



# FOXMAN TORAH INSTITUTE

## MESIVTA BAIS DOVID



THE JOY OF TORAH - FOR LIFE

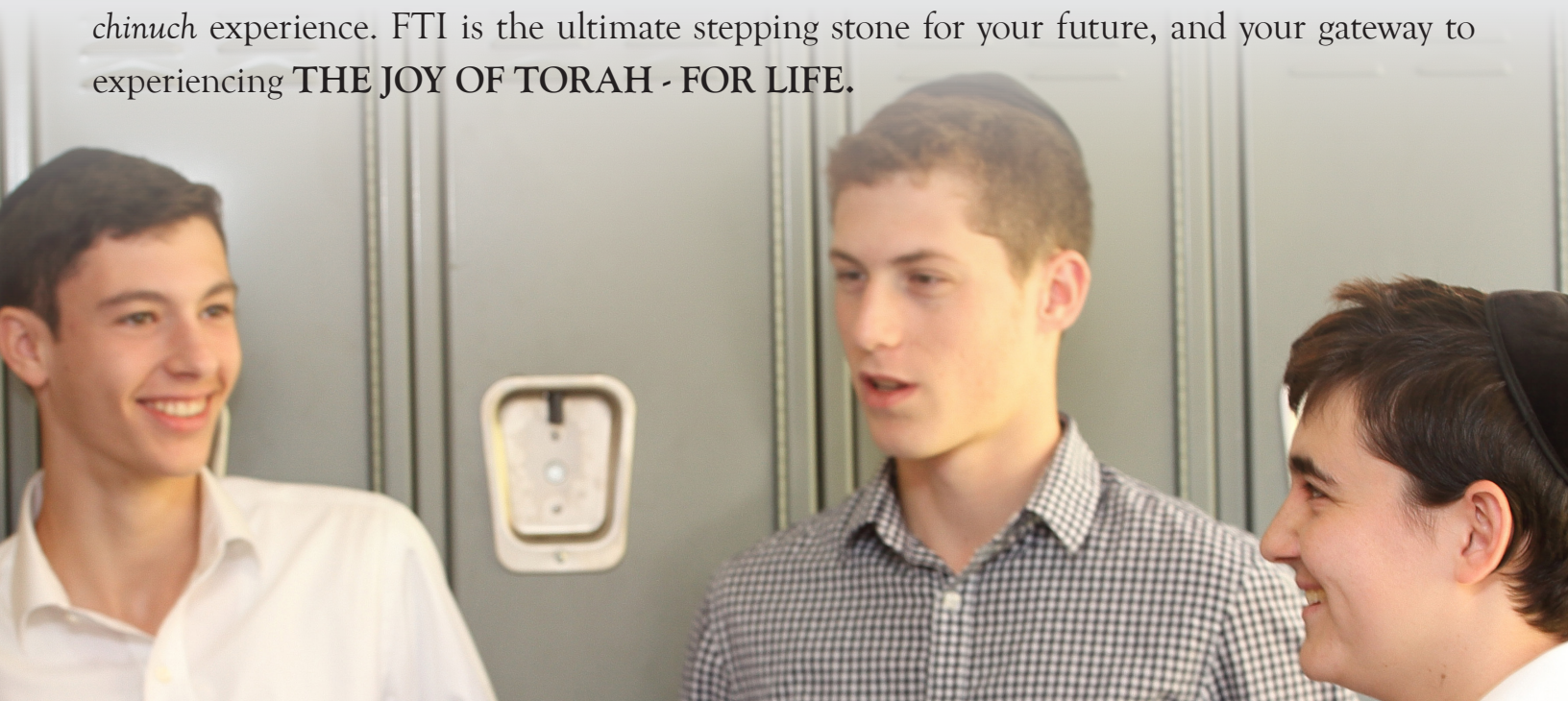


# Welcome to FTI

FTI has experienced tremendous and continuous growth on all fronts. With tracked classes in both *limudei kodesh* and *chol*, and over 85 students, FTI is more equipped than ever to provide its students with a superb dual curriculum that is based on the highest standards of academic excellence.

Our well-rounded education challenges our students to develop their talents and become the very best they can be in *limudei kodesh*, general studies, *middos*, and even extra-curriculars.

In a complex and challenging world, the combination of spirited Torah learning, high-level scholastics, and a Torah-infused, serious, yet enjoyable atmosphere, provides a unique total *chinuch* experience. FTI is the ultimate stepping stone for your future, and your gateway to experiencing **THE JOY OF TORAH - FOR LIFE.**



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# MESSAGE FROM OUR

*Menahel*



**Rabbi Chananya Kramer**  
*Menahel*

At FTI, our goal is that upon graduation our *talmidim* will have a deep, life-long connection to *Torah* learning, and recognize the necessity to constantly refine their character, and they will have been provided with the tools, know-how, and motivation to do both.

What is the process? How are these goals attained? At FTI, our *talmidim* are immersed in the *milchamto shel Torah* - the battle of *Torah* learning. Indeed, an FTI *shiur* often includes heated discussion between the *Rebbe* and the *talmidim*, or amongst the *talmidim* themselves, as they plumb the depths of the *sugya* being explored to arrive at the *amito shel Torah* with precision and clarity. This immersive atmosphere engages and challenges the *talmidim*. Additionally, this deep interaction and total involvement in *Torah* learning stirs and builds on a *talmid's* true *ratzon* to forge a meaningful relationship with *Hashem* and to follow in His ways.

The “*middos*” of *Hashem* are further communicated through daily *mussar shiurim*. Together, *Rebbeim* and *talmidim* explore and discuss the subtle nuances of character development by careful examination of the classical *mussar seforim*, focusing on applications to the realities and challenges of everyday life.

Despite the significant growth the *yeshiva* has enjoyed, the hallmark of FTI remains the close connection between *Rebbe* and *talmid*; this element contributes greatly to the uniqueness and flavor of our *yeshiva*. Our *Rebbeim* have a sincere interest in the development of each *talmid*, and really understand today's *talmid*. The *talmidim* feel it, appreciate it, and respond beautifully. Indeed, the dictum of *Chazal* that *כל המלמד את בן חברו תורה, מעלה עליו הכתוב כאילו ילדו* is a reality clearly seen and played out in FTI.

