



להגדיל תורה ולהאדירה



Mesivta Yesodei Hatorah

MISSION STATEMENT

Mesivta Yesodei Hatorah was established to provide motivated bochurim the environment and tools to flourish as B'nei Torah. From the moment the talmidim arrive on campus, they are infused with an abiding yiras shamayim and ahavas hatorah. Our faculty is dedicated to the growth, well-being and safety of the bochurim, 24 hours a day. Our goal is to produce genuine B'nei Torah—articulate and self-confident bochurim whose conduct and behavior will raise kavod shamayim.

Experienced, vibrant rebbeim mold our talmidim. The Mesivta recognizes that the rebbi-talmid relationship is critical to the proper development of talmidim. Consequently, our rebbeim shower the bochurim with warmth, encouragement and hadracha. The close connections they develop with the talmidim are relationships that last a lifetime. A primary focus of the shiurim is to train our talmidim in classical lomdus, equipping them with a derech halimud. Shiurim in chumash, halacha, mussar, navi and bekius are part of our well rounded limudei kodesh program.

Our outstanding general studies program prepares our bochurim for success in whatever path they choose to pursue, after their yeshiva years. Our dedicated teachers are experts in their respective fields. Through a serious and meaningful curriculum, the students acquire a range of knowledge and skills that are vital for their future lives.

Mesivta Yesodei Hatorah is a yeshiva for the motivated bochur who aspires to reach great heights through learning and growing as a Ben Torah.



A Message from



HARAV DONIEL LANDER shlita

Rosh Hayeshiva

Baruch Hashem, we have been zoche to establish a successful Makom Torah in Connecticut that, in a brief period of time, has already raised the horizons of our talmidim. The B'nei Mesivta have demonstrated the conduct and commitment of genuine B'nei Torah, aspiring for ever-continuous growth in their avodas Hashem and ameilus b'Torah. I am personally gratified by the steady stream of compliments that I receive from all those who meet our talmidim.

A large share of the credit, of course, belongs to the menahel, Rav Aryeh Reiss, shlita, whose blend of personal warmth, vibrance and deep-seated yiras shamayim has inspired our bochurim to devote themselves to their own personal shteiging.

Mesivta Yesodei Hatorah is underpinned by our belief that bochurim respond to challenge. Our rebbeim are amongst the finest talmidei chachamim of the olam hatorah who imbue in our talmidim the analytical skills appropriate for budding lamdonim. Indeed, our entire curriculum is geared toward the pursuit of excellence.

Our dream of building a mesivta that is animated by the ruach hatorah surrounded by kollel yungeleit and Torahdik mishpachos has become a reality. We invite you to join our dream and to participate in its growth.

HARAV ARYEH REISS shlita

Menahel & 9th Grade Rebbi

Rabbi Aryeh Reiss, a native of Los Angeles, California, is a talmid of the Telshe Yeshiva in Chicago, where he studied for 8 years and developed a lasting and close bond with the Rosh Yeshiva, Hagaon Harav Avrohom Chaim Levin, זצ"ל. Following his years at Telshe, he continued his studies at the famed Yeshivas Brisk in Eretz Yisroel and Beis Medrash Govoha in Lakewood, New Jersey. Rabbi Reiss spent his four kollel years in Eretz Yisroel, learning at Kollel Tiferes Tzvi (Brisker Kollel), and served as night seder Sho'el Umeishiv for bochurim in Beis Medrash L'Torah.

From there, Rabbi Reiss joined the staff of Yeshivas Ohr Hachaim as a Beis Medrash Sho'el Umeishiv, as well as rebbi in Mesivta Yesodei Yeshurun. His signature warmth and enthusiasm, along with his superior teaching abilities, made him a very successful and beloved rebbi.

Rabbi Reiss is our Menahel and 9th grade Rebbi. "My goal for each and every talmid is to give him the skills necessary to have fluency and confidence when approaching Gemara, Rashi, Tosfos, and Meforshim so that the pshat in the gemara is crystal clear." "Moreover," he adds, "I see it as my obligation to inspire in the bochurim an appreciation and a geshmak in their avodas Hashem, a love for learning, and an understanding of how fortunate they are to be B'nei Torah."

He always makes himself available for the bochurim, and the bochurim seek his guidance and counsel in all areas of life. Many of his former talmidim keep in close contact with Rabbi Reiss even after leaving his shiur.

