



YESS ADVANCING

WINTER 2019



REMEMBERING A

Masterful Mechanech

Rabbi Chanina Herzberg זצ"ל

Lasting Lessons in Chinuch

A MESSAGE FROM OUR ROSH YESHIVA



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Thirty eight years ago, my father, Rav Binyamin Kamenetzky, zt”l, invited Rav Chanina Herzberg zt”l, to be the menahel at Yeshiva of South Shore. It proved to be a pivotal decision and one that enabled the yeshiva to become the thriving makom Torah it is today. Rabbi Herzberg, was more than just a menahel. He was a master mechanech – a person who saw his role as not simply a leader but a teacher in the true sense of the word. He devoted his life to the Yeshiva and served as a guide, support and role model to countless talmidim, rabbeim and parents. He used every opportunity to impart eternal chinuch lessons to hundreds of students over the decades.

Rabbi Herzberg’s vision of chinuch was shaped by his rebbe, Rav Shlomo Freifeld, zt”l. Like his rebbe, zt”l, he had the firm belief that the rebbe-talmid relationship is “for life.” He was dedicated to the well-being of each talmid and was committed to ensuring that every boy who “wanted to learn,” did so.

In molding the yeshiva, Rabbi Herzberg would often quote my grandfather, Rav Yaakov Kamenetzky, zt”l, who said, “a Yeshiva must be a microcosm of Klal Yisrael!” Indeed, he embraced the diversities among our talmidim and guided each boy to be a true Ben Torah on his own path.

Both Rabbi Herzberg and my father thought beyond themselves in considering the future of the Yeshiva. Like Rav Binyamin, Rabbi Herzberg imparted his mesorah in our current menahelim, Rabbi Avraham Robinson and Rabbi Zev Davidowitz.

On these pages, we will share thoughts on Rabbi Herzberg’s impact from former talmidim, parents, rabbeim and colleagues in the Yeshiva. While Rabbi Herzberg’s passing is a tremendous loss for his family, our Yeshiva, the Five Towns Community and Klal Yisrael at large, it is also a time to reflect on and appreciate the many lessons he imbued in us all.

May we be zoche to continue his vision in the Yeshiva and nurture our talmidim for many years to come.



Rav Mordechai Kamenetzky
Rosh Yeshiva

A YESHIVA FAMILY REMEMBERS THOUGHTS FROM ADMINISTRATORS

“ Rabbi Avraham Robinson, Menahel, Toras Chaim Bais Binyamin

Rabbi Herzberg was more than just our Menahel. He was our Rebbe, our mentor and our support. I learned from him to take time to think and gain a deeper understanding of the many angles of a given situation before coming to a conclusion. He recognized our strengths and weaknesses and found a way to cultivate us to be better mechanchim.

“ Rabbi Zev Davidowitz, Menahel HaMechina, Toras Avraham

Rabbi Herzberg's keen wisdom and understanding, and endless care and concern for every single talmid built the yeshiva into what it has become today. And through it all, he never lost sight of the individual. Each talmid was precious, unique and special in his eyes, and his single greatest satisfaction was their personal success. We are all the beneficiaries of his life's work and it is our responsibility to live up to his incredible legacy.

“ Rabbi Avraham Fridman, Principal General Studies, Elementary Division

I had the z'chus to know Rabbi Herzberg, zt"l, for over 25 years. In all those years, he never had a concern for 'Rabbi Herzberg.' He was only concerned for each and every talmid. He was the embodiment of a mechanech and he had two simple tenets – believe in every talmid and give him 100% of yourself.

“ Mr. Daniel Winkler, Principal General Studies, Mechina Division

One of the first things Rabbi Herzberg told me was 'you can catch a lot more flies with honey than with vinegar.' His sweetness, love, understanding and warmth towards each boy was contagious, and each Rebbe, teacher and member of the administration emulated that vision. This kindness was and continues to be the foundation of each child becoming a true mensh and Ben Torah.

