



Dear Schechter Manhattan Parents,

Reflection is a core value at Schechter Manhattan that we promote in our faculty and teach our students. We aspire to look at ourselves carefully, to assess our strengths and challenges so that we can set goals and take action steps to improve. We apply that same approach to thinking about the overall Schechter Manhattan program. The parent survey is an important part of our yearly reflection, offering us important insight to how we are doing across a broad range of areas.

This year, 70% of Schechter Manhattan families replied to the survey, down slightly from 76% last year. Schechter Manhattan parents continue to report being satisfied. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 signifying very satisfied, the average rating over the past ten years has been remarkably consistent, hovering just below or above 4. I am pleased to report that this year's average rating of 4.248 is the highest average in a decade, up 6.5% from last year.

It is worth noting which items stand out as areas of higher and lower satisfaction. The three top rated areas this year were: Individual attention given to your child/ren, Progress Reports, and Likely to Recommend. Two of the areas, Individual attention given to your child/ren and Progress Reports, were also among the top rated last year. Parents at Schechter Manhattan continue to clearly value that their children are known well by the teachers, who provide instruction to meet individual needs and reports that reflect a deep and broad assessment of each student's progress. It is also great that so many Schechter Manhattan parents report their high likelihood to recommend our school to others, reflecting their satisfaction with their children's and their families' experiences.

Three areas that were rated low were: After-school program, Drama, and Music. It is clear these continue to be areas we will need to work on. The after-school program had been identified as an area for review by the school administration and steps are already underway, including the convening of a task force of parents and professionals to consider ways we can provide after-school programming that better meets student and parent needs.

It is also worth noting areas that moved up or down. This year only one area's ratings decreased- the aforementioned After-school program. All other survey areas increased, with the following areas showing an increase of .4 points or more: General studies curriculum; Jewish studies curriculum; Facilities, equipment, and materials; Social mix; Hebrew language; Torah, mishnah, Talmud; Social studies; Technology; Physical development. It is encouraging to see parent satisfaction increasing across so many areas of the school program.

Over the summer the Educational Leadership Team and the Senior Staff participate in retreat meetings, during which we reflect on the school year, set priorities for the coming year, and map out plans for change and improvement. The parent survey results serve as important data for those conversations and plans, especially in identifying areas for improvement. We look carefully at all of the quantitative results, and look to the many comments that parents wrote as well to help us better understand parents' perspectives.



Thank you to all of you who took the time to complete the survey and share this important feedback. I am appreciative of your partnership in our efforts to continually improve the quality of a Schechter Manhattan education. As always, I am available to chat, whether about the Parent Survey or other items on your mind.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful rest of the summer.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'B Mann', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Benjamin Mann
Head of School