



Jewish People's Schools & Peretz Schools

בתי ספר עממיים יהודיים ובתי ספר על שם פרץ
 יידישע פֿאָלקס שולן און פרץ שולן

JPPS
**Education
For Life**



“Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.” Marian Wright Edelman

“Education is not the filling of a bucket but the lighting of a fire.” William Butler Yeats



Executive Team : JPPS-Bialik

Laurence Fhima
Head of School

Betina Shadowitz
Director of Finance

Elizabeth Kennell
Director of Advancement

Administrative Team : JPPS

Adina Matas
Principal and Educational Director

Debra Michael
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Alexandra Dornis
French Coordinator

Brenda Fayerman
Director of IT, JPPS-Bialik

Emerson Thomas
Director of Athletics, JPPS-Bialik



Principal's Message

JPPS strives to foster academic excellence and a strong Jewish identity within a caring community. We pride ourselves on the distinctive and unique institution that we are—offering the very best in general and Judaic education. Jewish tradition guides our curriculum and our calendar. The study of the Hebrew and Yiddish languages and of Jewish traditions is our students' connection to the Jewish people around the world and to Israel.

Traditions

The environment is a warm and caring one, where parental involvement is encouraged and fostered.

Our highly qualified and dedicated faculty constantly review their curriculum and programs to ensure that we remain on the cutting edge of early-childhood and elementary education. Students learn about responsibility, respect, and problem solving. Our goal is to assist students by developing skills that will carry them through life, such as initiative and flexibility. Our student-teacher ratio is very desirable. The school's constant mission and challenge is to meet the needs of each and every student.

We warmly invite you to visit our school and experience first-hand its ambiance and sense of community.

Our Mission

JPPS-Bialik is a Jewish school, founded and based on a pluralistic vision of Jewish continuity. JPPS-Bialik is committed to academic excellence. Our school aims to create a model learning environment where individuals can gain confidence to become productive people within the Quebec, Canadian, and global communities.

Our students develop a strong Jewish identity by studying Yiddish, Hebrew, and Jewish history and by experiencing Jewish culture and traditions. The creation of the State of Israel is one of the seminal events in Jewish history. Recognizing the significance of the State and its national institutions, we seek to instill in our students an attachment to the State of Israel and its people as well as a sense of responsibility for their welfare.

Our school's goal is to graduate committed Jewish young adults who are prepared to meet the challenges and responsibilities of their future endeavours.

A Rich History

First Jewish Day School

The Jewish People's Schools organized the first Jewish Day School in Montreal in 1927. The Jewish Peretz Schools organized a day school in 1942.

Jewish People's Schools & Peretz Schools

In 1970, a serious effort was made by the Jewish community and the officers of both educational institutions to effect a merger of the schools. This merger occurred in 1971.

From the outset of the merger, all the parties involved dedicated themselves to work in harmony and to seek to overcome the subtle differences that may have separated them originally. Today we are one educational system that retains the names of both original schools for historical purposes, but with one unified philosophy and one set of educational goals.





ACADEMICS
Innovative Programs

Innovative programs

JPPS offers academically challenging programs that foster inquiry, creativity, and inspiration in a student-centered, *heimish* learning environment.

Our enriched, comprehensive General Studies curriculum far exceeds MELS requirements.

Our compelling Judaic Studies curriculum focuses on language instruction (Hebrew and Yiddish), values education, Bible studies, Jewish History and the study of Jewish culture and traditions.

A variety of courses address the interests of our diverse student population.

A wide range of co-curricular programs, field trips, retreats and speakers enrich and complement both the Judaic and General Studies programs.

State-of-the-art technology is seamlessly integrated into the students' learning in all disciplines.

SEAL accredited programs, curriculum, and governance structure.



ACADEMICS
Caring, Committed Faculty

Our exceptional, highly-qualified faculty is committed to each student's success.

In addition to their creative and innovative work with their students, teachers provide individualized help to students within the class setting through a process of differentiated instruction.

