Meet Our Faculty
2021-2022
תשפ”ב

Menaheles
Mrs. Chaya L. Eidelman
President
Mr. A. Joseph Stern

Vaad HaChinuch
Rabbi Aba Brudny
Rabbi Yechiel Drillman
Rabbi Yaakov Luban
Derived SI units

- Sometimes you may need to describe a measurement by combining two or more units to form a derived unit.

- Example:
  
  1 Newton = \(1 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m} / \text{s}^2\)
Mrs. Sara Backenroth
Yahadus

Mrs. Backenroth holds teaching degrees from both Bnos Chava Teachers’ Seminary and Bais Yaakov of Montreal Teachers’ Training College. Her book, InsideOut, was published by Feldheim in 2015, and addresses topics in self-awareness and personal development based on the הידות curriculum that she designed for the students of Reenas Bais Yaakov. In her capacity as teacher and special programs coordinator, Mrs. Backenroth has designed close to 100 innovative workshops, and she consults with high schools about programming for their Yemei Iyun, Shabbatons and other school events.

Mrs. Shana Broad
Ivrit

Mrs. Broad, a graduate of Machon Raaya Seminary and a native Hebrew speaker, teaches עברית to our tenth and eleventh grades. Before joining RBY, Mrs. Broad taught at JFS, Yeshiva of Greater Washington, Yeshiva Ketana of Lakewood and Ilan High School. With over a decade of teaching experience, Mrs. Broad brings much passion to her teaching and adds both breadth and depth to students’ language skills.

Mrs. Estie Blumenthal
Chumash, Mechaneches

Mrs. Blumenthal is a graduate of Bais Yaakov Teacher’s Seminary. For the past three decades, Mrs. Blumenthal has devoted herself to teaching בnos Yisroel. She has taught hundreds of girls in Bais Rivka Rochel and Oros Bais Yaakov in Lakewood, New Jersey. Mrs. Blumenthal has earned a reputation for bringing clarity, understanding and a love for Yiddishkeit through the words of the נביאים and the נביאים. Her ability to make the learning alive and relevant ensures that the life-lessons remain with the students long after they leave her classroom.

Mrs. Chavi Busel
Navi, Tehillim, Mechaneches

Mrs. Busel graduated from BJJ-Machon Sara Schneirer L’Moros with teacher’s certification. Over the past twenty years she has taught ילומי קודש subjects in various Lakewood schools, including Bais Kaila and Oros Bais Yaakov. Her warm personality and flexible nature led her to be chosen as a מחנכת in Lakewood. She continues that role in Reenas as our 12th grade מחנכת and נביא teacher. Additionally, Mrs. Busel teaches נביא to the 10th grade. Mrs. Busel’s teaching talents and wisdom benefit Reenas students both in and out of the classroom.
Mrs. Dubbie Busel
Navi, Yearbook

Mrs. Busel graduated from BJJ-Machon Sara Schneirer L'Moros with certification to teach Judaic Studies. Mrs. Busel, has taught ביאור תפילת, נביא and Computer Graphics at Reenas, and is also our in-house creative and technical leader. She designs and produces almost all Reenas productions and events, maintains our computer systems and oversees our G.O. and Mishmeres committees. Mrs. Busel's talents are in demand outside of Reenas as well; she produces magazines, brochures, yearbooks and videos for camps and schools throughout the tri-state area.

Mrs. Chaya Sorah Cohen
Navi, Pirkei Avos, Computers

Mrs. Cohen is a graduate of both Reenas Bais Yaakov and BJJ-Machon Sara Schneirer L'Moros where she received her teacher's certification and graduated with honors. Her love of learning and passion for teaching, combined with her commitment to each student, make her an asset to Reenas Bais Yaakov. This year Mrs. Cohen won the Mrs. Chaya Newman New Teacher Award, given by Torah Umesorah in recognition of her outstanding pedagogic skills and dedication to her students.