# MESSAGE FROM OUR

*Principal*



**Rabbi Yisroel Meir Hoffman**  
*General Studies Principal*

The General Studies program at FTI is challenging yet rewarding. We have multiple tracks in the sciences and mathematics and offer extra-curricular studies such as music and computer programming. We offer real-world learning in our history and language arts courses and even have a financial literacy course for our seniors.

Our teachers are highly trained, experienced, and knowledgeable in their fields. Each of our teachers is extremely dedicated to the needs of every student. Whether it is our math instructor offering to stay late and work one-on-one with a student or one of our science teachers helping prepare students for a competition; our teachers really care and our students feel it.

Another critical element of our program here at FTI is the relationships and respect between the staff and the students, and it goes both ways. Since FTI was established in 2000, our school culture has been that of a warm and tight-knit environment benefiting our students greatly. Although we have since expanded considerably, we work hard to ensure close relationships with our students remain a priority and that every student is treated and valued as an individual.

In summation, we do our very best to ensure that every graduate of FTI is prepared to succeed and excel in college and in any future endeavor he decides to undertake. I look forward to working with you personally, and preparing you for the brilliant future I know you have the power to achieve for yourself.



# TORAH Learning



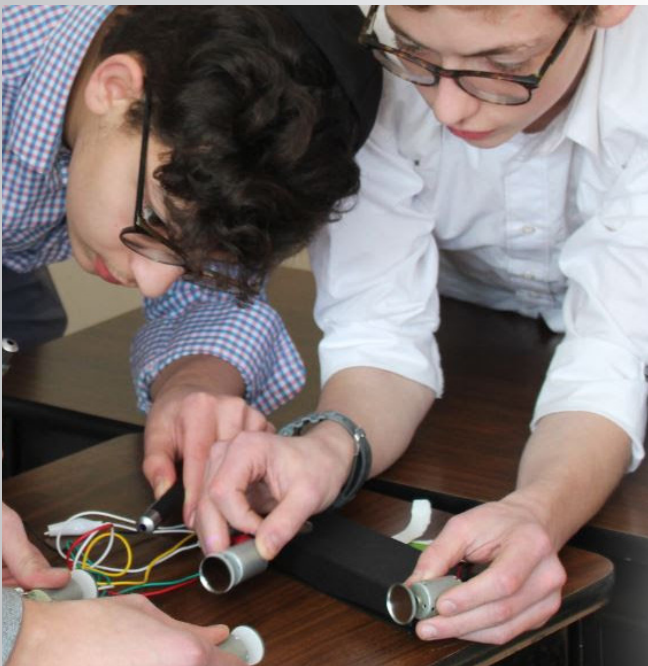
Our Mesivta's aim is to provide our *talmidim* with a comprehensive and joyful Torah education that will serve as their foundation for a lifetime of learning. In-depth learning of *Gemara* includes passionate debate between *talmid* and *rebbe*, bringing *gemara* to life in a meaningful and pleasurable way. Daily *hashkafa* and *mussar shiurim* inculcate the importance of personal development of *middos*. Both *Rebbeim* and students strive to embody the lessons learned and provide real-life consistency for all that is taught. *Bekious*, *Chumash*, and *Halacha shiurim* help solidify our *talmidim*'s knowledge base and teaches them the skills needed for a lifetime of independent learning. Additionally, there is a major focus on reading, and each student in the Mesivta is tested quarterly on his 'Blatt Bechina' to read, translate, and explain a *blatt* of *Gemara*.





# STELLAR *Academics*

FTI's award-winning general studies department provides an exciting and intensive, comprehensive curriculum. This outstanding college preparatory program provides a strong educational base, allowing students to matriculate into the finest colleges and universities. Science, English language arts, math, and history are explored through hands-on learning and engaging, interactive lessons. FTI has been awarded provisional accreditation through the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools (NJ AIS) and Middle States Association (MSA). In addition, FTI is one of the only Jewish schools in the area to have entered, and consistently won prizes, at the Annual Delaware Valley Science Fair. Recently, FTI launched a new reading and writing program which provides a framework to develop independent skills in each student. We also offer our students AP courses and a vast array of online courses through our cyber-school partner, American School, in our new computer lab.





# SVIVA - *Ruchnius*



The *yeshiva* recognizes that nothing is more conducive to learning and overall growth than happiness and a healthy self-image. It is therefore committed to treating each and every student with the utmost respect and dignity. Students are recognized for their individual strengths and personal accomplishments, and are so measured against a barometer of their individual abilities. No effort is spared in the pursuit of keeping students happy and positive. *Rebbeim* strive to develop close relationships with their *talmidim*, thereby creating a warm, accepting, and close-knit atmosphere, one of the great hallmarks of FTI. Numerous other highly popular activities include in-shabbasos and *yomim tovim*, out-of-town shabbatons, special guest speakers, Rosh Chodesh parties, and visits to *gedolim*.





# ELECTIVES, CO-CURRICULARS and Extra-Curriculars

There are a vast array of elective co-curricular learning options available to our boys, from early in the morning until late at night. We have a studentlead pre-shacharis “coffee club” where boys come and learn for 15 minutes before shacharis while enjoying some fresh-brewed coffee. There is a breakfast shiur going through *maseches megilla*, afternoon seder for our twelfth graders, night seder for local and boarding students, late night mishmar, “matziv’s”, and extended night seder learning for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders. We also offer music and computer programming courses. We have a reading incentive program where boys are required to read an *amud* flawlessly in under 5 minutes to qualify, and there are also *bein hazmanim chazara* & *minyanim* programs as well.





# SPORTS *and Trips*



An integral part of the healthy development of young men is the opportunity to release tension, relax the mind, and enjoy oneself. Thus, we incorporate physical fitness, and the time-tested therapeutic method of having good clean fun into our daily, weekly, and annual calendar. FTT's dynamic schedule incorporates time for daily sports, weekly swimming, and use of the JCC, as well as annual skiing and camping trips. Our basketball court, football field, and volleyball court are daily favorite go-to spots for students to unwind, exercise, and enjoy the outdoors during several breaks throughout the day.