“ Mrs. Elana Fertig, Director Hollander Early Childhood Center

Rabbi Herzberg was an incredible Rav, Menahel and leader. He advised us, guided us and gave us the confidence to help others. Over time I learned from his example. He called me daily and taught me how to keep the lines of communication open to build relationships.

“ Mrs. Monika Weinberg, Assistant to Rabbi Herzberg for over 20 years

Rabbi Herzberg was special to every talmid. They loved him and they feared him. If he walked into a room and requested quiet, there was not a sound to be heard. He had it all – the love and the respect. It was an honor and a privilege to have known him and worked with him.

YOSS ALUMNI & PARENTS REMEMBER



“B”H, we are blessed to have our oldest son in Yeshiva South Shore. I remember last year when my son was in first grade and we attended his Chumash party at the Yeshiva. I couldn’t help but think back to my own Chumash party. What stuck with me the most was not the bagels or the songs, but the genuine smile and happiness that Rabbi Herzberg had when he presented the Chumash to each individual boy. I remember feeling that this must be an important moment in our lives because it was clearly an important moment in his. He probably handed out over a thousand chumashim during his career as a menahel, yet he was never simply smiling for the photo op. He was genuinely thrilled to be bringing another Jewish boy into the world of Chumash and Torah. And that joy and excitement that he had, has stuck with me throughout my life. It is something that I hope is given over to my sons as well.

Mr. Shragi Portal

Senior Associate, Ernst and Young
YOSS Alumnus (1999) &
YOSS Parent

“Rabbi Herzberg truly taught me what it means to care for and be devoted to a talmid as if he is your own son -- pure ahavah with no other motives. I will never forget how he, along with Harav Binyamin Kamenetzky, spent a few hours at my home when I was an eighth grader to persuade me to attend a particular high school. He took this time at night because he truly felt it was in my best interest as a Ben Torah and only wanted what was best for me. I am trying to follow in his footsteps in my relationships with my own talmidim.

Rabbi Aryeh Cohen

Mashgiach of DRS Yeshiva High
School for Boys - YOSS Alumnus
(1993)

“Rabbi Herzberg’s foresight in educating Jewish Children was bar none. He knew exactly what had to be done, and he knew how to do it.

Mr. Heshy Schertz

President, SRI LLC -
YOSS Alumnus (1973) &
close friend of Rabbi
Herzberg

“Rabbi Herzberg’s foresight in educating Jewish Children was bar none. He knew exactly what had to be done, and he knew how to do it.

“Rabbi Herzberg knew exactly what each child needed, and he was there to give it to them at the right time and in the most appropriate way”

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RABBI CHANINA HERZBERG ZT"l



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“ I'll never forget the time Rabbi Herzberg gave me a compliment in front of other boys. It made me feel special and gave me a boost of self-confidence, which I didn't even realize I needed. Rabbi Herzberg knew exactly what each child needed, and he was there to give it to them at the right time and in the most appropriate way. I always think of him when I try to find a nice word or make a nice gesture to a friend or talmid. What can I say that could be mechazek him? How can I change his day? How can I put a smile on his face? What would Rabbi Herzberg have said or done? He taught me to always be cognizant of others and their needs and feelings.

i Aryeh
owitz

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Senior Magid
Medrash L'Torah
er College -
umnus (1991)

**Rabbi Moshe
Greenspan**

8th grade rebbe in YKLI
YOSS Alumnus (1996)

“ The first time I spoke with Rabbi Herzberg, I not only left the talk impressed, but also shocked by how well he knew my son. He was total emes. He was all about the children. His only motivation in life was the growth and development of each child according to his or her own way. It was an honor and a privilege to have had a chance to get to know Rabbi Herzberg on a personal level. His legacy will live on in the halls of Yeshiva of South Shore until Moshiach!