Small Class Sizes

Small classes in various subjects enable students to work at their own academic level and to successfully complete course requirements.

Small classes allow for remediation where needed, as well as acceleration, so that some students exceed elementary school requirements.





ACADEMICS
Values & Traditions

Values and Traditions

JPPS students graduate with a mature understanding and appreciation of their heritage. They learn to participate in Jewish customs, to celebrate holidays in the tradition of their ancestors, to relate to co-religionists of all denominations and cultures, and to appreciate Israel's importance to Jews around the world.

They have a strong sense of community and understand the need to support that community with volunteer work, charity, and advocacy.

Leadership Opportunities

- March to Jerusalem
- Read-a-Thon to support Hope & Cope
- JPPS - Auberge Shalom Read-a-Thon
- JNF Tree-a-Thon, food drives
- Collection of CJA tzedakkah
- Mission to Montreal - Ometz
- Sun Youth fundraising



LEARNING EXPERIENCES
Curricular & Extracurricular

JPPS students have choices. Whether it's with the JPPS Choir, mathematics competitions, the BEAP Program or volunteering, students participate in a variety of informal educational learning situations.

Expanded Offerings

- Choir
- Theatre
- Math Team
- Science Fair
- Mad Science
- Student Council
- Denim Day for Breast Cancer
- Multilingual Memorial Album
- JEM Workshop – Purim Baskets
- Youth Entrepreneurial Challenge
- Events at the Jewish Public Library
- School supply collection for Federation CJA
- Volunteering in Seniors Homes, Russian Senior's Club, Cummings Centre for Seniors





ATHLETICS
Passion
Determination

It is the passion and determination shown by all of our athletes during practices and games that makes our athletics program successful.

Basketball is our core sport, thanks to student athletes, great facilities, and high performance coaches.

Extracurricular Sports

Our broad array of offerings includes:

- Ball Sports
- Basketball
- Dance
- Floor Hockey
- Ice Skating
- Soccer
- Yoga



Building an Identity

“You have to do your own growing no matter how tall your grandfather was.”
 Abraham Lincoln

“Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up.”
 Pablo Picasso

Early Childhood

Junior K (3 years old)

Our Early Childhood Program promotes an integrated developmental approach within an enriched Jewish experience. Children learn in a number of different ways, and we have developed our curriculum to offer them the opportunity to learn in the way that each of them will have the greatest chance to excel and thrive.

Our children learn math, social studies, music, art, gym and three languages. They learn social skills and language skills as

Pre-K (4 years old)

they cooperate and communicate with one another in stations and play time.

The Jewish curriculum includes the following areas: Jewish life cycle, Shabbat, all Jewish holidays, Israel, Hebrew language and Jewish community and connections. Following the interests of children helps them connect what they know to new information being taught, and also helps them put new information into a meaningful context.

Kindergarten (5 years old)

Arts Education

All students from Grades 1 - 6 are exposed to a multitude of educational art projects, including the visual and dramatic arts, dance and music appreciation. Learning ‘in and through’ the arts enhances regular classroom instruction, improves student self-expression, and develops in our students a sense of socio-cultural awareness, both of our Judaic heritage and of the populations surrounding us. Where giftedness or a special talent is demonstrated by a student, every effort is made to explore and develop these gifts

Music is integrated into all celebrations and helps the students develop an appreciation and awareness of musical styles and origins. Overall objectives include introducing different musical styles (e.g., classical, jazz, rock) and different musical traditions in Yiddish, Hebrew, French, and English; introducing students to the lives and works of great composers; enabling the students to express themselves through song; and promoting and developing a knowledge and appreciation of an orchestra.

Drama is woven into the fabric of our language arts and social studies program in English, Hebrew, French and Yiddish. Overall objectives include teaching languages through role-play and puppetry; reconstructing historical events for better comprehension and retention of information in social studies; and using improvisational techniques to deepen students’ understanding of character and plot in French language classes. Activities include classroom-focused plays, puppet shows and paper bag dramatics; attendance at theatre performances at The Segal Centre for Performing Arts at the Saidye and other theatres as well as special theatre performances held at school by professional theatre groups like Geordie Productions and Youth theatre.

