

Atlanta Jewish Academy

<u>AJA Mission:</u> We embody the ideals of community, tradition, individual development, and educational innovation. Atlanta Jewish Academy develops the whole person for college and life by fostering a love of Torah, Israel, and all Jewish people through an excellent General and Judaic education within an inclusive, nurturing community.

<u>AJA Vision</u>: Atlanta Jewish Academy is committed to providing an education of excellence that meets each student's interests, abilities, and needs, within a rigorous dual curriculum of General and Judaic studies. Our graduates go on to attend leading universities and/or Judaic institutions around the world. They are community leaders, religiously grounded and inspired, imbued with a value system reflecting care and concern for the breadth of the Jewish community and the world around them.

TORAH informed & COMMUNITY of learners & committed to inspiring the Jewish Future through HOLISTIC TEACHING & LEARNING

TORAH

We believe that Torah defines our community, is our way of living, and is an important lens we use to look at the world. Therefore, at AJA, we

- Commit to
 - o understanding, appreciating, and observing *Halakha* (Jewish law)
 - o exploring spirituality, openness, and contemporary issues
- Inspire growth in Torah and Mitzvot through a
 - o non-judgmental and accepting approach
 - thoughtful Modern Orthodox Halakhic process
- Develop informed citizens who
 - Embody Middot (character traits) in their daily lives
 - use Torah as a blueprint for living a meaningful life
- Instill the religious significance not only to the Land of Israel but the modern State of Israel
- Promote communal unity by highlighting the commonality with all Jews, regardless of affiliation or practice.



COMMUNITY

We believe that everyone has a universal need to belong in a safe and welcoming community. Therefore, at AJA, we believe Community-

- Requires mutual respect and trust
- Fulfills a need for connection
- Creates space for vulnerability, self-discovery, and dialogue
- Fosters growth through meaningful relationships
- Honors the tzelem Elokim (image of G-d) imbued within each individual
- Celebrates commonality of belief and practice
- Draws strengths and wisdom from the diverse collective knowledge
- Designs events and shared experiences that become lifetime memories

Holistic Teaching & Learning

חַנֹךְ לַנַעַר עַל־פִּי דַרְכּוֹ גַּם כִּי יַזְקִין לֹא יָסוּר מִמֶּנָה

"Educate a child according to their path; even when they age they will not veer from it." משלי כב:ו ⊅ Proverbs 22:6

At AJA, teachers, students, & parents partner in the sacred task of building a Community of Lifelong Learners. Therefore, at AJA, we

- Guide each unique learner and honor their individuality as they progress along their learning journey
- Foster discovery, collaboration, and critical thinking
- Create and curate content through multiple modalities
- Challenge ourselves to grow when we take risks and persevere
- Nurture curiosity and creativity to build a culture of innovation that sparks joy and passion for learning.
- Share constructive feedback to support growth



Divisional Mission/Why

- What should be true in our classrooms?
- What we promote / What we permit

AJA Philosophy of Teaching & Learning

- ECD Philosophy
- **I** LS Philosophy
- B AJA MS Philosophy of Teaching & Learning
- AJA HS Philosophy of Teaching & Learning
- BAJA HS Philosophy of Teaching & Learning