A talmid of Rabbi Reiss has a rebbi for life.



Rabbi Zvi Dana • 10th Grade Rebbi

Rabbi Zvi Dana began his beis medrash years in Yeshivas Ohr Hachaim and proceeded to learn in Eretz Yisroel for several years under Rav Tzvi Kaplan. He learned in Beis Medrash Govoha in Lakewood and spent his kollel years in Eretz Yisroel. Rabbi Dana was then encouraged by Harav Lander to return to Ohr Hachaim/Yesodei Yeshurun where he gave a shiur to first year beis medrash bochurim while also serving as a Sho'el Umeishiv for beis medrash bochrim, and Bekius Rebbe for the 9th grade hasmadah program.

Rabbi Dana is committed to nurturing his talmidim to grow in their learning while also providing them the tools and foundation to develop into refined B'nai Torah in every aspect. He forms warm and lasting relationships with his talmidim to help them with their development as they progress beyond the Yeshiva.



Rabbi Yosef Goldfinger • 11th Grade Rebbe

Rabbi Goldfinger has created a name for himself as a mechanech who is able to connect with bochurim and inspire them to achievements in learning and avodas Hashem. He is renowned for his incisive lomdus and clarity of presentation. Rabbi Goldfinger began his beis medrash years in Yeshivas Ohr Hachaim and proceeded to learn in Eretz Yisroel for several years under Rav Asher Arieli and Rav Tzvi Kaplan. His early kollel years were spent in Eretz Yisrael in the Brisker Kollel. Upon his return to America, Rabbi Goldfinger joined Kollel Knesses Yisrael of Eltingville, Staten Island.

From Staten Island, Rabbi Goldfinger worked as a Night Seder Rebbe with bochurim for six years in Yeshiva Zichron Leyma, under the Rosh Yeshiva, Rav Gershon Newman. He also served for over three years as a beloved Sho'el Umeishiv in Yeshiva Toras Chessed of Lakewood, under Rav Nossan Stein. Rabbi Goldfinger feels that when a rebbe does all he can to help a bochur grow in his learning, enabling the talmid to taste the sweetness of shteiging, the bochur can then truly achieve his potential.



Rabbi Aharon Lander • 12th Grade Rebbe

Rabbi Lander joined our Mesivta after six years at the Brisker Kollel in Yerushalayim. During that time, he also served as a Rosh Kollel of Kollel Zichron Chaim Sender Zev, a night kollel in Ramat Eshkol.

Rabbi Lander spent his formative learning years at Mesivta Yesodei Yeshurun and Yeshivas Ohr Hachaim. He continued his limud haTorah at Yeshivas Ner Moshe (Rav Shalom Shechter) where he developed a close relationship with the renowned Rav Yaakov Lieberman. Rabbi Lander's enthusiasm for learning and personal warmth is felt by all who know him.



Rabbi Elli Hoffnung • 10th & 11th Grade Rebbe

Rabbi Hoffnung has been a member of the Naugatuck Kollel since its inception. He has been learning with our Mesivta's talmidim from the beginning, helping them achieve success in their avodas Hashem. Before coming to Naugatuck, Rabbi Hoffnung learned in Yeshivas Ohr Hachaim, after which he went to Eretz Yisrael to learn by Rav Tzvi Kaplan. His early kollel years were spent in Yeshivas Mir Yerushalayim and Beis Medrash Govoha. Rabbi Hoffnung's concern for each bachur and his ability to notice their individual needs makes him truly beloved to his talmidim.



Rabbi Tzvi Thaler • 9th Grade Bekius Rebbe

Rabbi Thaler has been a popular rebbe for the last 20 years in Yeshiva Ateres Shmuel of Waterbury's Beis Medrash. He is known for his tremendous clarity in giving over a sugya and for the kesher he develops with each talmid. Rabbi Thaler is also the maggid shiur in Waterbury for Dirshu's Daf Yomi B'Halacha.

As a bochur, Rabbi Thaler learned in Yeshivas Ohr Hachaim in Queens followed by Ner Yisroel in Baltimore and the Mir Yeshiva in Eretz Yisroel. He then spent time in Kollel in Eretz Yisroel learning under Rav Tzvi Kushelevsky in Yeshivas Heichal HaTorah and then joined the Yeshiva in Waterbury at its inception in the year 2000.



