

Dear Families.

With a stunning Operetta now in the past and their Tiyul experience just around the corner, our 8th graders have a lot to be excited about. However, the most impressive news for the Class of 2019, is their recent high school acceptance results. I'm pleased to report that more than 90% of students were admitted into either their first choice of public or independent school. We should take great pride as a community in the opportunities afforded our students as they head off to new adventures in high school.

From a recent survey of Bernard Zell alumni and parents of alumni, we have compelling evidence that our students excel academically and socially wherever they attend high school. Further, principals at these respected schools express tremendous enthusiasm for our graduates' exceptional leadership skills and their eagerness to learn and grow.

The counseling and admissions process for the Class of 2019 was once again led with expertise and compassion by Eric Keitel, our Director of High School Counseling. Each 8th-grade family received individualized attention and support throughout the year, and already Eric has initiated one-to-one meetings with our 7th-grade families. Earlier this month, we held our first high school counseling informational session with 5th- and 6th-grade parents. We are committed to sharing information and resources that allow all Bernard Zell families to feel educated and empowered to make the best decisions for their child's future education.

To that end, after an incredibly successful High School Spring Fair last year, we're pleased to bring this event back again on May 1 for our Middle School parents. When we sent out requests to area schools to participate, we received an overwhelmingly positive response from high school principals and admissions directors, and a large number public and independent schools will be represented.

In closing, please join me in offering an enthusiastic *Yasher Koach* to the Class of 2019 and a heartfelt *Todah Rabah* to our exceptional faculty and staff for their diligent and exceptional professionalism in supporting the success of our soon-to-be graduates.

Chag Pesach Sameach,

Dr. Alyson Horwitz
Interim Head of School