



Director of Jewish Life

The Lerner School

Located in one of the top 5 places to relocate to in the US, The Lerner School is a Jewish community day school in Durham, North Carolina. The school sits on a shared campus of the Jewish community and serves both preschool students (ages 2-5) and elementary students (kindergarten – 5th grade). Since its founding in 1995, the Lerner School has grown to 150 students and more than 35 faculty and staff. It is the only Jewish day school in the Triangle Region, welcoming families from Durham, Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Cary, Apex, and Raleigh.

About the School

Mission: The Lerner School is committed to achieving the highest standards of academic excellence, fostering learning of Jewish values, culture and traditions, while building a diverse and caring community, one child at a time.

Values

- One Child at a Time
- Academic Excellence
- Jewish Continuity, Community & Culture
- Pluralistic & Diverse Environment
- Hands-On Integrated Learning
- Community of Life-Long Learning
- Safe & Caring Community
- Social Responsibility & Ethical Thinking

Brief History: In the early 1990's, a small group of families envisioned a Jewish day school serving our small Jewish community in Durham, North Carolina. They envisioned a place where their children could receive a stellar academic education preparing them for their future education and career endeavors, while also instilling Jewish values, Hebrew, and a love of Israel. In 1995, The Jewish Community Day School of Durham-Chapel Hill opened as a combined class of 13 kindergarten and first grade students. In 1998, the school purchased land and began construction of a new home for the growing student body. In 2005, the school received a generous donation from the Lerner family in honor of the family matriarch, Sandra E. Lerner, and the school was renamed the Sandra E. Lerner Jewish Community Day School.

Lerner graduates and alumni often enroll in some of the most competitive independent schools in our area. Others enroll in public school after graduation. It is also common for Lerner graduates to lead their entire B'nei Mitzvah service and be active in the local Jewish community by participating and leading in regional and national Jewish youth groups.

The Lerner School is proud of its memberships and affiliations. We are dually accredited by the Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS) and Cognia. We are members of the North Carolina Association of Independent Schools (NCAIS), the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), and PRIZMAH (the Network of North American Jewish Day Schools).

About the Position

Job Title: Director of Jewish Life

Reports to: Head of School

Supervises: Hebrew and Judaic Studies Teachers

Nature and Scope: The Director of Jewish Life at Lerner is responsible for the success of the Hebrew and Judaic programs. The director is responsible for ensuring the implementation of all school policies, regulations, and procedures to ensure that all students are supervised in a safe Jewish learning environment that meets the approved curricula and mission of the school. Inherent in the position are the responsibilities of working with the head of school in scheduling, curriculum development, personnel management, and emergency procedures.

Job Functions and Responsibilities

- Oversee the revision and documentation of the school's Judaic studies and Hebrew language curricula and its integration into the General Studies curriculum.
- Supervise and evaluate Judaic studies and Hebrew language teachers while developing a strong team of teachers.
- Assist the head of school in hiring Judaic studies staff.
- Teach part of the time in the classroom.
- Create, manage and collaborate with the director of programming all school wide Jewish programming.
- Act as a resource for parents to discuss concerns, collaborate in problem solving and advocate for student success in academics and school life.
- Assist the head of school in managing and developing all teaching staff.
- Collaborate with the director of programming on Hebrew curriculum.
- Work with the head of school and the admissions director to strengthen ties to Jewish community.
- Work with the head of school and the development director to cultivate donors.
- Assist the head of school in representing the LJCDs to the Durham-Chapel Hill Jewish community.
- Work with the head of school to articulate and express the Jewish vision of the school.
- Supervise and lead morning T'fillah Program.
- Oversee Hebrew program, including ordering textbooks, materials, resources, etc.

- Oversee report card preparation for Hebrew Grades.
- Oversees weekly teacher Hebrew comments for teacher bulletins.
- Participates as needed in parent-teacher conferences.

Qualifications

- Master's degree or higher in Judaic studies (or master's in educational with BA in Jewish Studies).
- At least 3 years of leadership experience in an elementary or secondary school (5+ years preferred).
- At least 3 years of Judaics teaching experience in an accredited elementary school (5+ years and private school experience preferred).
- Proficient with Word, Excel, Gmail, Google Suite and able to learn other programs quickly.
- All employment offers are contingent on passing a full background check.

Salary and Benefits

- \$65,000 - \$85,000
- Medical, dental, vision, LTD & STD, paid vacation & sick time, 403b retirement plan

About the Community

The Lerner School is located in Durham, North Carolina, one of the fastest growing areas in the United States and boasts a growing Jewish community. The school is located on a shared Jewish campus with the Judea Reform Congregation and the Durham JCC/Federation (known as Jewish For Good). Our location is close to Duke University, UNC Chapel Hill, and Research Triangle Park (RTP).

Major Academic Institutions in the community

- Duke University
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC)
- North Carolina State University (NCSU)
- North Carolina Central University (NCCU)
- Beth El Synagogue (Durham - conservative with orthodox minyan)
- Judea Reform Congregation (Durham - reform)
- Kehillah Congregation (Chapel Hill - reconstructionist)
- Beth Meyer Synagogue (Raleigh - conservative)
- Temple Beth Or (Raleigh - reform)
- Temple Beth Shalom (Cary - reform)
- Congregation Sha'arei Shalom (Raleigh - orthodox)

Major Cultural Institutions in the Community

- Durham Performing Arts Center, One of the top 10 theaters in the United States
- Carolina Theater, annually over 60 concerts, films & film series, Durham Symphony, in art deco venue
- Carrboro Arts Center, theater, concerts 93,000 patrons annually

- Progress Energy Performance Center, home of Carolina Ballet, NC Symphony, dozens of performances
- American Dance Festival, a 6-week modern dance event with international groups, including Israeli
- Full Frame film festival—annual documentary festival
- Dozens of other music and live theater venues
- Sports, including AAA baseball (Durham Bulls), professional hockey (Carolina Hurricanes), professional soccer (Carolina Railhawks), Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) college sports

To apply to become the next Director of Jewish Life at The Lerner School, please send a resume and cover letter to Traci Reisberg, Director of Catalyzing Resources Programs, Prizmah: Center for Jewish Day Schools, tracir@prizmah.org.