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Bais Yaakov of Baltimore; Perspectives



Bais Yaakov, Maryland's largest private school, blends a high standard of academics and extra and co-curricular enrichment with warmth and personal connectivity. Enjoy a glimpse into this unique educational experience from the perspectives of an alumna, teacher and parent.

Hadassah Gutman, thank you for sharing your experiences. When did you graduate Bais Yaakov?

I graduated Bais Yaakov in 2010.

What are you currently doing?

I'm a molecular biologist working in early cancer diagnostics.

Wow! That's a fascinating field. How did your BaisYaakov education help prepare you for this important work?

I am so grateful to Bais Yaakov for offering so many Advanced

Placement classes while I was in high school. All of the non-science credits I needed for my degree were offered in the comfort of BaisYaakov. This allowed me to finish my degree earlier and enjoy subjects that might have been unpleasant for me to take in a secular college, such as psychology and public speaking.

That's wonderful. I didn't realize that Bais Yaakov offers so many Advance Placement options. How do you feel Bais Yaakov meets the different needs of their students?

Bais Yaakov celebrates the different strengths of their students by offering diverse course electives and extracurricular activities to appeal to every girl.

Are you still in touch with your teachers?

After more than ten years, I feel comfortable calling any of my teachers even if I don't maintain a constant connection. I still carry with me the lessons they taught.

Now let's hear from Mrs. Tanya Gerstman, a Bais Yaakov Middle School teacher.

How long have you been teaching in Bais Yaakov?

This is my fourteenth year teaching in Bais Yaakov Middle School. It is truly inspiring to me to observe my students and learn from the amount of

effort, creativity, and energy they put into their work, their friendships, and their lives.

In what ways do you see teachers supporting their students?

Our teachers truly go above and beyond, as we know we are educating the future of Klal Yisrael. We have teachers who think nothing of calling students who are absent, bringing material to students' homes, buying supplies for girls who might be lacking resources or taking girls shopping for Yom Tov outfits.

Do you keep in touch with your students after they graduate?

We definitely do. We care about the person and not just the student. Our conversations revolve around better methods to teach, how to help students in challenging situations and how to transmit our mesorah in the most positive manner. I feel fortunate to teach alongside such special individuals.

Thank you, Mrs. Gerstman for everything you do for the girls in our community. Let's hear from Mrs. Chaya Feldman, mother of four Bais Yaakov girls, Baruch Hashem.

Mrs. Feldman, please describe your experience with BaisYaakov.

I currently have daughters in Nursery, 4th grade, 5th grade, and 7th grade

and am thrilled with Bais Yaakov's warm atmosphere and talented teachers. I have loved every teacher that we were fortunate to have.

That's great. Bais Yaakov is blessed to have such a capable and loving staff. What specifically stands out to you in your experience as a mother of Bais Yaakov girls?

I am continually amazed at how Bais Yaakov is able to balance being such a large school and keeping the classes small and personal. My girls get so much individual attention from their teachers and usually have only 18 to 21 girls in each of their classes.

It is pretty remarkable that Bais Yaakov is able to keep that small school feel with so many students. What other things do you appreciate?

The dedicated administrators and staff wait outside the elementary school every morning to welcome each girl with a smile. Also, when I speak to an administrator about a specific need, I feel sincerely heard. Teachers and administrators follow up to check on my child later to ensure that any issues have been fully resolved. It is impressive how much time and care goes into each girl.

Thank you, Mrs. Feldman for sharing your experiences, may you continue to have hatzlacha.