**Mr. Ken
Schuckman**

President Schuckman Realty
YOSS Parent and Board Member

“ Rabbi Herzberg defined for me what the words “personal attention” mean. He taught me that a rebbe is never too busy, no matter the background or the age of the talmid.

**Rabbi Shalom
Rosner**

Former Rabbi of Congregation
Bais Ephraim Yitzchok and Rabbi
of Kehillat Nofei HaShemesh,
Ramat Beit Shemesh -
YOSS Alumnus (1986)



**Connecting with talmidim
over the years....**

LIMUDEI KODESH

LEARNING TORAH AT A HIGHER LEVEL



NEW 5TH GRADE MINYAN

Our fifth grade talmidim have taken a momentous step in elevating their daily tefillah. The Hanhalla of the Yeshiva have organized a dedicated Shacharis minyan to guide these young talmidim as they mature into Bnei Torah. The forum allows for Tefillah B'tzibur to be introduced to the boys on their level while concentrating on the halachos and nuances they might miss in a regular minyan.

The talmidim have embraced their new minyan in Bais Medrash "Kol Yaakov," named in memory of Rav Yaakov Nayman zt"l. With a select group of B'nei Mitzvah from older grades helping form the minyan, the kol tefillah has been powerful while the boys daven with fervor and with kavanah, saying each word loudly and clearly. The talmidim are being guided by Menahel Rabbi Avraham Robinson as well as their rabbeim, Rabbi Avraham Adler, Rabbi Nossie Burger and Rabbi Moshe Scharhon, as they experience a new meaning to "Tefillah B'tzibur."

"We are extremely proud of this group of young men. Tefillah is a life-long process, and we hope to propel them into that process with guidance, structure, meaning and understanding," said Rabbi Robinson.



YOM HASHLOSHIM

The Yom HaShloshim for Rabbi Herzberg, zt"l was marked by an inspiring gathering of the entire student body to hear divrei zikaron by Rabbi Kamenetzky, Rabbi Davidowitz, Rabbi Robinson, Rabbi Fridman and most especially by Rabbi Herzberg's son, Rebbe Eli, rebbe of the preschool division. The challenge was trying to encapsulate in twenty minutes, a legacy of educational leadership, chinuch al pi mesorah hakedosha, ahava, and hashkofas hachaim that was created and nurtured for over four decades. Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky, Rosh Yeshiva, set the tone by reminding everyone about how much love and care Rabbi Herzberg had for each talmid. Rabbi Eli Herzberg outlined four life lessons from his father. These include, always have hakaras hatov; become inspired by great people; never give up on another Jew; and focus on the small things.

(As part of the day,) Rabbi Robinson made a siyum on Shisha Sidrei Mishna which was concluded l'ilui nishmaso. A "Chesed Day" was also declared and the boys in the Elementary division each chose acts of kindness to perform. It was, most importantly, a day of understanding for our talmidim that while Rabbi Herzberg is gone, they can follow his example. May Rav Chanina Getzel ben R' Moshe be a melitz yosher for the thousands of talmidim he affected over the decades. Yehi Zichro Baruch.



על פי דרכו IN HIS FOOTSTEPS INITIATIVE

Since Rabbi Herzberg's petira, the talmidim, rabbeim, alumni and parent body of YOSS, as well as the community at large, have undertaken to strengthen ourselves in our avodas Hashem as a way to follow in the footsteps of our great Menahel, zt"l, and as an eternal z'chus for his neshama. Rabbi Herzberg lived by the words "חונן לנער על פי דרכו", and we have launched the "על פי דרכו – In His Footsteps Initiative," to honor his memory.

This program will allow us to each be mechazek ourselves in our avodas Hashem in a personal and private way, and enable Rabbi Herzberg's legacy to live within us all. There has been an overwhelming response to this initiative and commitments have been made in all areas of avodas Hashem, including: tefillah, Torah learning, chessed and many other mitzvos. By connecting to Rabbi Herzberg in a real and salient way, his memory remains with us each and every day. All participants will be included on a banner to be displayed in the yeshiva, and it is our hope that when people see it they too will be inspired to join us. As we continue building on the foundation Rabbi Herzberg set for us all, we ask Hashem to allow us to live our lives על פי דרכו - In his Footsteps.