Rabbi Moshe Halperin • Second Seder Sho'el Umeishiv

Rabbi Halperin learned in Yeshiva Gedola of Passaic for his beis medrash years, after which he learned in Eretz Yisroel in the Brisk Yeshiva of HaRav Avraham Yehoshua Soloveitchik.

He then learned in Beis Medrash Govoha of Lakewood before returning to Eretz Yisroel for seven years of learning in HaRav Prager's kollel in Yerushalayim. A talmid chacham with tremendous insight, outstanding clarity, and personal warmth, Rabbi Halperin is the ideal person to be our Sho'el Umeishiv.



Rabbi Alexander Neeman • Night Seder Sho'el Umeishiv

Rabbi Neeman spent his beis medrash and kollel years in Eretz Yisroel learning in Yeshivas Mir Yerushalayim. From there he continued his learning in Monsey, while serving as an iyun nosaf rebbe in Yeshivas Ohr Reuven, providing the stronger students of the 10th grade with a higher level of learning. Rabbi Neeman is a member of the Naugatuck Kollel and a beloved night seder Sho'el Umeishiv for the mesivta. He is committed to helping the bochurim pursue their goal of completing the yeshiva mesechta, and maintains a structured learning atmosphere, one that encourages a depth of understanding in their bekius learning. Rabbi Neeman's warmth and positive energy pervade the beis medrash, as he creates a personal connection with each bachur.



FACULTY

Dr. Jeffrey Levinson • General Studies Principal

Dr. Levinson, a New Haven native, earned a bachelor's degree in English and master's degrees in English, Education, Classroom Teacher Specialist, and Educational Leadership from Southern CT State University. Dr. Levinson holds Connecticut state certifications in English, Occupational Subjects in a Comprehensive High School, and School Administration. He recently completed his doctorate in Educational Leadership with a focus on Curriculum and Instruction. Dr. Levinson has over two decades' experience in high school instruction, and administration, in both secular and religious programs. He has spent his career building ethical education programs using innovative, integrated, hands-on learning approaches that prepare students for life.



Rabbi Yaakov Diskind • Administrator

As a founding member of the Naugatuck Kollel, Kollel Sifsei Dov, Rabbi Diskind is personally in tune with the workings of our campus, and is an exceptionally efficient and dedicated Administrator. Rabbi Diskind learned for many years at Ner Yisroel and at Ner Moshe, and served as devoted gabbai of Ner Yisroel. Rabbi Diskind brings his enthusiasm for the mission of chinuch, along with his outstanding organizational skills and attention to detail, to this important role.



Rabbi Nosson Tzvi Mittel • Dormitory Coordinator

Rabbi Mittel grew up in Kew Gardens, Queens and learned in Mesivta of Long Beach for high school and beis medrash, and continued learning in Yeshivas Mir Yerushalayim. He and his wife began their married life in Lakewood in Beis Medrash Govoha before joining the Naugatuck Kollel. He learns full time in the Kollel, and is a warm and responsible resource for all the bochurim living in the dormitory.



Rabbi Yehuda Tzvi Selengut • Jewish History

Rabbi Selengut is a highly sought after rebbi, community organizer, and mentor. He is an alumnus of Yeshivas Chaim Berlin, where he was a close talmid of the Rosh Yeshiva, and of Mir Yerushalayim, where he learned with HaRav Refoel Shmulevitz זצ"ל. Rabbi Selengut has a special interest and expertise in hilchos kashrus, and brings his excitement and passion to his classes and shiurim. Rabbi Selengut spent many years learning with mesivta bochurim in Chaim Berlin, and for the past eight years has been a beloved 6th grade rebbi in Yeshiva K'tana of Waterbury. Rabbi Selengut brings a palpable and infectious simcha to his chinuch, along with an engaging educational methodology. Known for his warmth and outgoing personality, Rabbi Selengut has spurred the Waterbury community to greater heights through his innovative learning programs.



Rabbi Yussi Berkowitz • Geometry & Business Math

Rabbi Berkowitz is an alumnus of Yeshivas Ner Yisroel, where he learned for ten years. He earned a bachelor's degree in Mathematics from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Three years ago, he moved to Naugatuck as one of the original families of Kollel Sifsei Dov. After watching the yeshiva grow these past few years, Rabbi Berkowitz is excited to now serve in a dual role of teaching the fundamentals of geometry and business math while continuing to learn in the kollel. He brings his mathematical training, along with his in-depth Torah knowledge, to hone his students' analytical and problem-solving skills.