Mrs. Goldie Cohen
Chumash

Mrs. Cohen graduated from BJJ-Machon Sara Schneirer L'Moros. Over the past twenty years, she taught in various schools, including Yeshiva of Brooklyn and Bais Kaila of Lakewood. In addition to teaching at RBY, Mrs. Cohen teaches at Passaic Torah Institute and The New York Seminary. Mrs. Cohen uses her wealth of experience and knowledge to explore fundamental topics found in פרשות בראשית, including facets of אמונה and the role of a Jewish woman.

Rebbetzin Rivka Eichenstein
Parshah

Rebbetzin Eichenstein, a graduate of Machon Sara Schneirer L'Moros and Gateshead seminary, began her teaching career in ירושלים where she taught at BJJ Seminary and also directed the Special Education Program at the בית יעקב. Currently, Rebbetzin Eichenstein is the 12th grade Merakezet and Director of Teacher Training at Bais Yaakov Intensive Seminary in Boro Park. Rebbetzin Eichenstein is called upon to develop curricula for schools throughout the metropolitan area. In addition to teaching פרשה to the twelfth-grade students at RBY, Rebbetzin Eichenstein teaches פרשה at Manhattan High School for Girls.
Mrs. Aviva Goldfarb
Art

Mrs. Goldfarb earned a B.A. in Fine Art and Design from Yeshiva University and the Fashion Institute of Technology, Summa Cum Laude, and has NJ State teacher’s certification. In addition to her many years of teaching art, she worked in graphic design and textbook illustration. She believes that creativity is essential for success in any field and that with encouragement and practice, anyone can learn to draw.

Dr. Sara Feigenbaum
Science

Dr. Feigenbaum is a graduate of Reenas Bais Yaakov and Bnos Sara Seminary. She earned a B.S. in Biology as well as a Doctorate in Physical Therapy from Touro College. Dr. Feigenbaum brings with her into the classroom a passion for biology as well as years of clinical experience in the healthcare field. She uses her experience to demonstrate the practicality of biology and how it affects our everyday lives.

Mrs. Hava Freidenreich
Science

Mrs. Freidenreich earned her B.S. in Secondary Science Education and Biology from the University of Maryland, College Park. She went on to pursue her M.A. in Science Education from Rutgers Graduate School of Education, where she was a Teaching Assistant for General Biology and researched middle school students’ understandings of Genetics. Mrs. Freidenreich holds a NJ Teacher of Science Certification in Biology and Chemistry. Mrs. Freidenreich has worked for ETS, grading the free-response section of the AP Biology exam. She has also worked for ETS as an Outside Item Writer and Summer Intern, developing questions for future AP Biology exams.

Miss Malka Fried
Computers

Miss Fried is a proud graduate of Reenas Bais Yaakov. She attended Bnos Sara Seminary, then took a graphics course through Design Alive and worked in a marketing firm, both of which taught her the ins and outs of the design and marketing industry. She now works as a freelance graphic designer with a strong focus on branding and print ads. Miss Fried combines her real-world knowledge and aesthetic flair to teach her students design.
Mrs. Chani Gross
History

Mrs. Gross graduated from BJJ- Machon Sara Schneirer L’Moros with teacher certification in Judaic Studies. She received her B.A. in Liberal Arts from Thomas Edison College, took Master’s level courses at Fairleigh Dickinson University, and received her NJ teaching certification. She also trained as a teacher mentor through the Jewish New Teacher Project, a role she fills in RBY. Mrs. Gross has been teaching American history and other subjects for over two decades. She is a dynamic teacher who encourages independent thinking and instills in her students a love for learning.

Ms. Deirdre Graham
History

Ms. Graham graduated Penn State University with high honors. She earned degrees in both History and Classics & Ancient Mediterranean Studies as well as minors in Latin and Art History. Ms. Graham is currently enrolled in her second Masters program through Penn State with a concentration in Higher Education. She teaches 12th Grade U.S. Government and hopes to foster the next generation of engaged and knowledgeable voters. Ms. Graham shares her enthusiasm for history and the inner workings of the government to create an exuberant learning environment for her students.

Rabbi Dovid Gross
Halacha, Be’ur Tefillah, Machsheves Yisroel

Rabbi Gross is a המוסמך of Beth Medrash Govoha in Lakewood, where he learned for over ten years. Since 2001, he has been the director of Torah Links of Middlesex County, a קירוב organization based in East Brunswick. His years of educational and outreach experience enable him to give students clarity in both הלכה and השקיפה. Students emerge from his class on the י”ג עקרי אמונה with a strong foundation in the basic tenets of Yiddishkeit.