Dance is integrated into the teaching of many content areas such as multicultural studies, creative movement, and Jewish holidays and celebrations.

Words and perspective

“A different language is a different vision of life.”
Federico Fellini

“Americans who travel abroad for the first time are often shocked to discover that, despite all the progress that has been made in the last 30 years, many foreign people still speak in foreign languages.”
Dave Barry

Inspiring minds...

“Sit down before fact as a little child, be prepared to give up every conceived notion, follow humbly wherever and whatever abysses nature leads, or you will learn nothing.”
Thomas Huxley

“The highest form of wisdom is kindness.” Talmud

Le Programme Français

Le programme de français, vise à développer chez les élèves, des connaissances et des compétences qui leur permettent de communiquer leurs expériences dans diverses situations. Il entend également faire prendre conscience aux élèves de leur appartenance à une communauté sociale dont la majorité est de langue française. Ainsi, nous promovons le développement d'attitudes positives vis-à-vis de l'apprentissage du français et de la culture québécoise. Le programme de français comprend à chaque niveau les matières exigées par le MELS. L'enseignement se fait à tous les niveaux en français.

L'intégration de notions judaïques, particulièrement dans le domaine familial que représentent les fêtes juives, est un élément intégré dans l'apprentissage de la langue et de la littérature françaises.

Section française

Les élèves de la section française suivent le programme d'études françaises du MELS dans un milieu scolaire juif privé. Cette section est ouverte à tous les élèves avec ou sans éligibilité, ayant un niveau de français leur permettant de suivre un programme enrichi. Des enseignants hautement qualifiés et dévoués à leur mission éducative enseignent et assistent les étudiants tout en stimulant leur créativité.

Les élèves de la section française sont intégrés dans les classes régulières excepté pour les mathématiques et reçoivent une formation académique ayant le même niveau que les autres élèves de l'école. En plus, ils ont une heure supplémentaire en groupe visant à développer davantage la littérature francophone.

Comme dans toutes les autres écoles élémentaires de la province, ces étudiants passent leurs examens du MELS en français langue maternelle.

Éthique et culture religieuse

Le programme d'éthique et de culture religieuse sensibilise nos élèves à la vie en société, mettant l'emphase sur les

règles nécessaires pour bien vivre ensemble. Notre approche développe la tolérance envers tous et une ouverture aux autres cultures religieuses.

Social Sciences

The social sciences program introduces the student to the concepts of space, time, society, history and geography. Expanding on the exploration of their immediate environment, students continue to explore Quebec, Canadian societies through time.

In the French program, students learn the factual content related to historical and geographical concepts, while in English curriculum integrates some of these concepts.

Art dramatique

Les techniques de jeu et les techniques théâtrales pendant les classes d'art dramatique permettent aux élèves de développer leur créativité. De plus, c'est un excellent véhicule pour approfondir leur compétence en communication et expression (orale, corporelle) et d'intégrer les apprentissages du français.

Student Support Services

In order to best meet the needs of different segments of our student population we offer a wide range of student support services

Special Education Coordinator

- Classroom observation to identify needs.
- Preliminary testing to detect potential learning difficulties.
- Follow-up with individual programs and resource support both in and out of class.
- Guidance and recommendations for teaching strategies.
- Implementation of the S.E.E. (Supportive Educational Environmental Program) keeps students who are experiencing challenges integrated with their peers while benefiting from additional support in three languages. This program enables students to receive individual and group support.

Student Support Officer

- Observation of social issues during recess and lunch hour.
- Identifies any potential social problems.
- Work out any potential issues with students, communicate with parents, teachers and administration.

Nurse

- A nurse is present on a full-time basis.

Ometz School Counsellor

- A school social worker is in residence.
- Individual and/or family counselling, case management, and crisis intervention.
- Group and classroom interventions.
- Parental authorization is required.