Mr. Matthew Golchin • English

Mr. Golchin holds a bachelor's degree in Exercise Science, a bachelor's in English, and a master's in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Connecticut. He returned to academia in 2018 to complete his master's in English Literature from Central Connecticut State University. Mr. Golchin is also a state certified Professional Educator with 14 years of teaching experience in both private and public schools across Connecticut. Prior to joining the MYH faculty, he was a full-time lecturer in Developmental English at Tunxis Community College. Mr. Golchin considers his teaching role in the classroom to be that of a community manager who establishes goals, plans activities, and provides guidance. He believes that teaching is about much more than just the subject matter, it is about challenging each student to grow to his potential.



Rabbi Yechezkel Schuck • Algebra & English

An alumnus of Yeshivas Rabbeinu Chaim Berlin, Rabbi Yechezkel Schuck moved to Waterbury as one of the founding kollel members of Yeshiva Ateres Shmuel of Waterbury. After Rabbi Schuck's subsequent administrative positions, he transitioned to the field of school psychology. He holds a master's in Education from Loyola University, Chicago and an M.S. in School Psychology from Touro College. In addition to teaching in Mesivta, Rabbi Schuck works for the Naugatuck Public Schools.



Rabbi Dr. Aryeh Shapiro • Biology & Life Science

After learning in Yeshivas Ohr Yerushalayim in Eretz Yisroel, Rabbi Dr. Shapiro learned in Lander College/Beis Medrash L'Talmud. He earned both a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences and a Doctorate of Physical Therapy from Touro College School of Health Sciences, and received smicha from Beis Medrash L'Talmud. He was a lead clinician in an outpatient physical therapy office in New York for several years before moving with his family to Connecticut, where he serves as a physical therapist in a rehabilitation and nursing facility. He also maintains a private practice providing homecare services. Rabbi Dr. Shapiro is invested in chinuch habanim and enjoys sharing his scientific knowledge and professional life experience with the bachurim.



Mr. Michael Winkler • World History

Mr. Winkler received his bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts, and a master's in Secondary Education with a concentration in History from the College of William and Mary. He is a Connecticut certified Social Studies teacher and has taught in both public and private schools for 30 years. He also has 25 years' experience coaching high school sports, including baseball, lacrosse and football. In addition, Mr. Winkler works as a volunteer reporter/writer for radio station WPKN and is a Civil War reenactor. All his interests assist in making history come alive in the classroom.





The Mesivta Yesodei Hatorah

EXPERIENCE



SEDER HAYOM 5783

--- LIMUDEI KODESH --- MONDAY - THURSDAY

Shacharis	7:50 am
Breakfast	
Shiur	9:30 am (9:40 M,Th)
Chumash	12:15 pm
Lunch	12:40 pm
Bekius/Halacha/Mussar	1:30-2:50 pm
Mincha	3:00 pm

FRIDAY

Shacharis	7:50 am
Breakfast	
Shiur	9:55 am-12:00 pm

SUNDAY

Mornings follow the Monday-Thursday schedule

Bekius/Halacha	1:30-2:50 pm
Mincha	3:00 pm
Navi	3:30-4:10 pm
Hasmadah Program	5:30-6:30 pm

--- GENERAL STUDIES --- MONDAY - THURSDAY

Period 1	3:40-4:20 pm
Period 2	4:25-5:05 pm
Period 3	5:10-5:50 pm
Period 4	5:55-6:35 pm

--- NIGHT SEDER --- SUNDAY - THURSDAY

Night Seder	7:30-8:25 pm
Maariv	8:30 pm
Seder (optional for 9th-10th)	8:45-9:30 pm

Kollel Yungeleit Positively Impact Our Talmidim



We are privileged to share our campus with the Naugatuck Kollel, Kollel Sifsei Dov. The B'nei Torah and their families greatly enhance the Torahdik atmosphere in the Yeshiva, with their learning and kol Torah in the Beis Medrash all day and late into the night. The mesivta bochorim have benefited from their presence and enjoy nightly chavrusos with the kollel yungeleit.



CAMPUS



EVENTS & TRIPS



Out and About



השלום זה הבנין





Recently Celebrated
HACHNASAS SEFER TORAH
— & —
CHANUKAS BEIS HAMEDRASH





Mesivta Yesodei Hatorah

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