# FTI'S RESIDENTIAL LIFE

## Program



FTI's residential life program gives our boarding students a home away from home while in yeshiva. We often refer to ourselves as a "hybrid" yeshiva, because from Sunday through Friday the *bachurim* eat, sleep, learn, and play under the supervision of our extremely warm and talented Dorm *Mashgichim* Rabbi Yitzchok Shmidman and Rabbi Hirsch Hollander. Come Friday, we provide transportation for the *bachurim* to go home and reconnect with their parents and families and rejuvenate for a new week in yeshiva.

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Night Seder each night with *Bais Medrash chavrusas*
- JCC twice a week (basketball, swimming, game room, and more)
- Tuesday and Thursday night "matziv's" followed by a *mussar* or *hashkafa* vaad in the dorm *Mashgiach's* house
- Round-trip transportation home provided to multiple locations
- Sports (Basketball, Football, Volleyball, Ultimate Frisbee)
- Weekly shopping trips
- In-Shabbasos, Shabbatons
- Sunday Trips - Bowling, Funplex, Driving Range, etc.
- Pool-side barbecues and other fun activities





# STEIN BAIS MEDRASH PROGRAM

## FTI

### THE DREAM

Rabbi Max, along with Rabbi Chaim Tropper, following the directive of Hagoan Harav Henoch Leibowitz, ZT'L, founded the *yeshiva* in 2000 with the dream of eventually expanding to include a *Bais Medrash* program. That dream was realized with the opening of the Albert Stein *Bais Medrash* Program under the direction of Rabbi Shimon Max in 2013. Inspiring *shmuezin*, *mussar vaadim* and *in-shabbosos*, & *yomim tovim* are all key elements of the current *Bais Medrash* Program and exemplify FTI's *derech* of inculcating *Torah* learning into one's life with joy.



### THE LEARNING

The learning is characterized by the amount of time spent and the effort exerted by members of the program; morning through evening, *talmidim* are *amal ba'Torah*. Composed of a combination of FTI's own graduates and graduates from other *yeshivas* who are serious about their *Torah* studies, the *yeshiva* is proud to guide the *Bais Medrash bochurim* in applying the skills learned and developed during their *mesivta* years. This process continues as they steadily progress to ever higher levels of learning on their journey to becoming true *talmidei chachamim*.



### THE IMPACT

The impact of FTI's *Bais Medrash* program is felt throughout the *yeshiva*. The presence of older students on the FTI campus provides the opportunity for mentoring and the development of meaningful friendships. Additionally, *Bais Medrash talmidim* are paired up on a nightly basis to learn night *seder* with high school *bachurim*. This program is critical not only because it serves as a way for a *bachur* to review *shiur* daily, but it also allows for these extremely beneficial relationships to develop naturally. The *sviva* in *yeshiva* is thoroughly uplifted when many of a *mesivta bachur's* friends are serious *Bais Medrash bachurim*.





# FTI Daily Schedule

## TYPICAL 9TH GRADE FTI DAILY SCHEDULE

	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
שחרית	8:45	7:40	7:40	7:40	7:40	7:40
BREAKFAST	Following שחרית	Following שחרית	Following שחרית	Following שחרית	Following שחרית	Following Parsha Shiur
גמרא	10:00	9:10	9:10	9:10	9:15	9:15
הלכה	12:00	11:55	11:55	11:55	11:55	10:30/11:00 Shmuz
LUNCH	12:30	12:30	12:30	12:30	12:30	Dismissal 11:00/11:30
חומש\בקיאות	1:25	1:25	1:25	1:25	1:25	N/A
מנחה	2:15	2:15	2:15	2:15	2:15	N/A
LANGUAGE ARTS	N/A	2:30	2:30	2:30	2:30	N/A
GEOMETRY	N/A	3:15	3:15	3:15	3:15	N/A
PERIOD 3	N/A	4:00	4:00	4:00	4:00	N/A
PERIOD 4	N/A	4:45 Biology	4:45 Global Studies	4:45 Biology	4:45 Global Studies	N/A
BREAK	N/A	6:00	6:00	6:00	6:00	N/A
DINNER	6:15	6:15	6:15	6:15	6:15	N/A
Dorm מעריב	7:00	7:00	7:00	7:00	Dorm Activity	N/A
Night סדר	7:15	7:15	7:15	7:15	9:15/Mishmar	N/A
Nightly Excursion	8:00	8:00	8:00	8:00	10:00 Maariv	N/A



# COURSE Overview

## FOUR-YEAR COURSE OVERVIEW AT A GLANCE

	גמרא	הלכה	בקיאות/חומש
9th Grade	Focus on building skills for learning גמרא, רש"י, ותוס'	הלכות השקמת הבקר, ציצית, תפילין, שמע, תפילה	בקיאות/חומש
10th Grade	Sharpen skills & learn to make a <i>Leining</i> on גמרא, רש"י, with some תוס'	הלכות ברכות	בקיאות/חומש
11th Grade	Make a <i>Leining</i> on גמרא, רש"י, ותוס' preparing with a <i>Chavrusa</i> and learn <i>meforshim</i> in <i>shiur</i>	הלכות שבת	בקיאות/חומש
12th Grade	In-depth <i>shiur</i> is given assuming that the <i>talmid</i> is prepared with a good understanding of all texts	משנה ברורה בחברותא	בקיאות/חומש
All Grades	מסילת ישרים, אורחות צדקים, In-class exploration based on classical <i>mussar</i> works, חובות הלבבות, ושערי תשובה, <i>hashkafic</i> discussions and weekly <i>shmuesin</i> .		