Ms. Sukey Gross
English

Mrs. Gross is a graduate of Bais Yaakov Academy Teacher’s College and received her M.A. in Guidance and Counseling from Long Island University. She has been teaching for over 35 years, both לימודים קדשים and לימודים חול and has given teacher training courses. Mrs. Gross is the author of a series of novels for young adults and has also published short stories in various contemporary magazines such as the Jewish Press, Binah and Mispacha. Mrs. Gross gives private courses and creative writing workshops. Under her expert instruction, our students publish their own short stories.
Mrs. Racheli Grunhaus  
Navi, Parsha

Mrs. Grunhaus received her teacher’s certification from BJJ- Machon Sara Schneirer L’Moros and her dual M.A. in General Education and Special Education from Concordia University. She has taught Judaic and secular studies at both the elementary and high school levels. She currently teaches math at Ateres Nechama High School in Lakewood. Mrs. Grunhaus challenges her students to develop their textual skills, encourages them to recognize and internalize the Navi’s timeless lessons and seeks to impart to them her excitement for learning.

Mrs. Chava Konigsberg  
History

Mrs. Konigsberg received teachers’ certification from Bnos Chava Seminary and a B.A. in History and Psychology from Touro College. Mrs. Konigsberg began her teaching career at Bais Yaakov of the Lower East Side. She then continued to Bruriah High School, teaching Global and Jewish History and serving as מחנכת there for over ten years. Aside from teaching at Reenas, Mrs. Konigsberg currently teaches History at Ateres Bais Yaakov and AP Psychology in Ilan. Mrs. Konigsberg focuses on textual skills in the classroom and challenges her students to see history’s lasting impact on the world around them.

Mrs. Riki Kaufman  
Math, Science

Mrs. R. Kaufman is a graduate of Hadar Bais Yaakov and Touro College, where she received a B.S. in Mathematics and an M.S. in secondary education. Mrs. Kaufman has years of experience in both secondary and higher education where she has taught math and science. Most recently Mrs. Kaufman taught in Bruriah, and currently, in addition to Reenas, she teaches chemistry in the New Seminary Nursing program. In her engaging classroom, students learn mathematical thinking skills and science concepts.

Rabbi Eliezer Krohn  
Halacha

Rabbi Krohn learned in Yeshiva Shaar HaTorah in Queens and Yeshivas Mir Yerushalayim, and received סמיכה from Beis Medrash Gevoha of Lakewood. Rabbi Krohn teachesהלכה in a very clear and organized manner, using practical examples in all areas to provide the girls with the tools to face many common scenarios that they may encounter throughout the day. Hundreds of his שיעורים can be found on TorahAnytime.com. Rabbi Krohn’s recently published book, A Woman’s Guide to Practical Halacha, has become the go-to sefer for women’s halachic questions.
Mrs. Shuly Leitman
Spanish, Home Economics

Mrs. Shuly Leitman holds an education degree from the Sara Schenirer Institute and has over two decades of experience teaching Spanish. In addition to teaching at Reenas Bais Yaakov, Mrs. Leitman teaches at Bais Yaakov D’Rav Hirsch in Monsey and Manhattan High School for Girls. She structures lessons in a fun and creative way to build on intuitive knowledge. Mrs. Leitman also teaches our very hands-on and interactive Home Economics class.

Mrs. Naama Langert
Science

Mrs. Langert is a graduate of Reenas BY and BJJ – Machon Sara Schneirer L’Moros, where she received teacher’s certification. Along with a M.S. in Education and Special Education from Concordia University, Mrs. Langert has teaching experience across multiple grade levels in both Kodesh and Chol subjects. In her capacity as a Physics teacher and provider of one-on-one student support, Mrs. Langert crafts instruction to best fit the individual needs of Reenas students.

