environment. There is great learning and very nice people. The secular studies are good and interesting, and the building is a nice place to live in.

Avraami Waller, Greenwood Village, CO

HOBBIES: I enjoy football, soccer, biking and hiking.

WHY I CHOSE MTI: Because of the serious, but well-paced learning. Everyone is friendly with each other. The dorm is awesome, as is the warm environment and secular studies. I feel I can grow at MTI. I also like the great food.

SUMMER ZMAN IN *Sunny* *California*

MTI'S COMMUNITY BAIS MEDRASH IN THE VALLEY

For the past three years, Missouri Torah Institute's Bais Medrash Bochorim have been going to Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley community to join and beautify the Torah learning for the month of July. This year brought twenty-five Talmidim together with their Rebbeim, Rabbi Avroham Goldman and Rabbi Shmuel Wasser, who all came for part of their summer, to top off a full year of learning in St. Louis. They learned Maseches Bava Basra.

Hosted during the day at Valley Torah High School, the Bochorim dedicated their mornings to Shiurim on various Sugyos B'iyun, while afternoons were devoted to Bekiyus Seder.

Driven to succeed, the Talmidim worked at their goal of finishing their 50 Blatt for the year. Their days concluded with a communal night Seder at Shaarey Zedek Congregation, where the Bais Medrash was packed with people. Local community members paired and learned with MTI Talmidim to create beautiful sounds of Torah that filled the air with unmatched energy. After Maariv and a thought-provoking Dvar Halacha, the local day school, Emek Hebrew Academy, opened their basketball gym for the Yeshiva and community to enjoy a game of basketball.

The Valley community has hosted this wonderful program over the years with open arms, allowing MTI the tremendous opportunity to share Ruchnius and vitality with its members.

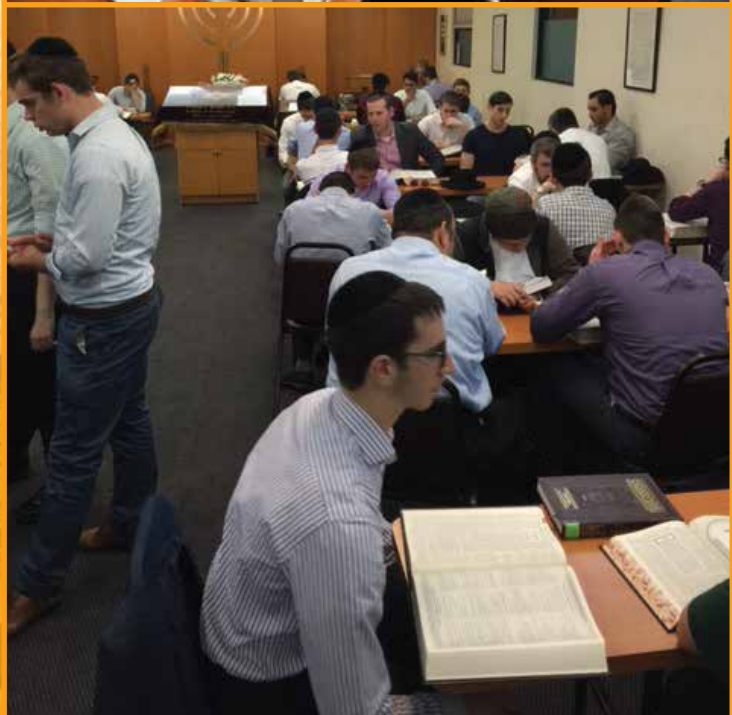
The Bochorim have been graciously hosted by local families, who each give generously of themselves and share their warm hospitality – homes, meals, and even swimming pools. The community also hosts the Yeshiva for Shabbos meals and Onegs.

The incredible warmth of the Valley community has made an indelible impression on MTI students and Hanhala.

This unique summer program has only been possible due to the work of its humble founder, Mr. Jonathan Istrin, who has invested countless hours of work into arranging the logistics. When asked what motivates him, Mr. Istrin replied, "Having a Bais Medrash in the Valley and seeing all the learning makes it well worth my while."



Mr. Jonathan Istrin



SEIZING THE CHANCE FOR CHESSED

Torah Prep of St. Louis is MTI's Guest

Just days into the new school year, MTI was presented with a unique opportunity for a grand-scale Mitzvah. Torah Prep School of St. Louis, a Jewish elementary school in University City, experienced a delay in summer renovations to their building, and needed to find a temporary location to move their school.

Learning about this predicament and knowing that MTI's classroom wing has one floor of classrooms that are not yet in use, the Roshei Yeshiva invited Torah Prep to use this space to host their preschool and girls' classes through 3rd grade, until the renovations are complete.

Rabbi Tzvi Freedman, Executive Director of Torah Prep, effused "We are so grateful to MTI for their hospitality during this time period. Working together as a community is extremely heartwarming."

