

LOWER SCHOOL STUDENT SUPPORT

"Through the experienced and caring bands of the administration and teachers, our daughter has grown by leaps and bounds and achieved academic and social milestones beyond our expectations. Most importantly, our daughter has tremendous self-esteem and self-confidence and continues to amaze berself each day with how well she can thrive and excel."

> - PARENTS OF A THIRD GRADE GIRL IN THE GY PROGRAM

GESHER YEHUDA **PROGRAM** At the core of Moriah's educational philosophy is the Jewish teaching, הנוך לנער על פי דרכו – "Educate the child according to his/her way." Our mission of instilling love of Torah and devotion to Judaism together with our equally passionate commitment to providing a General Studies education of the highest caliber is inclusive of every child in our school. Toward that end, Moriah employs a team approach to supporting the individual child, with the goal of capturing the essence of the whole child and providing each student with a program of learning which will maximize his/her strengths and potential while addressing areas in need of further development. Special educators, psychologists, speech language therapists, outside learning consultants, and Bergen County Special Services personnel work in partnership utilizing research-based, cutting edge methodology to create an individual plan that diversifies instruction and targets the needs of each child.

In all of Moriah support services, the use of assistive technology is prominent. Technologies include the iPod Touch, individual laptops, iPads, talk to type software, Smartboards in small classrooms, downloadable audiobooks for children with reading disabilities and more.

The key to our success is the consistent and frequent communication between the school and home. Together, we carve out an educational process that includes parents in decision making and implementation, both at school and at home. Together, we partner to set up our children for success. We are proud to offer a broad range of support programs:

Unique to Moriah, this intensive support program is designed for children with a range of learning and emotional issues, but who are capable of effectively functioning in a mainstream classroom for a portion of the day. A dedicated special educator is responsible for a group of six or fewer students to support

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their educational needs, incorporating personalized modifications and accommodations for individual success. Careful consideration is given to create balanced Gesher Yehuda cohorts that will optimize the ability to successfully meet the needs of each student.

All Gesher Yehuda groups meet with a dedicated psychologist for a weekly social skills class to build self-esteem, foster social communication and fortify social development in the areas of compromise, negotiation and mutual respect. In addition, students in the program benefit from twice weekly classroom-based language therapy to support their needs. This is done through the implementation of our language curriculum delivered by our in-house speech language therapist.

RESOURCE SUPPORT PROGRAM

This program allows children to be supported within the classroom and/or pulled out for small group instruction, targeting specific academic areas of focus, depending on their individual needs. Pull out resource rooms are equipped to meet the children's needs through various learning modalities.

BERGEN COUNTY SPECIAL SERVICES

Special education and related services are provided to students in grades K-8 who are enrolled in non-public schools through two funding streams, one state and the other is federal (IDEA of Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act.) Moriah's support services department meets regularly with state agencies to ensure that our students are receiving optimal services.

The services provided by Bergen County Special Services, who have agreed to assume responsibility for providing these services include:

- Evaluation and determination of eligibility
- Compensatory Education (Math & Communication: Reading, Writing)
- English as a Second Language
- Supplemental Instruction/Special Education Teachers
- Speech Language Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Educational materials, supplies, technological equipment, textbooks
- FM system for students with cochlear implants or other assistive technology
- Teacher of the Deaf

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
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