	English	Math	Science	History
9th Grade	English I	College Prep/Honors Geometry	College Prep/Honors Earth Science	Global Studies & Holocaust Studies
10th Grade	English II	College Prep/Honors Algebra 2	College Prep/Honors Biology	U.S. History I
11th Grade	English III	College Prep/Honors Pre-Calculus	College Prep/Honors Chemistry	U.S. History II
12th Grade	English IV/AP ELA	Bais Medrash Program/Advanced Calculus/Economics	Bais Medrash Program/Anatomy	Bais Medrash Program/AP ELA

\* Plus additional electives that vary from year to year. \*\* Other AP Elective



# MEET OUR *Teaching Staff*



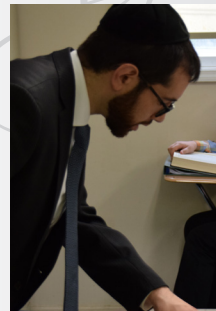
**Rabbi Yisrael Davidowitz**  
Rosh Yeshiva/  
12th Grade Gemara



**Rabbi Chaim Juni**  
Rosh Yeshiva & Rosh  
Mesivta/9th Grade Honors  
Gemara



**Rabbi Shimon Max**  
Rosh Yeshiva & Rosh Bais  
Medrash/10th & 11th Grade  
Honors Gemara



**Rabbi Chananya Kramer**  
Menahel/  
9th Grade Gemara



**Rabbi Ari Baum**  
10th Grade Gemara,  
Halacha, & Chumash



**Rabbi Moshe Strassfeld**  
11th Grade Gemara,  
Halacha & Chumash



**Rabbi Hirsh Hollander**  
Boarding Student Mashgiach  
& Beis Medrash Behelfer



**Rabbi Yisroel Meir Hoffman**  
General Studies Principal/  
Chumash



**Rabbi Aaron Juni**  
Behelfer, Halacha, Chumash



**Rabbi Yitzchok Shmidman**  
Boarding Student Mashgiach  
& Behelfer



**Mr. Isaac Blum**  
English Language Arts  
Instructor



**Mr. Robert Canzenese**  
English Instructor



**Mr. William Feeny**  
Math & Calculus Instructor



**Mr. Barry Nagelberg**  
Calculus & English  
Language Arts Instructor



**Mr. Michael Nealis**  
Science Instructor



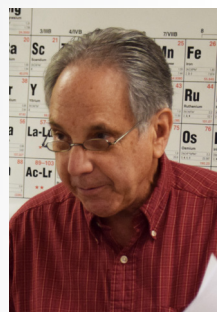
**Mr. Rob Patterson**  
Math Instructor



**Rabbi Moshe Teichman**  
History Instructor



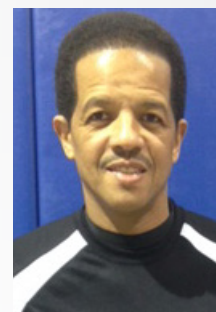
**Dr. Howard Uderman**  
Anatomy Instructor



**Mr. Marty Weiss**  
Science Instructor



**Mr. Yoni Berliant**  
Director of Education  
Technology



**Coach Paul Blocker**  
Coach



**Mr. Allen Slutsky**  
Music Instructor



# MEET OUR *Teaching Staff*

## RABBI YISRAEL DAVIDOWITZ

*Rosh HaYeshiva & Head of School*



Rabbi Yisrael Davidowitz grew up in Rochester, New York, where his father founded and is currently the Rosh Hayeshiva of a Chofetz Chaim Yeshiva High School, Beis Medrash and Kollel. He studied there until he married, then moved to Queens to join the Chofetz Chaim Kollel and advance his studies.

Rabbi Davidowitz thoroughly enjoys teaching Torah and, over the years, has taught at many levels, including yeshiva high school and Beis Medrash boys, baal habatim, and kiruv rechokim. He founded the Brooklyn Branch of TBT and The Shmuz in 2005. After receiving Semicha in 2008, he focused his efforts on nonprofit alternative fundraising models to benefit yeshivos.

As *rosh yeshiva* at FTI he puts his skills to work, as well as doing what he loves most: teaching Torah and helping people come closer to Hashem. Rabbi Davidowitz lives in Cherry Hill with his wife Yael (nee Rosin) and their family.

## RABBI CHAIM JUNI

*Rosh HaYeshiva & Rosh Mesivta*



Rabbi Chaim Juni completed his postsecondary studies at the Rabbinical Seminary of America, Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim in Queens, where he was ordained as Rabbi in 2009. Rabbi Juni completed the Principal's Training Initiative in conjunction with the Consortium of Jewish Day schools. He has a wealth of teaching experience on the high school level, among them, Mesivta Chofetz Chaim in Queens, Yeshiva Kesser Yisroel of Willowbrook, and the Talmudical Institute of Upstate New York.

Rabbi Juni recalls how Rabbi Bentzion Shafier, one of his high school rebbeim, inspired him with his insistence that true happiness can be attained only through Torah learning. This encouraged Rabbi Juni to make a career out of Harbotzas HaTorah, spreading Torah.

Rabbi Juni's intuitive understanding of his students allows him to go beyond the teacher's role. Rabbi Juni joined the Foxman Torah Institute in 2010 and is the Rosh Mesivta and Bais Medrash Mashgiach. Rabbi Juni lives in Cherry Hill with his wife Zippy (nee Davidowitz) and their children.

## RABBI SHIMON MAX

*Rosh HaYeshiva & Rosh Bais Medrash*



Rabbi Shimon Max has a wealth of chinuch experience including serving as Rosh HaYeshiva and rebbe for close to two decades.

Rabbi Max's charisma and warmth has enlightened many over the years, and he continues to inspire his students today to the beauty and depth of Torah.

Rabbi Max has taught advanced high school and Beis Medrash gemara shiurim, both in our parent Yeshiva, Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim of Queens, and in Foxman Torah Institute to virtually every grade and level. He is the head of the Stein Bais Medrash program for FTI and gives shiur in the Bais Medrash and in the Mesivta. Over the years, countless students have enjoyed the hospitality and care of the Max family as well as the delicious cooking of his Rebbitzen. Rabbi Max lives in Cherry Hill with his wife Deena (nee Kamin) and their children.

## RABBI CHANANYA KRAMER

*Menahel & Gemara Rebbe*



Rabbi Chananya Kramer, FTI's Mesivta Menahel, joined FTI after serving as a rebbe at Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim in Queens from 2008-2015.

Rabbi Kramer completed an intensive chinuch training course at Mayan Hachinuch under the direction of Rabbi Mechel Rotenberg in 2010. Additionally, he participated in "The Legacy Project" chinuch teacher training seminar program in 2014, which was a joint program of "Ohel - School-Based Trauma

Services" and Rabbinical Seminary of America, under the direction of Rabbi Dr. Hillel Fox and Rabbi Hillel Mandel. The seminar focused primarily on the emotional needs and emotional health of each student in the classroom.