Occupational Therapist

- Observation of children (Early Childhood Program) in various settings, identification of areas of difficulty, referral for individual assessment
- Ongoing consultation with teachers, administrators, students and families.

Speech Language Pathologist

- A speech and language screening is conducted in the classroom through observation. The purpose of the screening is to allow our therapist the chance to assess your child's ability to be an effective communicator and/or listener.



Thoughts on technology

“A computer terminal is not some clunky old television with a typewriter in front of it. It is an interface where the mind and body can connect with the universe and move bits of it about.”
Douglas Noel Adams

“I do not fear computers. I fear the lack of them.”
Isaac Asimov

How it all works...

“Do you realize if it weren't for Edison we'd be watching TV by candlelight?”
Al Boliska

“At bottom, robotics is about us. It is the discipline of emulating our lives, of wondering how we work.”
Rod Grupen

Science & Technology

The Science Program: A Hands-On, Interactive Approach in a Laboratory Setting.

The goal of the Science program is to guide our students in the exploration of their environment through the study of the many facets of science and technology.

The teaching of science is taught in a laboratory, under the auspices of the French Program. Our curriculum is based on progressional understanding, building on previously learned concepts and experiences from pre-kindergarten through to the Grade 6 level. As of Grade 3, the MELS science curriculum is followed within the French Program. We challenge students to achieve their full potential through an interactive problem-solving environment.

The program objectives are to:

- familiarize students with general laboratory procedures
- introduce students to the attitudes and skills integral to the scientific method
- acquaint students with the environmental challenges facing us today and to help them develop a sense of responsibility
- teach the students to investigate specific subjects; gather, interpret and summarize data, and come to conclusions

Science Fair

Students work on personal scientific projects which are exhibited at our annual Fair Night. Students apply learned concepts and develop their personal research topic. They identify areas of interest and learn how to prepare and submit an abstract describing their findings.

Technology

Our mission is to graduate students who are prepared to meet future challenges and responsibilities. As such, we are committed to being a leader in the use of technology to enhance the learning process, and to provide students with the best digital tools to express their ideas. With Smart Boards in every classroom (Grades 1–6), a fully equipped computer lab and robotics lab, as well as laptops for students in Grades 4, 5 and 6, the computers and related technologies are integrated as a seamless tool for better teaching and learning across the

curriculum and disciplines with a focus on the importance of responsible and ethical use of technology. Students use these fundamental learning tools to readily access and critically examine a variety of information sources. As well, students use these digital tools to construct technology-rich, student-centered experiences within authentic contexts and to cultivate an understanding and appreciation of cultural differences by communicating globally.



Mathematics & Robotics

Our Grade 6 students consistently place in the Canadian National Mathematics League competition. This achievement reflects our outstanding mathematics program. In 2008-2009 and in 2009-2010, we ranked first in Canada.

Mathematics

JPPS has achieved a well-deserved reputation for excellence in mathematics. Smaller classes allow us to meet the needs of children based on personal development and mastery of skills, allowing each to achieve his or her full potential. We constantly revise (according to MELS), enrich and accelerate our curriculum, in order to respond to the growing and changing needs of our students. The main focus is on solving situational problems and incorporating the concepts into the problem. Data management, geometry and technology are integral parts of the program.

Robotics

JPPS is the only private Jewish day school in Quebec to teach this course. Spectrum of Canada has chosen our school to be the first in introducing the Lego-Robotics program in Quebec, based on our highly developed Computer Science curriculum. As part of this program, students in Grades 3 and 4 build their inventions using LEGO pieces. Using motors and wires, children are able to make their inventions come to life. Throughout the program, many different concepts are taught, including axels and wheels, flexibility and rigidity, and gears. This novel program requires the application of many skills such as mathematics, engineering and architecture. It engages the students' multiple intelligences and creativity, while focusing on team work. This program reinforces the fact that JPPS is the leader in bringing the education of the 21st century into the classroom.

FirstClass

Students, teachers, and parents make extensive use of our online community, “FirstClass@jpps.ca”

This communication and conferencing system allows students to work collaboratively in and out of the classroom, with each other and with their teachers. In addition, it provides easy and safe e-mail communication among all members of the school community.



