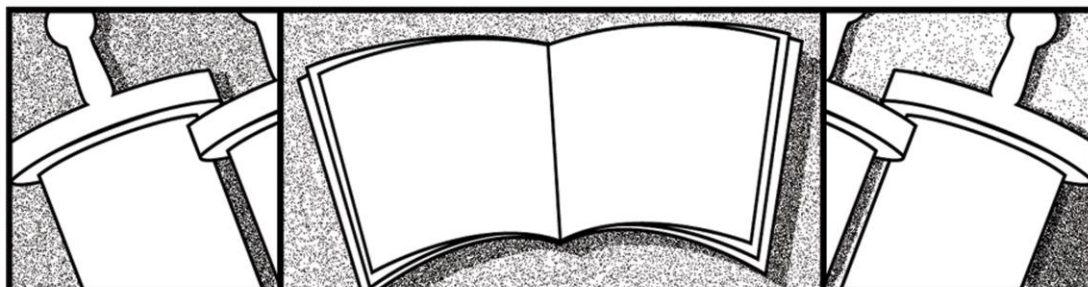


TORAH DAY SCHOOL OF DALLAS



GREATNESS STARTS HERE!

Student/Parent Handbook 2020-21

Information in this handbook supersedes any previous Torah Day School of Dallas handbooks.

TDSD Mission Statement

Our mission is to be an exemplary educational institution that provides Jewish children from all levels of family observance with a rigorous and progressive general studies curriculum and an exceptional Judaic curriculum. We seek to prepare our students for success in challenging high schools and to impart to each of them a positive Jewish identity, a lifelong passion for learning, and a love of and commitment to Torah and the Jewish people. Torah Day School of Dallas's positive and nurturing environment emphasizes moral and ethical behavior, encouraging individual achievement and respect for individual differences.

School Cancellation or Delayed Start

In the case of emergency or weather-related closings or late starts, parents will receive texts and e-mails to the numbers we have on file by 6:40 a.m. of the day in question. If no message is sent, parents may assume that the schedule is as usual.

Picking up a Child during the School Day

We recognize the occasional need to schedule an appointment during school time. For the children's safety, any student leaving must be signed out through the west lobby by a parent. Students returning must also be signed in.

Attendance Requirements

The state of Texas requires students to be in attendance a minimum of 90% of school days in order to receive credit for the school year. Anyone who misses 5 or more days per quarter is in danger of not meeting this minimum. If a student misses 5 or more days in the first quarter, parents will be called. If the pattern continues in the second quarter, a meeting of parents, student, and administrators will be held.

Academic Requirements and Grade Placement

Report cards are issued once each trimester. In grades K-3, parent conferences will be held if there is a question about retention. In grades 4-8, a student who fails to pass a course should not be assumed to pass to the next grade; a parent conference will be held about what will happen.

A student must be 5 on or before September 1 to enter Kindergarten, even if he or she has completed a Pre-K program at TDSD or elsewhere.

A student who has missed school for an approved absence (illness, or a pre-approved family event) will have two days per day of absence to make up the work. After that time, the teacher may require the student to make up the work during recess or lunch.

Behavior Requirements

Torah Day School of Dallas students are expected to be courteous, responsible, respectful to teachers and other students, and to show care of their own property, school property, and the property of others. Many types of prohibited behavior are obvious and/or illegal in any school environment and need not be detailed here. Physically aggressive behavior or verbal or written comments or pictures that distress, threaten, annoy, bully, or intimidate another person are not allowed, whether or not the targeted person complains. Offensive speech (profanity, coarse slang words, and loud and disrespectful comments) are also not allowed. Please remember the following specific rules:

Safety and supervision:

- Students must always be with their class, and may not remain in a classroom or on the playground after the class has left.
- Students may never enter a class that is in session, other than their own assigned class.
- Students are not permitted in areas of the building not authorized for them. Students in grades 4-8 may have no contact (including notes) with students of the opposite gender during the school day.
- Students may not leave a class without permission or “skip” a class for any reason.