Rabbi Kramer saw an incredible opportunity to help bring FTI - already a fast-growing yeshiva - to a whole new level, and turn it into a premier yeshiva serving hundreds of boys, producing real B'nei Torah and Balaei Middos, while positively impacting the Cherry Hill community at large. Rabbi Kramer lives in Cherry Hill with his wife Hindy (nee Luban) and their children.

## RABBI ARI BAUM

*Gemara, Halacha, & Chumash Rebbe*



Rabbi Ari Baum has taught a wide range of topics at many levels, including Gemara and Chumash classes in Mesivta Chofetz Chaim in Queens, community shiurim to baal habatim at multiple shuls, text-based study with college students at Stony Brook University, and one-on-one study with boys and men from young to old. He has a rare ability to connect with and respond to each talmid's unique academic needs while helping the talmid recognize his own strength and potential.

Rabbi Baum completed his years of full-time study at Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim in Queens, and was ordained with semicha in 2015. He received educational training and tutelage from Rabbi Hillel Mandel through the National Torah Initiative's Chinuch Training Program, and completed an Educational Training Course from teaching consultant Rabbi Elimelech Gottlieb. Additionally, he holds a B.S. in Psychology from Excelsior College. Rabbi Baum lives in Cherry Hill with his wife Yocheved (nee Halpern) and their children.



# MEET OUR *Teaching Staff*

## RABBI AARON JUNI

*Gemara, Halacha, & Chumash Rebbe*



**Rabbi Aaron Juni**, son of the famed Rabbi Menachem Juni, Rosh Yeshiva of Yeshivas Keter Torah in Mexico City, and cousin of FTI's Rabbi Chaim Juni, teaches a multitude of shiurim at the Yeshiva.

Rabbi Juni completed his formal learning under R' Avrohom Yehoshua Soloveitchik in Yeshivas Brisk of Eretz Yisrael and then in Bais Medrash Govoha in Lakewood. With his fiery personality and penetrating analysis, Rabbi Juni adds a tremendous charge of excitement and energy to our program. Rabbi Juni lives in Lakewood with his wife Taibe (nee Stoll) and their children.

## RABBI MOSHE STRASSFELD

*Gemara, Halacha & Chumash*



**Rabbi Moshe Strassfeld** joined our staff in 2018, after spending many years immersed in Torah study as a member of the Kollel in Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim in Queens, NY. During his decade of study in Queens, Rabbi Strassfeld had the opportunity to become a close talmid of the Roshei HaYeshiva, HaRav Dovid Harris shlit"a and HaRav Akiva Grunblatt shlit"a, as well as many other Rebbeim in the yeshiva's leadership. In particular, Rabbi Strassfeld served as secretary to Rabbi Mordecai Tropper zt"l, legendary mashgiach of the Yeshiva, where

he was afforded an insider's view into his wisdom and his devotion to the talmidei hayeshiva.

Rabbi Strassfeld was particularly excited to join FTI because of his deep esteem for the rebbeim and the FTI environment. He firmly believes in FTI's mission of creating an atmosphere where talmidim can grow into bnei Torah of the highest caliber, while working with each individual talmid on his level. Since joining FTI, he has been inspired by the selfless mesiras nefesh, love and personal responsibility that the rebbeim feel toward the talmidim. Rabbi Strassfeld currently resides in Cherry Hill with his wife, Sara (nee Halpern), and their family.

## RABBI YITCHAK SHMIDMAN

*Boarding Student Mashgiach & Behelfer*



**Rabbi Yitzchok Shmidman**, our Boarding Student Mashgiach and 11th grade rebbe, is a graduate of Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim in Queens. Most recently, he was a rebbe in Yeshivas Yam Hatorah and Yeshivas Zichron Aryeh teaching gemara and mussar.

Rabbi Shmidman is a highly skilled mentor and has much experience helping boys balance school, family, social, and yiddishkeit obligations in a healthy and productive way.

In fact, he has been mentoring boys for 10 years already, despite his relative young age, both as a volunteer and in official capacities. Rabbi Shmidman lives in Cherry Hill with his wife Hindy (nee Max) and their children.

## RABBI HIRSH HOLLANDER

*Boarding Student Mashgiach & Bais Medrash Behelfer*



**Rabbi Hirsch Hollander**, FTI's new dorm Mashgiach, comes to FTI after teaching kodesh subjects in Ottawa Torah Institute, the local yeshiva high school. Rabbi Hirsch Hollander is a graduate of Rabbinical Seminary of America in Queens NY, where he was ordained with Semicha in 2016. Rabbi Hollander has taught teens and adults in many settings including teaching at Mayan Hatorah, a Chofetz Chaim affiliate in Kew Gardens.

He loves FTI specifically because of its warmth and its focus on each student's needs. He is excited about helping the students become bnei Torah and internalize a love of Judaism. Rabbi Hollander grew up in San Diego, CA, where both of his parents still teach in the day school. He was raised in a house of chinuch and has always been involved with teaching. Rabbi Hollander lives in Cherry Hill with his wife and their children.

## RABBI YISROEL MEIR HOFFMAN

*General Studies Principal & Chumash*



**Rabbi Yisroel Meir Hoffman** received his Master's Degree in Education from Loyola University in Chicago, with a specialization in Education Administration and Supervision. He received Jewish Day School/ Yeshiva Principal Certification from the Jewish Education Leadership Institute in 2011. In his previous roles, Rabbi Hoffman developed curricula for both secular and Jewish studies. Rabbi Hoffman's wide range of experiences include teaching at all levels, adults, high school,

junior high, and primary.

Rabbi Hoffman is both a third-generation student of the Rabbinical Seminary of America and a fourth-generation educator. His great-grandfather received an award in Teaching Excellence from President Lyndon Johnson.



# MEET OUR *Teaching Staff*

## MR. YONI BERLIANT

*Director of Education Technology*



**Mr. Yoni Berliant** holds a degree in Computer Science from Yeshiva University and has years of experience working in the field of education, including working as educational support staff for judaic and general studies, as an informal educator, and as a classroom teacher. He has worked in day camps, yeshivas, and public schools.

