

# **Who Are the Teachers in Your Neighborhood**

## **Beit Ahavah Community School 2009-10, 5770**

### **RABBY RIQI, Educator & B'nei Mitzvah Class**

**Rabbi Riqi Kosovske** is extremely excited about her 3<sup>rd</sup> year at Beit Ahavah. This year she brings new ideas for student-generated family education and community programs and a values-based curricular approach based on our fourfold connection with ourselves, with others, with the world, and with G-d/spirituality (a model of concentric circles she learned as a teen at her Reform Jewish summer camp in Wisconsin!). She is thrilled with the wonderful teaching staff she has culled for the coming year, both new and returning, and enthusiastic about the work of our YOFIE committee and growth of the synagogue. Rabbi Riqi is the mom of Chanina (almost 5) and looking forward to a splendid year of learning and growth with everyone.

### **MORAH MALKAH, Head Teacher/Assistant Director**

**Malka** (translation: the queen!) **Amster** also works as the lead teacher at Congregation Ahavas Achim in Westfield and teaches 5<sup>th</sup> grade at CBI. She has an extensive background in Jewish education that includes leadership positions in religious schools, community Jewish high schools, and Shabbat programming. Her love and leadership within the Jewish community is coupled with a passion for horses and myotherapy, a field she has pioneered. She comes to us from East Granby, CT.

### **MORAH JENNIFER, Gan / Kindergarten**

**Jennifer Friedman** is proud to be sharing her love of Jewish stories, blessings, values and traditions with the Kindergarten class. She wants to keep them engaged by relating the lessons to their everyday life, and hopes to integrate the traditions and rituals of each family into the class. Look out for lots of fun craft and cooking projects! She is the proud mother of Sage (a kindergartener!) and June (age 1), and a Beit Ahavah member.

### **MORAH GABY, Aleph-Bet / 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades**

**Gaby Raileneau** is a first year student at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and is from St. Louis, MO. She attended Jewish schools for the majority of her life and makes Judaism a big part of her life. Her parents are also Jewish educators. She has worked as at many different Hebrew schools as a young adult. She is SUPER excited to teach this class and to be part of this community!

### **MORAH LISA, Gimel / 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

**Lisa Prolman** lives in Deerfield with her husband Mark, son Ben, and 2 cats. She is a librarian with a background in Children's Literature and hopes to use stories and music to instill a love of stories, customs and rituals in her students. She has been a Beit Ahavah member and lay leader for many years.

### **MORAH SHERI, Dalet-Hey / 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grades**

**Sheri Levsoni** has been teaching Hebrew & Judaic Studies for 15 years. She is an elementary school teacher, - turned lawyer - turned Jewish Educator! She is pursuing a masters degree in Jewish Education at Hebrew College in Newton. She also teaches at Sinai Temple in Springfield, where her husband is the cantor, and where she also oversees their Mitkadem Hebrew program! Sheri has 2 teenage daughters, 2 dogs, 2 cats, 1 chinchilla, a fish & a horse! She is very involved in local theatre (currently in Gypsy) and in the Jewish Renewal movement and is excited to connect with the Beit Ahavah community this year.

### **MORAH FELICIA, Vav / 6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Felicia Sloin** is joyfully back for her third year of teaching at Beit Ahavah. This year she will be exploring Jewish ethics and teachings with the sixth grade class. She will also be sharing music each month with all of the classes in the school. Felicia moved to western Massachusetts from Newton, where she served as both a cantorial soloist and music educator for a Reform congregation. Prior to that, she worked at a Jewish Renewal congregation in Berkeley, California. She uses her passion for music and the arts to teach and inspire people of all ages to connect with their Jewish souls. Her son Elijah Rain is 2 years old.

### **MOREH BEN, Zayin / 7<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Ben Beraha** is a student at UMASS pursuing a degree in Linguistics & Judaic studies. He is excited to start his second year teaching and being a part of the Beit Ahavah community. Over the summers he has worked at Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute, a Reform Jewish summer camp in Wisconsin in an intensive Hebrew language immersion program where he led the Hebrew program and served as unit head. He is very excited to start another year of inspiring kids to love to be Jewish.

### **MORAH SHARON, SJU (Special Jewish Unit): *Jewish Immigration, Vav & Zayin classes***

**Sharon Saline** brings her spunk and innovation to Beit Ahavah this year through teaching Jewish Immigration, a unit she has long wanted to bring to the school, following the success of her prior school projects such as Jewish Art and Purim Rap in years past. She is the mother of Jonah (15) and Sarina (11), and a proud Beit Ahavah member.

### **THURSDAY MITKADEM Hebrew School Teaching Team**

**Moreh Kenny Hahn**  
**Morah Sheri Levson**  
**Moreh Ben Beraha**  
**Rabbi Riqi Kosovske**

### **TEEN MADRICHIM**

**Avery Mencher**  
**Sarah Spound**  
**Sam Weiss**