RABBI HERZBERG'S DAILY CHINUCH LESSONS CONTINUE

For nearly 40 years, every erev Shabbos, the talmidim of the Mechina heard a Torah and Musser thought on the Parsha from Rabbi Herzberg zt"l. Rabbi Herzberg used the opportunity to imbue talmidim with life lessons and insights from the great Gedolei Yisrael from whom he gleaned, foremost among them was his rebbi, HaRav Shlomo Freifeld, zt"l. The powerful messages, peppered with stories of his youth, served as a wealth of inspiration for generations of talmidim. Over the past few years, Menahel HaMechina, Rabbi Zev Davidowitz, has been following Rabbi Herzberg's lead, by sharing inspirational and timely musser thoughts from his Rosh Yeshiva, HaRav Henach Lebowitz, zt"l, and other rabbeim.

"Part of developing a talmid into a real 'mentsch' is giving him the Torah's vantage point and perspective, and showing how the Torah lifestyle encompasses all facets of his life," said Rabbi Davidowitz. "These weekly divrei Torah serve as a bridge between the timeless lessons of our gedolim and the decisions and choices that our talmidim make every single day."



ECC TALMIDIM SHARE SMILES L'ZECHER NISHMAS RAV HERZBERG

Our youngest talmidim are absorbing the lessons of Rabbi Herzberg in ways that are meaningful to them. Rebbe Eli Herzberg, his son and the Pre-1A rebbe, shared stories about how his father caused other people to smile and feel loved. He told the boys that his father always said, "smile and people will smile back." We've added this idea to our "Making of a Mentsch" program, which begins every year in Chodesh Shevat. Each class decorated a giant smiley face and when a child causes another child to smile, he receives a sticker to put on the class chart. Each week we will add another mission to our program, culminating in a great prize, that we are sure will make everyone smile!

GENERAL STUDIES

EDUCATION FOR LIFE



YOSS STUDENTS "JUGGLE" AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

In our quest to provide our students with multiple creative outlets to nurture their individual interests and talents, we have added a number of after-school clubs in our Elementary division. In addition to the existing karate and chess clubs, boys can now participate in guitar, saxophone, basketball, juggling, and art clubs. Each club is divided by age to accommodate children in grades 1-3 and 4-5.

All of the programs have far-reaching benefits, including improved academic skills, enhanced social skills, refined discipline and patience, and most importantly, a boost to self-esteem.

"If there was ever a time that children needed a healthy outlet to express their talents and inner souls, it is now," said Rabbi Avraham Fridman, General Studies Principal. "Children need fun, wholesome activities to sharpen and inspire their thinking. We have already seen the benefits of the clubs and look forward to expanding our offerings."



CLASS OF '18 ALUMNI RETURN HOME

The Yeshiva strives to maintain strong relationships with each of our alumni. Recently, Yisroel Meir Goldblatt, Shua Pechman, and Shmuel Jacobs (class of 2018) came back to visit. They eagerly met with their former rabbeim and teachers, menahalim and principals to say hello and catch up. More importantly, they expressed thanks for what they described as "overly preparing them for High School." Shua Pechman described his transition to high school as "seamless." Shmuel Jacobs said "The skills I gained in ELA at YOSS were remarkable. I learned to become an avid reader and writer and I really enjoy the entire process." Yisroel Meir describes his Gemarah skills as "robust" and attributes his success to the guidance and direction of his rabbeim. "Their visit to the Yeshiva is just one instance of the ongoing communication and open-door policy we have with our former graduates" said Mr. Daniel Winkler, Mechina General Studies Principal. "The bond that students form with their rabbeim, teachers and administration extends well beyond Elementary and Middle School. They are relationships for life."