Before moving to Cherry Hill, NJ, Mr. Berliant served as the Director of Educational Technology at Yeshiva Ketana of Manhattan, where he taught classes in Math and Computer

Skills. Mr. Berliant currently is FTI's Director of Education Technology.

## MR. ISAAC BLUM

*English Language Arts Instructor*

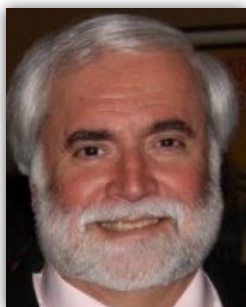


**Mr. Isaac Blum** is an English Language Arts teacher at Foxman Torah Institute. Mr. Blum holds a BA in English from Tufts University and an MFA in Creative Writing from Rutgers. An avid reader and writer, Mr. Blum has always loved the English language, and enjoys helping his students develop their language arts skills and passions. Over the past seven years, he has taught writing and literature classes at Camden County College, Tufts University, Penn State Abington, and Penn State Altoona. In Altoona, he served as the Emerging-Writer-In-Residence.

Mr. Blum teaches grades 9-12, and has been inspired by the energy and curiosity of the students at FTI. He finds FTI students inquisitive, and enjoys guiding their journey of discovery of the English language. He looks forward to helping his students reach their potential as students of language arts.

## MR. ROBERT CANZENESE

*English Instructor*



**Robert P. Canzanese** received his Bachelor of Arts in English and his New Jersey State Teaching Certificate from Glassboro State College in 1972. He has continued his studies in British and American Literature at Villanova University, and in Educational Administration at Rowan University. He comes to FTI with over thirty years of teaching experience at Cherry Hill High School East. Mr. Canzanese helped develop curricula in reading and writing for all levels of learning. His many important contributions to education include working extensively and passionately with

Inclusion, Modified, College Prep, and Advanced Level Classes.

Among the many awards, honors, and commendations Mr. Canzanese has received are: Nominated and Inducted into the Who's Who Among America's Teachers (five times), Most Distinguished High School Teacher Award from Western Maryland College, 2005 Leading Educators of the World from The International Biographical Centre (Cambridge, England), 2006 International Peace Prize for Outstanding Personal Achievements to the Good of Society as a Whole from The United Cultural Convention, and a full, two-page article covering his teaching style published in The Philadelphia Inquirer.

## MR. WILLIAM FEENY

*Math & Calculus Instructor*



**Mr. William Feeny** has a broad knowledge of math and a wealth of teaching experience. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics from St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia, PA, and his Masters degree in Mathematics from the University of Pittsburgh, PA, and has taken additional courses at Villanova, Penn State, and Jefferson Community College.

Mr. Feeny has taught Algebra, Trig, Calculus, Statistics, Computer Science, Networking, Physics, Assembly Language, Basic, Fortran,

Java, and other subjects and well.

He has taught at the following universities and high schools: University of Pittsburgh, St Joseph's University, Greensburg Institute of Technology, Westmoreland Community College, Jefferson Community College, Derry Area Senior HS, LaSalle College Prep HS, Guernsey Noble Career Center, Mid East Ohio Career Center, and Schenley HS.

## MR. BARRY NAGELBERG

*Calculus & English Language Arts Instructor*



**Mr. Barry Nagelberg** completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Brown University and his Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from Tel Aviv University. He lived in Israel for 9 years, is fluent in Hebrew, and served in the IDF on both active and reserve duty. After 30 years working as a software engineer, he retired in 2017 and began working part-time as a substitute teacher and math tutor, which is how he was introduced to FTI. Through serving as math tutor and substitute teacher for FTI during 2017-2018, Mr.

Nagelberg developed a very high opinion of the FTI students and staff and was excited to join the FTI general studies team last year.

## MR. MICHAEL NEALIS

*Science Instructor*



**Mr. Michael C. Nealis, Jr.** received his Bachelor of Science degree from Saint Joseph's University with a concentration in biology. He worked as a teacher for Black Horse Pike Regional School District since 2008.

Mr. Nealis, FTI's Math and Physics instructor, has experience teaching biology, physical sciences, and anatomy and physiology. He has worked with students of varying academic levels, from the high achieving to those with individualized, special education concerns. Mr.

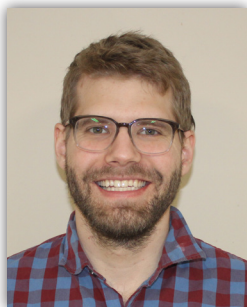
Nealis believes that as a science teacher it is his obligation to make sure students look at the natural world in a way that they may not have before.



# MEET OUR *Teaching Staff*

## MR. ROB PATTERSON

*Math Instructor*



**Mr. Rob Patterson** is a mathematics teacher at FTI. Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, he studied Journalism at Ohio University. After college, Mr. Patterson lived in Indiana and Texas and worked as a journalist, photographer and computer artist. He developed an interest in math when he learned to program computers while working as a computer artist. In 2015, he decided to become a teacher and relocated to Washington, D.C., where he worked as an after-school math instructor at Georgetown Day School. In 2016, Mr. Patterson moved to

Boston in order to pursue a graduate degree in Education. During his time in Boston, Mr. Patterson taught 7th and 8th grade math at Match Middle School and attended the Charles Sposato Graduate School of Education. In 2017 he moved to Philadelphia and taught high school mathematics at Democracy Prep Charter School in Camden.

This year, Mr. Patterson is teaching Algebra II, Honors Geometry and College Geometry at FTI and is currently pursuing a second bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering. He's excited to work at FTI where he finds the students eager to learn, curious and determined to succeed.

## RABBI MOSHE TEICHMAN

*History Instructor*



**Rabbi Moshe Teichman** joined FTI as a History instructor. Rabbi Teichman also currently is a Limudei Kodesh Rebbe in Politz Hebrew Day School as well as the Youth Director of Young Israel of Cherry Hill. Prior to working at FTI, Rabbi Teichman served as a middle school Rebbe and History teacher in Mesiiva Tiferes Jerusalem (MTJ), as well as assistant Rabbi of Young Israel of Hewlett, NY.