Food at School:

- Students may not chew gum in school.
- Students may not eat in the classroom unless specifically invited to do so by the teacher. (Students should not ask for permission. Eating is only when the teacher plans the event.)
- The playground is a “food free” zone. We have a new snack area in which students may eat, make a *bracha achrona*, and throw garbage away.
- Students may not bring food to share.
- Students may not sell food to others on a private basis.

Birthday Parties:

- Birthday treats may be served at lunch only. These need to be in original sealed containers with kosher certification (nothing homemade), must be single-serve (e.g. cupcakes) **and must be parve**.
- Students and/or parents may not put together a class party that is a surprise to the teacher.
- Students may not hand out party or event invitations at school.
- **Students in K-8 may not attend a birthday party of a younger sibling.** Please understand that this is very disruptive to learning given the large number of siblings in our school.

Personal property:

- Students may not bring balls from home to use at recess.
- Students should not carry large amounts of cash and should not store money in a locker.
- Students may not bring an electronic device (anything with an “on” and “off” button) except a calculator when permitted for math class.
- Students may not bring written material (books, magazines, etc.) to school that have pictures or content that are offensive to TSD values in the judgment of an administrator
- Students may not bring anything that a teacher can reasonably construe to be a weapon.
- Forbidden objects will be confiscated and released only to a parent.

School property:

- Students are responsible to maintain textbooks in the condition they were received. Families will be charged for lost or damaged books.
- Students will be given supplies that should reasonably last for the year; lost, wasted, or damaged items must be replaced by the family.
- Students who are issued lockers must keep them in clean and good condition. **No stickers** should be put on the outside or inside of lockers.
- If a lock is desired for a locker, it must be supplied by the school; the fee is \$10.

- For legal reasons, no area of the school, including lockers and desks, should be considered a private space. Administrators have the right to reasonable search and review of any space in the building at any time.

Computer use:

- Students may not use the Internet in school without direct supervision by their own teacher who oversees them going to a specific school-approved website.
- Students may not use school computers to access e-mail.
- Students may not change screen savers, download or install programs, etc.
- Of course, computer misuse not allowed in any institution is also forbidden here (any type of damage to software or hardware, malicious use, etc.)

Health Requirements

Illnesses that Exclude Children from School:

A child should be kept home for the following reasons:

- Fever in the past 24 hours
- Vomiting in the past 24 hours
- Symptoms of contagious illness including green or yellow discharge from the nose; an undiagnosed rash on the skin; an eye discharge or red, itchy eyes; fever; barking cough (croup); mouth sores; or any other suspected contagious ailment.

If a child is sent to school and exhibits any of the above criteria, parents will be called and asked to pick up their child.

Medication:

All medication, either prescription or over-the-counter, must be administered to students by office personnel. **No student of any age may keep any type of medicine in his or her locker, backpack, cubby, or any other personal place.**

- One-time or daily medications: Parents must sign an authorization and include times for TDSB employees to administer each medication according to label directions. Medication must be in the original container labeled with the child's full name and the date brought to school
- Recurring medical problems: If a child has a periodic and recurring medical problem, such as headaches, asthma attacks, or allergic reactions, the parent and healthcare professional must sign a medication authorization allowing the school to administer as needed. Any necessary medical devices such as an inhaler must be provided by the parent and labeled with the child's name. All medications must be picked up by parents at the end of each school year, and re-authorized the following school year.

Critical Illness or Injury:

Emergency Medical Services will be contacted or the child will be taken to the nearest emergency room. If time allows, in the judgment of TDSB personnel handling the situation, parents will be contacted before this decision is made; if not, they will be contacted at the earliest possible opportunity. **Efficient parent communication depends upon the parent providing an adequate number of phone contact numbers on the medical authorization form that must be updated each year.**

Head Lice

Students are checked periodically for head lice. Parents will be notified when lice or nits are found, and students will be sent home. Before returning to school, a student must have approval

from an authorized school checker (please see the secretary for names). If live lice or more than one or two nits are found, a card will not be given. Students must be rechecked two days after re-entry; it is the parent's responsibility to take the student to a school-authorized checker. Rechecks will continue as long as the checker feels is necessary.