"THEY ARE
RELATIONSHIPS FOR LIFE"

YOSS STUDENTS GO DIGITAL

The Mechina division launched a comprehensive computer course for our 6th grade boys. Taught by Rabbi Yitzie Ross, 4th grade Rebbe and well-known technology expert, the course has three main objectives: understanding the powers and dangers of technology, preparing students for responsible and safe usage from a Torah perspective, and mastering the latest computer programs.

Instruction began with a discussion of the ethical issues that arise from the prevalence of technology. Students also reviewed the many dangers that exist online -- from social media to computer hacking. There was a special emphasis on "smart behaviors" as the talmidim were taught how to interact properly and stay safe online, both spiritually and physically.

Once a foundation was set, students began learning the latest versions of Microsoft Office programs. Although many boys are familiar with computers, tablets, and other portable electronic devices, most are not adept with the intricacies of Microsoft software, which is essential to a successful career and the ability to calculate and communicate.

Throughout the year, the students will be creating presentations in PowerPoint, running reports in Excel, and even formatting documents and drafting resumes and proposals in Microsoft Word.

"We are committed to providing our students with the tools, skills and ethical mindset to succeed in a technologically-driven world," said Mr. Daniel Winkler, General Studies Principal, Mechina Division. "Our goal is to prepare them to use technology to be competitive not only as high school and college students, but also in their future careers."



U'VLECHTECHA BADERECH BUS SAFETY PROGRAM

Children in the Hollander Early Childhood Center are on the road to understanding bus safety with the "U'Vlechtechta Baderech" program. This critical program has been initiated with our youngest talmidim to ensure they will be responsible passengers throughout their school years.

Rebbe Eli Herzberg kicked off the program by explaining the importance of behaving on the bus so that everyone is safe, and also reminding the boys to make a Kiddush Hashem wherever they go. Each preschooler received a safety "agreement" with a list of rules to review and have his parents sign.

Bus drivers were keen to get on board as well, and were given cards to distribute to children for good behavior. Boys in carpool and daycare have also been included and children who collect cards will be receiving wonderful prizes.

"Time on the bus is a significant learning moment for children and it is never too early to instill the importance of safe behavior and respect for each other," said Mrs. Elana Fertig, Preschool Director. "We encourage parents to promote these lessons at home as well and to be our partners in ensuring the safety of their precious boys."

"It is never too early to instill the importance of safe behavior and respect for each other"

MRS. ELANA FERTIG



VISIONARY
LEADER



COMMUNITY
BUILDER

THE LEGACY CAMPAIGN

Honor His Past. Build Our Future.

Binyamin Laufer
Campaign Co-Chair

Yehoshua Zimmermann
Campaign Co-chair

**Roni Benjamini, Ari Goodman, Sholom Jacobs,
Erez Shilo, Ken Schuckman, Yona Tepper**
Building Committee

Over the past few months, we've made great progress towards the Legacy Campaign and the goal of building a more modern facility for our children at Yeshiva Toras Chaim – Bais Binyamin. We are proud to report that the Yeshiva has received pledges for more than half of the \$9 million in capital needed for this project, and we look to our extended YOSS family to help us meet our commitment.

WE REITERATE OUR GOALS FOR THE NEW BUILDING:

- ▶ A more sensible space for the students with an updated design to ensure that the Yeshiva can accommodate the tremendous growth and advances within our walls.
- ▶ A cohesive, seamless look and flow to the exterior and interior of the building.
- ▶ An enclosed walkway linking the Mechina building with the Elementary division.
- ▶ A modern facility with larger classrooms, an expanded lunchroom, an enhanced resource center, a more generous gym and an updated library/media center.