Rabbi Teichman studied at Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim in Queens and received semicha from

Rabbi Moshe Heinemann of the Star-K (Baltimore). Rabbi Teichman has been active in numerous summer camps as head counselor and division head, and he completed Young Israel's Rabbinic Training Program.

Rabbi Teichman notes "I am passionate about taking the lessons learned from history and making them relevant to present times. I love that I get to share these lessons with the FTI talmidim."

## DR. HOWARD UDERMAN

*Anatomy Instructor*

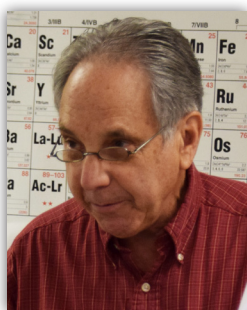


**Dr. Howard Uderman MD**, is a graduate of Haverford College and the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University. His postgraduate medical training was in internal medicine (Temple University Hospital) and Endocrinology/Clinical Pharmacology/Investigation (Vanderbilt University Hospital). His medical career has spanned private practice, clinical research/trials and teaching. He is presently an adjunct Associate Professor at the Lewis Katz School of Medicine where he teaches clinical skills. He lectures annually in the Yale Medical School Investigative

Medicine program on the topic of giving investigational new drugs to humans for the first time in clinical trials. At FTI, he teaches human anatomy and physiology to 12th grade students.

## MR. MARTIN WEISS

*Science Instructor*



**Mr. Martin Weiss** received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Glassboro State College (now Rowan University) in New Jersey, and his Master of Science degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He comes to FTI with 31 years of experience in the classroom as a public high school science teacher. During his career he wrote and developed curricula in Physics and Environmental Science, as well as helping to develop the first Gifted and Talented Student program for the city of Camden, NJ.

Mr. Weiss joined the Yeshiva at its inception in 2000. In his capacity as the school's science teacher he has taught courses in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Science, and Genetics. In addition to his teaching duties, Mr. Weiss also coaches the students for the Intel International Science Fair. Many of his students competed against students from schools much larger than ours and have won prizes in such categories as Computer Science, Mathematics, and Physics. Mr. Weiss also helps students prepare for the PSAT or SAT testing programs as well as with researching and applying to colleges and universities.

## MR. PAUL BLOCKER

*Coach*



**Coach Paul Blocker** has been training athletes of all ages and skill levels since 1990. In January 2014, he became the President of Peak Skills Basketball LLC located in West Berlin, NJ, where the yeshiva basketball team currently practices, plays home games, and participates in leagues.

## MR. ALLAN SLUTSKY

*Music Instructor*



**Mr. Allan Slutsky** is a Philadelphia-based musician, producer, and author who is well known throughout the guitar world. His guitar, banjo, and mandolin playing have been heard in major theaters and plays across the world. He also spent over three decades in pit orchestras.

In addition to teaching at Foxman Torah Institute, Mr. Slutsky is currently on the faculties of Richard Stockton College and Cumberland County College.



# COURSE Overview

## GEMARA IYUN - גמרא בעיון

**Aim:** To teach the skills necessary for independent learning of *Gemara* and *mefarshim* and any *Torah* texts with a clear understanding of what they are learning, and to instill a love of learning that will last a lifetime.

FTI follows a 7-year cycle of *Masechtas*: *Bava Kama*, *Bava Metzia*, *Bava Basra*, *Yevamos*, *Gittin*, *K'suvos*, *Kiddushin*.

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|-----------------|---|
| <b>Grade 9</b>  | Students cover an <i>amud</i> of <i>Gemara</i> , <i>Rashi</i> , and most <i>Tosfo</i> every two weeks.<br><b>Focus:</b> Students focus on sharpening their <i>Gemara leining</i> and critical thinking skills.  |
| <b>Grade 10</b> | Students cover an <i>amud</i> of <i>Gemara</i> , <i>Rashi</i> , <i>Tosfos</i> , and some <i>mefarshim</i> every two weeks.<br><b>Focus:</b> Students sharpen their <i>Tosfos leining</i> and comprehension skills.  |
| <b>Grade 11</b> | Students prepare the material on their own followed by <i>shiur</i> to clarify and deepen their understanding with frequent use of <i>Achronim</i> .<br><b>Focus:</b> Students are exposed to more complex <i>sugyos</i> that deepen their breadth of understanding and appreciation for the depth of the <i>Gemara</i> .   |
| <b>Grade 12</b> | <i>Bais Medrash</i> style <i>hachana</i> followed by <i>shiur</i> solidifying the students' independent learning skills and deepen their understanding of the <i>Gemara</i> with regular examination of <i>Rishonim</i> , <i>Achronim</i> , and <i>Roshei Yeshivos</i> .<br><b>Focus:</b> Students will solidify learning <i>mefarshim</i> independently and establish a clear understanding of the <i>Gemara</i> (preparing students for post-high school <i>Bais Medrash</i> learning). |

**Kriah Overview:** FTI has a yeshiva-wide *gemara* fluency program to improve our *talmidim*'s reading fluency. *Talmidim* are encouraged to practice reading with a *chavrusa*, in groups, to *rebbeim*, and in front of the class. *Rebbeim* incorporate reading-focused questions into worksheets and quizzes on a regular basis, and there are cumulative word tests numbering into the many hundreds by the end of the year. Additionally, *talmidim* who can read and translate an entire *amud* of *Gemara* with a *rebbe* in 5 minutes or less are rewarded. We aim for full school participation in the program. *Talmidim* are also expected to read, translate, and explain a full *blatt* of *gemara*, *rashi*, and selected *tosfos* each quarter of the year.

## MUSSAR - מוסר

**Aim:** To teach *mussar* values and lay the groundwork for a life of character development using *Chazal*, *mussar seforim*, and *daas Torah* to guide one's relationship with *Hashem*, other people, and one's self.

**Topics Covered In All Grades:** Fundamental *mussar* values include character development, human dignity, *derech eretz*, honesty, humility, responsibility to *Klal Yisroel*, and many more.

Concepts are presented in a manner consistent with the principle that learning is most effectively transmitted by actively engaging the *talmid's* opinion, speaking openly and honestly, and most importantly teaching by example. The program includes *Mesilas Yescharim*, and other classical *mussar* works, weekly *shmuezin*, and frequent *hashkafa* discussions.