"It's quite unusual that a Yeshiva is blessed with the opportunity to perform such a large-scale act of Hachnasas Orchim," says Rabbi Shmuel Wasser. "We are thankful to Hashem for allowing us to have a facility such as ours, and that Bracha is highlighted in times like this."

Excerpts of a Response from an MTI Parent

I cannot even begin to tell you how happy I am that we have Avrami at MTI. It's situations like the one you describe that confirm and support our decision that he needs to be at a Makom Torah that doesn't just learn Torah, it lives Torah. This is a vital lesson that each Jew needs to see in today's times, and you are showing all the boys how to do this... Hashem wants us to be in His world, interacting and making a Kiddush Hashem, and all the while being B'simcha. This is where our personal growth and striving for perfection is found.

Hashem must be shepping such Nachas from the decision MTI made! This is the purpose of the building and its extra classrooms! To fill the rooms with the sounds of beautiful Jewish children learning Hashem's Torah!

May Hashem bless the learning of all the students at MTI and Torah Prep School, and ALL children of K'lal Yisroel.

Yasher Koach!

Matt and Jody Walles
Greenwood Village, Colorado



focus

on chesed

Baruch Hashem, the **MTI Chesed Initiative** at MTI started with a bang this year. Our student committee is being led by Avromi Lieberman, Shimi Reinhold, Dovid Chaimovitz, and Yonah Rosenzweig. The committee is involved with organizing Chesed activities for our Talmidim. To date, our Talmidim have been involved in staffing an Aish Hatorah Shabbos dinner, Tomchei Shabbos pre-Yom Tov packing and deliveries, and participating in a local blood drive.

Additionally, our weekly JUMP 'big brother' program is underway. At JUMP, Talmidim spend time tutoring and mentoring youth from the community at the Yeshiva.

A variety of other programs and activities will be forthcoming this year as we work to educate our students about the importance of hands-on Chesed.

Please feel free to contact Rabbi Bregman regarding new ideas for community Chesed.





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1809 Clarkson Road
Chesterfield, MO 63017
www.missouritorah.org
636.778.1896



Rabbi Welcher Visits MTI

MTI was thrilled to welcome and host Harav Herschel Welcher, the Rav of Congregation Ahavas Yisroel of Queens, NY, who came to Missouri to offer practical Halacha and Divrei Chizuk to the Yeshiva the week before Yomim Noraim.

Rabbi Welcher, who serves as the chairman of the Vaad Harabanim of Queens' Kashrus Committee, toured the Yeshiva's kitchen and was impressed with its Kashrus standards. He gave his Haskama to the Yeshiva Eruv and addressed a variety of other Halachic questions the Hanhalas Hayeshiva had.

Having spent two days at MTI, Rav Welcher gave a number

of Shiurim to the Bais Medrash and the Mesivta. Some of the sessions were question-and-answer style, where the Talmidim had the opportunity to ask the noted Posek their practical Halachic Shailos.

"I was very impressed with both the Talmidim and the beautiful new campus," the Rav remarked.

Rosh Yeshiva Rabbi Dovid Fromowitz is very appreciative of Rabbi Welcher's momentous visit. "To have such a Talmid Chocham – who is extremely busy – come to St. Louis so close to Yom Tov is truly a Chizuk to the Rebbeim and Talmidim at MTI!" he beamed. "Rabbi Welcher's visit was a great boost to lead the Yeshiva into the proper frame of mind for the upcoming Yomim Noraim!"

Contd. from front page

Yeshiva. Analyzing how each Talmid thinks is the key to great learning and tremendous growth.

This year, the Mesechta the whole Yeshiva is learning in Iyun is Yevamos. This Mesechta discusses the Mitzvah of Yibum and how that relates with different Issurim in the Torah regarding relationships. While we study this challenging Mesechta, our goals include helping the students learn and appreciate the Torah's sense of values and morality. We hope to inculcate an appreciation for the beauty of a Torah way of life through in-depth learning about this important topic through the Torah's perspective.

Finally, our returning talmidim have become quite familiar with **The MTI Approach**. Our goal this year is to introduce this approach to our 23 new Talmidim, and also to involve more parents in this learning. As always, parents are encouraged to take advantage of the weekly Menahel's Mussar Message that we email out. In addition, we hope to provide other opportunities for parents, Talmidim, and the Yeshiva to work together as we grow throughout the Talmid's MTI experience.



WATCH YOUR MAIL!

Our **10th Annual Israel Raffle Campaign** will be launched shortly. This campaign is vital to the Yeshiva, as it helps us raise much needed scholarship funds.

The grand prize drawing will take place on Motzei Shabbos December 3rd. **The prize is four round-trip tickets to Israel!**

Be a partner in MTI's distinctive Chinuch and make a difference for our Talmidim! Join in our exciting raffle and win a great prize, while supporting our world-class Yeshiva!

Call Rabbi Josh Bregman for more details at 636.778.1896 x108
Or visit www.missouritorah.org