

## ANNOUNCING COVID CAMPAIGN AND MATCHING CHALLENGE

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Fall 2020

Dear Families and Friends of JCDS,

Every year we reach out to our community for support. This year is different. In addition to asking you to contribute to the critical needs of the Annual Fund, now we are also asking for your help to address the extraordinary expenses related to COVID-19.

As we negotiate the complex realities of operating JCDS during the pandemic, we are guided by the following principles: *בריאות Briyut* **Health**, *ערבות Areyvut* **Communal Responsibility**, and *שלמות Shleymut* **Spreading Calm**. The additional principle of *נדבות Nedivut*, **Generosity**, is why we are reaching out to you now.

**At this unprecedented time, the school has identified \$357,000 in additional costs for health and safety measures, technology needs, and educational programming. We are exceptionally blessed to have already received commitments from a small group of generous donors who have brought us a long way toward meeting this year's exceptional COVID expenses of more than \$350,000. As part of that response, we have received a generous matching challenge donation of up to \$100,000 to inspire your giving. We now ask that you give generously to take full advantage of the match and help us address our expenses thus far.**

**All gifts up to \$100,000 will be matched – so YOU can make an even bigger difference! Please make your contribution to the JCDS COVID Campaign. With your gift today, we will stay “COVID Safe + Strong.”**

Current parents Richard Bennett and Deb Gaffin (Miriam '26 and Reuben '28) express their appreciation for all the ways the school is working to provide students with a safe, meaningful, joyful learning experience:

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*This year, as we all know only too well, COVID has changed everything. And the cost of this for JCDS has been and continues to be substantial. [...] We feel very fortunate to be able to send our kids to school at this time, and to know they are being given every opportunity to learn and grow and have fun as children should. We are fortunate to have teachers and staff who care about each individual child and who build relationships with our children and serve as role models for them. We are fortunate that our children are able to learn to read, speak, and understand not just English, but Hebrew too; and that they are provided insights into the values, wisdom and history of our Jewish traditions. We are fortunate that our children are encouraged to reflect on how their actions can help or hurt others; that they are given the opportunity to think about and the tools to solve problems of all kinds, from math and engineering to peer play and unexpected emotions; and that they are educated to believe that if they persevere and stay brave they will learn new things and conquer new challenges. **Because we appreciate these and so many other things about JCDS, we choose to give to the COVID Campaign in addition to the Annual Fund and ask that you join us in giving at a level that reflects the value you see in the extraordinary work of the School.***

Help meet the matching challenge and join Richard and Deb and so many others with your gift. **Mail your donation to JCDS as soon as possible or visit [jcdsboston.org/donate-now](https://jcdsboston.org/donate-now).**

Thank you in advance for your commitment to our community and your belief in our students and staff who are demonstrating resilience in the face of this new reality. With your support, we will fulfill our sacred mission.

B'shalom,



Dr. Rachel Fish  
Board President



Shira Deener  
Head of School

**P.S. Remember, thanks to a generous JCDS donor, your COVID Campaign gift will be doubled!**

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**Briyut, Areyvut, Shleymut, & Nedivut**  
Health, Communal Responsibility,  
Spreading Calm, & Generosity