## CHUMASH - חומש

**Aim:** Build *Chumash* and *Rashi* learning skills, recognize the tremendous depth of every *pasuk*, and understand the complete process of *Mefarshei Chumash* to see how they reached their conclusions.

**Commentators covered:** *Rashi*, *Sifsei Chachamim*, *Ramban*, *Sforno*, and *Midrashim*.

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|-------------------|---|
| <b>9th Grade</b>  | Emphasis is on understanding <i>Chumash</i> based on <i>Rashi</i> and <i>Sifsei Chachamim</i> , and improving <i>Rashi</i> reading and deciphering skills.    |
| <b>10th Grade</b> | Emphasis is on solidifying understanding based on <i>Rashi</i> ; other <i>mefarshim</i> are introduced.   |
| <b>11th Grade</b> | Emphasis is on the contrast of the major <i>mefarshei Chumash</i> . Students deepen their existing <i>Chumash</i> textual and thinking skills.                |
| <b>12th Grade</b> | Independent study of <i>Chumash</i> and <i>mefarshim</i> ; weekly <i>shmuezin</i> teach <i>bachurim</i> how to glean new insights from the <i>mefarshim</i> . |



# COURSE Overview

## HALACHA – הלכה

**Aim:** To master practical everyday areas of *halacha* and develop a skill set for knowing how and where to research *halachic* questions.

**Course Material:** *Shulchan Aruch*, *Orach Chaim with Mishna Berura*, *Kitzur Shulchan Aruch* and *Piskei Halacha*.

- 9th Grade *Hilchos hashkamas haboker, tzitzis, tefillin, shema, and tefila.*
- 10th Grade *Hilchos b'rachos, Mishna Berura* reading skills are emphasized.
- 11th Grade *Hilchos Shabbos, Mishna Berura* is used as the primary text.
- 12th Grade *Mishna Berura b'chavrusa.*

## MATHEMATICS

**Aim:** To enable students to think critically, problem solve, and master high school-level mathematics to prepare them for their future.

- 9th Grade **College Prep/Honors Geometry:** Topics emphasized include proofs, reasoning, trigonometry, circles, and quadrilaterals. Students begin preparing for the PSAT/SAT.
- 10th Grade **College Prep/Honors Algebra 2:** Topics emphasized include equations, functions, graphing, logarithms, and more. Students practice for and take the PSAT.
- 11th Grade **College Prep/Honors Pre-Calculus:** Topics emphasized include analytic trigonometry, exponential and logarithmic functions, and graphing functions. Students prepare for and take the SAT exam.
- 12th Grade **Advanced Calculus:** Topics emphasized include derivatives, integration, and transcendentals. Students prepare for the Calculus AP Exam.

## ENGLISH

**Aim:** To develop reading and writing skills, reading comprehension, and communication skills. Students foster an appreciation of the great literary works, while promoting a curiosity and respect for learning.

- 9th Grade **English I:** Emphasis is on reading analysis and writing skills.
- 10th Grade **English II:** Emphasis is on writing, analysis, and literature. Students prepare for the PSAT.
- 11th Grade **English III:** Emphasis is on independent writing and deep analysis of various texts. Students take the SAT.
- 12th Grade **English IV:** Emphasis is on analysis of American, World, and British Literature, as well as communication writing.

## SCIENCE

**Aim:** To expose students to the complexity and genius of the world through science exploration, and to prepare students for advancing to college in science-related fields.

**Program includes:** Labs, dissections, microscopes, experiments, project-based learning, real-world applications, and interschool science competitions.

- 9th Grade **College Prep/ Honors Environmental Science:** Topics include climate change, food chains, nature cycles, population ecology, conservation, and water pollution.
- 10th Grade **College Prep/Honors Biology:** Topics emphasized include cell structure, DNA, and genetics.
- 11th Grade **College Prep/Honors Chemistry:** Topics emphasized include composition, properties, atomic theory, and the interactions of substances (physical and chemical changes).
- 12th Grade **College Prep/Honors Physics:** Topics emphasized include matter, motion, and interactions of objects (sound, light, and quantum mechanics).

## HISTORY

**Aim:** To provide students with an understanding of American and world history and culture, along with the development of global processes, leading to a better appreciation of the world around us.

- 9th Grade **Global Studies:** Topics emphasized include revolutions, world change, world religions, and absolutism.
- 10th Grade **US History I:** Topics emphasized include industrial revolution, the Great Depression, the Gold Rush, world wars, cold war, and terrorism.
- 11th Grade **U.S. History II:** Topics emphasized include Colonial America, Birth of America, the Civil War, slavery, and the development and impact of Modern America.



# MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

- **The mission** of Foxman Torah Institute (F.T.I.) is to provide young men with a comprehensive *Torah* and secular education that will serve as the foundation for their development into mature *B'nei Torah* and highly successful and accomplished adults.
- **Our vision** is to offer an exciting and intensive curriculum of *Torah* study together with an outstanding college preparatory general studies program, infused with a healthy dose of extracurricular activities.
- **Our objective** is not merely to impart knowledge, but to instill a yearning for learning, imbue a love of *chesed*, and develop high moral character in our students.
- **Our commitment** to our students is that each will be treated with utmost respect and dignity, and each will be judged not by comparison or equivalency standards, but by his own individual and personal accomplishments.
- **Our strategy** in assisting our students as they endeavor to overcome the many challenges and distractions that present themselves to today's teenager is through teaching time-honored *mussar* and *hashkafic* concepts, encouraging close and frequent contact with parents, and providing students with a safe, warm, happy, and nurturing environment to learn and thrive.
- **Our goal** is to graduate students distinguished by their dedication to ongoing *limud haTorah* and *shmiras hamitzvos*, their commitment to personal character development, their sense of responsibility to *Klal Yisrael*, and their appreciation of the richness and beauty of a *Torah* way of life.

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For more information please contact our *Menahel*  
Rabbi Chananya Kramer at 856.482.8230  
or visit [ftiyeshiva.org](http://ftiyeshiva.org) to fill out an application.



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**THE JOY OF TORAH - FOR LIFE**