



CHICAGOLAND JEWISH HIGH SCHOOL

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Founding students and parents from Jewish day high schools share their experience with Chicago eighth grade families. Photos captured from videotape—contact the CJHS office to request a copy of the tape.

Pioneer students say: 'Just do it!'

Students and parents responsible for creating several new Jewish day high schools in Detroit, Long Island, Boston and Manhattan came to Chicago recently to share their experiences and inspire others.

In an evening called "Meet the Pioneers," they described the stages from initial nervousness...to hard work and commitment...to ultimate reward. Paying close attention were about 60 Chicago-area eighth graders and parents who are considering the Chicagoland Jewish High School. Prospective students were able to taste what their freshman year would be like.

Jeremy Baruch, a freshman at the Jewish Academy of Metropolitan Detroit, advised young people considering the

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Chicagoland Jewish High School: "Don't be scared—just go out and do it—you'll never regret it."

Educators know that it takes great students, great parents and a great faculty to establish a great school, says Roslyn Stein, CJHS principal. "I know firsthand how the experience of starting a new Jewish high school changes the lives of everyone involved, and this came through loud and clear at our evening with the pioneers."

Just like the parents who spoke at our meeting, Chicagoans have been dreaming about a new Jewish high school for years. Looking around the room, studying faces of students and their parents, it was evident that we already have achieved "critical mass" for our first freshman class.

Semadar Siegel to head CJHS language department



Fluent in Hebrew, French, Yiddish, Swahili and English, Semadar Siegel has been named chair of the CJHS language department.

In addition to Hebrew, the CJHS Language Department will include French, Spanish and Japanese, which a student may elect to study concurrently with Hebrew. Three levels of Hebrew will be offered.

Siegel says she wants to instill a joy of the Hebrew language in her students. "I want to make people feel comfortable with Hebrew at all levels,

working on their weaknesses and building on their strengths. I want students to be introspective learners, always asking themselves 'where can I improve?'"

Currently a Hebrew teacher at Evanston Township High School, Siegel has taught Hebrew language at the Sager Solomon Schechter Middle School and the Ida Crown Jewish Academy. She also has been an advanced Hebrew language instructor at the Hebrew