HERE IS THE LATEST NEWS:

- ▶ The committee has hired Mr. Robert Salpeter as our owner's representative. Mr. Salpeter spent many years at Yeshiva University running their facilities management and new building projects. He also ran the construction for the Ramaz Middle School building when he was at Bovis construction.
- ▶ Mr. Yossi Fischler of CNSLT Real Estate Group was retained to closely analyze the Yeshiva's space needs for the new building. He met with all senior staff to review the purpose and usage of all areas of the school. Mr. Fischler recently submitted the results of his study to our architect who will incorporate them into the overall plan to maximize efficiency.
- ▶ To ensure the Yeshiva's financial capacity for the project, the initial drawings were submitted to numerous general contractors for construction estimates.
- ▶ The committee has sent the drawings to various engineers to bid on their prospective areas: Mechanical/Engineering and Plumbing, Structural and Electrical.
- ▶ The Rabbi Chanina Herzberg Educational Wing will be dedicated in our Menahel's memory. (see page 11)

There are dedication opportunities available at all levels.

Please contact
Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky at
rmkam@yoss.org,
Rabbi Dovid Kramer at
rdkramer@yoss.org or
Rabbi Shmuel Kamenetzky
at skamenetzky@yoss.org

62ND ANNUAL BANQUET

REMEMBERING A Masterful Mechanech

This year's 62nd Annual Dinner will pay homage to Rav Herzberg's memory and to the strong foundation he set in the Yeshiva. We will be dedicating the **Rabbi Chanina Herzberg Educational Wing** in our new building.

We are also proud to announce our honorees:

Our Parents of the Year, **Moshe & Malkie Hirsch**, are the devoted parents of four YOSS talmidim – Dovid (6th grade), Nison (4th grade), Yosef (2nd grade) and Gavi (Kindergarten). Moshe works in the computer industry at HOCS Consulting. He is an active member of our Board of Directors and provides thoughtful input into every important decision. Malky is a real estate salesperson for Milky Forst. They are members of Congregation Bais Ephraim Yitzchok.

Rabbi Aryeh Cohen, (class of 1993), will be receiving our inaugural Rav Binyamin Kamenetzky Alumni Award. An outstanding talmid of our Yeshiva, he is a well-known rebbe and educator, who has uplifted the lives of hundreds of young men and women across the country. He is most lovingly known as the 12th grade rebbe and Mashgiach Ruchani at DRS Yeshiva High School. He is also the author of the sefer "Lev Aryeh." He and his aishes chayil, Shaindy, live in Cedarhurst and are the proud parents of five children.

As a gesture of gratitude, we are proud to bestow **Mr. Kevin O'Connor**, President and Chief Executive Officer of Bridge Bancorp and its wholly owned subsidiary BNB Bank, with our Man of the Year Award. Mr. O'Connor has shown strong support for our Yeshiva, helping us meet our needs.

Our dinner is not just a joyous occasion; it provides scholarship funding for many families who cannot afford the full cost of tuition. We therefore turn to you to make a generous contribution to provide education for all children. We look forward to personally greeting you on **March 3rd at The Sands Atlantic Beach.**





YESHIVA OF SOUTH SHORE

Dr. Manfred R. & Jamie Lehmann Campus
1170 William Street
Hewlett, New York 11557

OUR DIVISIONS

Hollander Early Childhood Center
Louis and Gertrude Feil Torah Center
The Abraham & Sara Silber Middle School



REMEMBERING A

Masterful Mechanech

Dedicating the
Rabbi Chanina Herzberg זצ"ל
Educational Wing
of our new building

Honoring
**Moshe & Malkie
Hirsch**
Parents of the Year

**Rabbi Aryeh
Cohen**
Rav Binyamin Kamenetzky
Alumnus of the Year

**Mr. Kevin
O'Connor**
President & CEO
Bridge Bancorp / BNB Bank
Man of the Year



62ND ANNUAL
BANQUET

Save the Date!

**SUNDAY EVENING,
MARCH 3, 2019**

SANDS ATLANTIC BEACH