



A PHILADELPHIA AREA DAY SCHOOL  
FOR STUDENTS GRADES 6-12

# JACK M. BARRACK HEBREW ACADEMY

272 South Bryn Mawr Avenue • Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **BARRACK HEBREW ACADEMY TO DEDICATE NEW FACILITIES ON NEW CAMPUS**

#### **Students, Parents, Faculty, Communal Leaders to Participate in September 14<sup>th</sup> Dedication Festivities**

**Bryn Mawr, PA – (August 20, 2008)** -- Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy will usher in a new era in Jewish day school education on Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. during the dedication of its new facilities on the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's 35-acre Radnor Campus at 272 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue.

“This milestone will mark a new standard for Jewish day school education in the tri-state area that will benefit our students and the community for generations to come,” says Barrack Board President Jay A. Dorsch. “We’re now able to offer parents who want a stellar college preparatory and Jewish education the level of facilities they seek in an independent school.”

Students, parents, faculty, communal leaders and school benefactors will participate in a colorful Torah procession led by Barrack seniors and lively musicians, followed by exuberant dancing and the hanging of a mezuzah on the school's front door. Celebrations will continue with a brief welcoming ceremony; the presentation of a portrait of Jack M. Barrack, the school's namesake; lunch in the new dining commons; and intramural soccer and tennis matches, inaugurating the school's new soccer field and tennis center.

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“Our excellent academic and Jewish studies programs are now matched by excellent athletic facilities, providing our students with a home court advantage for the first time in our school’s history,” shares Dr. Steven M. Brown, Head of School. “Our new home will reenergize and renew our commitment to excellence, while our commitment to an intimate pluralistic school community devoted to perpetuating Jewish values and living, and to graduating students committed to *tikkun olam*, repairing the world, will remain unchanged.”

School leadership will also spotlight a dramatic increase in tuition assistance and merit scholarship funds available for students of all economic backgrounds to attend Barrack, the oldest pluralistic secondary school in North America. “Due to the generosity of such benefactors as Leonard and Lynne Barrack, we have close to \$6 million in financial aide and scholarship funds available over the next 4-7 years,” adds Dr. Brown. “Our work now is to make middle and upper middle income families aware that they may qualify for assistance and that we are receptive to learning about individual families’ needs.”

“I believe that a quality Jewish day school education should be every child’s birthright, not a luxury. I am committed to making sure that this dream becomes a reality,” shares Leonard Barrack, president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, an alumnus of the school and a major benefactor. “My Jewish day school education has given me a solid foundation. On a daily basis, I’m guided by the values and traditions I learned.”

Renovations and new construction began less than a year ago, and were shepherded at breakneck speed by volunteer lay leaders Jerold S. Batoff and Carl Freedman, Barrack parents and benefactors. The fall term began on the new campus on Monday, September 8.

“From the beginning we were clear that we wanted to be able to move into our new facilities this school year – a tall order for a project of this magnitude,” explains Batoff. “This project was completed in less than half the time it would normally take, due to a solid vision, incredible teamwork and volunteer effort.”

TD Banknorth, the school projects’ bankers, is serving as a supporter of the school’s September 14 dedication ceremonies.

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Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy, originally founded in 1946 as Akiba Hebrew Academy, provides a dynamic dual curriculum of college preparatory and Jewish studies to coeducational students in grades 6-12. Barrack Hebrew Academies welcomes student from every spectrum of Jewish observance and life. To visit the new campus and explore new tuition assistance and merit scholarship programs,, contact Vivian Young, Director of Recruitment and Admissions; [vyoung@jbha.org](mailto:vyoung@jbha.org) or 610-922-2350.

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Photo Caption: **Sign of a Bright Future:** Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy will dedicate the school's new facilities on the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia's Radnor Campus, 272 South Bryn Mawr Avenue, on Sunday, September 14.