Mrs. Robin Loewenstein
Math

Mrs. Loewenstein earned her B.S. in Special Education from West Chester University in West Chester, PA. Along with her teacher’s certificate, Mrs. Loewenstein is recognized as highly qualified teacher of Mathematics. Gifted in the fields of Math and Science, Mrs. Loewenstein has been teaching those subjects in a variety of settings over the past 30 years. With a belief that every child can learn and master a vast repertoire of methodologies, Mrs. Loewenstein pushes her students to reach their potential.

Mrs. Cheyenna Levy
Student Advisor

Mrs. Levy is a licensed Special Educator with an M.A. in Educational Leadership. She has over twenty years of experience in the field, both as a teacher and as an administrator. She has taught all grade levels, from preschool through graduate school. Mrs. Levy’s experience in both the public and private sector schools affords her a comprehensive perspective of many facets of education, which she utilizes to support the students of Reenas Bais Yaakov. As the student advisor, Mrs. Levy works to provide each student with individualized programming best suited to her unique learning profile. Her passion for education and commitment to her students combine to create a learning environment in which every student can maximize her potential.
Mrs. Miri Pinter
English, History, Computers

Mrs. Pinter graduated from Machon Sara Schneier - BJJ with a teacher’s certificate and received her B.A. from Excelsior College and a certificate in coding. A multi-talented teacher, Mrs. Pinter’s breadth of knowledge and diverse skill base enable her to teach many subjects. Her high standards and creative teaching set the tone for her eclectic classroom.

Mrs. Elisheva Nusbaum
Chumash, Mishlei, Mechaneches

Mrs. Nusbaum graduated from BJJ-Machon Sara Schneier L’Moros with teacher’s certification and then earned her B.A. in Psychology from Thomas Edison State College. She quickly developed a reputation as an inspiring educator through the positions she held in both Bais Yaakov of L.A. High School and in Seminar Yerushalayim. Aside from the important role she plays as teacher and mechaneches in Reenas Bais Yaakov, Mrs. Nusbaum is a sought after Kallah instructor, guiding all of her students with her warmth and wealth of experience.

Mrs. Ruthie Nussbaum
Math

Mrs. Nussbaum joined our staff after teaching at Bais Yaakov Monsey for 18 years where she was well known for both her Regents and SAT prep courses. Originally a computer programmer. Her intellectual creativity makes her lessons fascinating, interactive and tech-oriented. Never one to stop learning, Mrs. Nusbaum recently received a Masters of Education in Teaching and Learning with a specialization in STEAM.

Mrs. Aviella Neustadt
AP Psychology

Mrs. Neustadt received her B.A. from Touro College and her M.S.W. from the School of Social Work at Rutgers University. She brings over twenty years of teaching experience to the classroom. Mrs. Neustadt is a licensed clinical social worker who works with children in school settings. She also teaches music at YST Girls School. Her goal in the classroom is to educate the whole person and to enable her students to apply psychological concepts to their own lives.
Mrs. Yehudis Pinter
Historia, Megillos

Mrs. Pinter graduated from BJJ-Machon Sara Schneirer L’Moros with teacher’s certification and has spent the last fourteen teaching both לימודי קדש and לימודי חול subjects in various Lakewood elementary and high schools. In addition to teaching at Reenas, Mrs. Pinter currently teaches הסטריה and מגלות at Bais Leah in Lakewood. In both her הסטריה and מגלות classes, Mrs. Pinter constructs a curriculum which directs the students to find connections to their everyday lives.

Dr. Dvora Sarfaty
English

Dr. Sarfaty received her B.A. from Teacher’s Institute, Chicago, her M.A. in Education from Adelphi and her Ed.D. in Literacy Education from Rutgers University. She does teacher training at the Teacher’s Institute for Special Education in Brooklyn, heads the Language Arts Department at Yeshiva Ketana of Passaic, and serves as an academic consultant for other schools. In addition to teaching the eleventh and twelfth grade students at Reenas Bais Yaakov, Dr. Sarfaty serves as college guidance counselor and curriculum coordinator of secular studies. Her eclectic education and career enable her to inculcate her students with a breadth of knowledge and create a curriculum that is both skills oriented and transformative.