Creativity and being...

“Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep.”
Scott Adams

“Absolute identity with one’s cause is the first and great condition of successful leadership.”
Woodrow Wilson

Language and culture...

“Those who know nothing of foreign languages know nothing of their own.”
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

“No culture can live, if it attempts to be exclusive.”
Mahatma Gandhi

Personal and Social Development

Physical Education and Health

As in all areas of our curriculum, physical education is structured in a spiral course of study that addresses the developmental needs of the students at various stages.

Our program concentrates on body awareness, movement, co-operative games, and a variety of non-competitive sports. At the core of our program lies the belief that the concept of “play” and fun should co-exist with the pedagogy of our Physical Education program.

Formal gym classes are taught in French as part of the overall French program. Our Physical Education Program increasingly

utilizes community resources, including city parks for activities such as winter sports days, snowshoeing near the school, and sports days held at parks and in our own facilities.

BEAP

Our tightly-knit team of experienced professionals offers JPPS students participation in a number of engaging, and structured, bilingual after-school sessions that have revolutionized JPPS’s entire athletics program. Total running time is from 4:20 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., including travel and preparation time. Our BEAP program is affordable, fun, and diverse.

Social Sciences

The social sciences program introduces the student to the concepts of space, time, society, history and geography.

Expanding on the exploration of their immediate environment, students continue a relationship with the surrounding world: the community, the City of Montreal, the Province of Quebec, the country of Canada.

Historical time is often a difficult concept for children of elementary school age. Students are exposed to the notions of

cause and effect, sequence, and chronology through examining their own personal and family histories, and charting personal time lines.

The General and Judaic Studies programs reinforce and complement each other. In the French and English programs, students learn the factual content related to historical and geographical concepts, while the Judaic Studies curriculum integrates some of these concepts.

Multilingual Education

Our curriculum is based on the requirements set by the Quebec Ministry of Education.

English Language

Our English Language Arts curriculum is based on the requirements set by the Quebec Ministry of Education. Thematic strands based on these guidelines are incorporated into our program. As enrichment to the program, we connect to art, music and technology. Our students learn to read, write, listen, view and discuss varied text types including media, literature and poetry, to support the development of their reading and writing competencies. They develop strategies to interpret texts, learn to develop critical thinking skills and make ethical judgements.

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Hebrew Studies Program

The aim of the Hebrew Studies Program is to immerse students in all aspects of language learning: reading, writing, speaking, listening and thinking. Grades 1-6 use the *Tal Am Hebrew and Heritage* curriculum. This program instills in young students the tools that will strengthen their connection to their Jewish roots and the State of Israel. It also reinforces the students’ affinity for the Hebrew language.

Many teaching aids and technologies are used throughout the process of learning, and help to create a Hebrew environment. We use an integrated approach to teaching Hebrew as a communicative-heritage language that is a natural approach to language acquisition. The Hebrew language is experienced through communication, integration of content and skills.

Yiddish Studies Program

JPPS recognizes the primacy of Hebrew as the language of the entire Jewish people. Nevertheless, in its educational philosophy and orientation, this school has, from its very beginning, integrated the study of the Yiddish language and literature into the curriculum of the school. The course of study for Yiddish language and literature is developmental, with a continuous process of skills and content acquisition. This program of studies is viewed as the vehicle to make the students more knowledgeable and appreciative of this unique part of their Jewish heritage, culture and traditions. One of the goals is for the students to develop a sense of *yiddishkayt* and *mentshlekhhkayt*.



Alumni

Our alumni are regularly seen back at the school helping out in a myriad of ways. Whether tutoring current students in the after-school homework program, coaching our many sports teams, or working backstage on plays, the JPPS-Bialik experience lasts a lifetime.

A growing number of JPPS-Bialik teachers and graduates send their own children to JPPS and Bialik. In fact, a growing number of teachers are graduates themselves.



**Pride in our past
Confidence in our future**

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