Immunizations

Parents must provide TDSB with updated records documenting each child's compliance with the standard schedule of immunizations as outlined by the state of Texas. TDSB does not allow exemptions for reasons of conscience. Medical exemptions are allowed when a physician completes and signs TDSB's own affidavit, available upon request, for this category of exemption. Failure to comply with immunization requirements could result in removal of a child from school until the situation is rectified.

Vision and Hearing Screening:

Parents must provide TDSB with updated records documenting each child's vision and hearing screening upon entering the school and again in Pre-K, grade 1, 3, 5, and 7. As a courtesy, TDSB arranges for health care professionals to conduct these screenings, at a small charge to the parent. Parents who do not submit their own records will be automatically billed when the screening is done at school. Screenings are required for all first-time students age 4 or above, as well as all students in Pre-K, grade 1, 3, 5, and 7.

Uniform Requirements

Please closely review the below policy. Enforcement will include:

Skirts: If a girl is wearing a skirt that does not amply cover her knees, she will be provided an appropriate skirt and asked to change.

Socks: A girl who is not wearing knee socks of sufficient length will be given a pair. These must be cleaned and returned.

Shirts: We do not want to deprive students of learning because of uniform. If the color is correct and it is a first offense, parents will simply be contacted to please solve the issue in the future. If it happens repeatedly, parents may be required to bring the correct item to school.

Non-uniform pants: Same as shirts above.

Outerwear that does not have the school logo: Students will be asked to remove any non-approved sweatshirt or outerwear (see policy for details) while in the building. If the student puts it on again while in the building, it will be confiscated and returned directly to parents.

Uniform Requirements 2019-20

K-8 GIRLS	K-8 BOYS
<p>Shirts and Blouses: These must be purchased through the TDSD page of www.landsend.com or must be identical to what is shown there. Polo and oxford styles are allowed for all grades. If a visible t-shirt or shell is worn, it must be white.</p> <p>Grades 3-8 must wear long-sleeves. Younger girls may wear short sleeves, but may not wear a different long-sleeve shirt underneath.</p> <p>K-5 color: light blue. Light yellow is no longer allowed.</p> <p>Grade 6-8 color: light pink. Light blue is no longer allowed.</p>	<p>Shirts: Shirts must be purchased through the TDSD page of www.landsend.com or must be identical to what is shown there. Polo and oxford styles are allowed for all grades; short and long sleeves are allowed.</p> <p>K-7 color: light blue. Grade 8: light blue or option of white.</p> <p>Boys who wear short sleeves may not wear a different long-sleeve shirt underneath.</p>
<p>Skirts: Skirts must be purchased through The Sock Market (Mrs. Chana Klein, 214-417-1436). These may be ordered at any time, but “free shipping” sales will be held during the year. <i>Skirts must be of sufficient length that the knee remains covered while sitting, playing ball, crossing one leg, etc.</i></p>	<p>Pants: Navy uniform-style pants must be purchased through the TDSD page of www.landsend.com, or must be identical to what is pictured there. K-4 boys may also wear shorts as pictured on the website.</p>
<p>Shoes and Socks: Any shoes with closed front and back (no crocs or sandals); K-8 socks and tights must be solid navy, black, gray, or white. In grades 3-8, socks must also fully reach the knee. Leggings should not be visible; “capri” length is OK.</p>	<p>Shoes and Socks: Any shoes with closed front and back (no crocs or sandals); socks must be navy, black, or white, and must fully cover the ankle.</p>
<p>Other: No makeup.</p>	<p>Other: Yarmulke required; no baseball caps or other types of hats.</p>
<p>Outerwear: Anything worn over the uniform in the building must be purchased through the TDSD page of www.landsend.com with the school logo. Items purchased previously with the TDSD logo (girls’ velour jacket, navy logo sweatshirt) are also allowed. A regular uniform shirt must be worn under the sweatshirt/jacket.</p>	
<p>Rosh Chodesh: All students may wear solid white shirts/tops. Girls may wear patterned or colored knee socks.</p>	