Mrs. Shoshana Sauer
Historia

Mrs. Sauer received her teacher’s certificate from BJJ-Machon Sara Schneirer L’Moros and her M.A. in Education from Fairleigh Dickinson University. She has been teaching Judaic Studies and Special Education for almost twenty years and currently serves as Director of Special Services at Yeshiva Shaarei Tzion. Mrs. Sauer endeavors to impart her excitement for learning as well as an appreciation for critical thinking to each of her students at RBY.

Mrs. Goldie Schechter
Guidance Counselor, Human Growth

Mrs. Schechter, our guidance counselor, holds a NJ State license in counseling and finished her Post-Masters work at Monmouth University. She comes to RBY with years of experience and a reputation of being a compassionate and insightful profesional. Schools where she has previously served as guidance counselor include BY Baltimore High School, Bnos Chayil High School, Shalom Torah Academy, and Yeshiva Shaarei Tzion. Reenas students are drawn to Mrs. Schechter’s warm and accepting personality, while they reap the benefit of her skill and experience.
Ms. Henna Shereshevsky
Current Events, Public Speaking

Ms. Shereshevsky holds a B.S. in Psychology from Mercy College and an M.A. in Curriculum Design from Columbia University. She comes to Reenas with extensive experience in education, having taught and developed curricula in several schools in North and Central Jersey. Ms. Shereshevsky develops the curriculum for Current Events by analyzing real-time events and selecting resources that reflect depth and diversity of thought. Her specialized public speaking curriculum focuses on modern public speaking skills, such as PowerPoint presentations and hosting Zoom meetings.

Mrs. Chana Zelda Sidney
History

After receiving a teaching certificate from Bnos Chaya Seminary, Mrs. Sidney earned a B.A. summa cum laude in History and Psychology from Case Western Reserve University and an M.A. in Political Science from the CUNY Graduate Center. She is the recipient of a national Mellon Fellowship and a Franklin Fellowship from the University of Pennsylvania, both for doctoral studies in history. Mrs. Sidney previously taught undergraduate level history at Maimonides College in Cleveland. Mrs. Sidney’s lessons are text-based and rigorous, while simultaneously being fascinating and thought-provoking.

Mrs. Rachel Silber
Navi

Mrs. Silber is a graduate of Michlalah Jerusalem College where she later worked as a student advisor and מחנה. Mrs. Silber received her M.A. in Special Education from Columbia University Teachers College. She has been teaching for over a decade in both the American and Israeli school systems, both Judaic and secular subjects. In addition to teaching נביא at RBY, Mrs. Silber is the Resource Room director at YST Boys’ School. Mrs. Silber inspires a lifetime love of learning within her students by conveying the joy, richness, and relevance of their learning to their daily lives. Her clear and cogent lessons make the material accessible to all of her students.

Mrs. Elisheva Soroka
Chumash, Mechaneches

Mrs. Soroka is a graduate of Machon Bnos Yehuda Teachers’ Seminary, and holds an M.A. in Regular and Special Education from Mercy College. In the past, Mrs. Soroka taught various לומדים קדשים subjects including נביא at T.A.G. High School in Far Rockaway and at MAYHS in South River. Mrs. Soroka’s lessons emphasize skill development and foster a love of learning. In her capacity as מחנה, Her ability to help 9th graders adjust to high school is legendary.
Mrs. Toby Wilschanski

Navi

Mrs. Wilschanski graduated from Yavne Teachers’ College where she received her teaching certificate. Her teaching experience over more than fifteen years, includes both elementary and high school level Judaic and secular studies in various schools. She also spent summers in Camp Shira developing and assisting in running the שיעור learning program. In addition to Reenas BY, Mrs. Wilschanski currently teaches נביא in Oros Bais Yaakov in Lakewood, N.J. Mrs. Wilschanski empowers her students with new skills and develops within them a love for learning.

Mrs. Simcha Wise

Ivrit

Mrs. Wise, a native Israeli, is a graduate of Michlelet Hadassah in Jerusalem. Inspired to teach עברית to others, she founded the Baltimore Ivrit Ulpan to teach the language to adults. She also taught at the Bnos Yisroel High School of Baltimore. Mrs. Wise’s goals are to make the language accessible and alive to her students.