

Director of Jewish Life

Pardes Jewish Day School is a premiere Jewish independent school for children in grades kindergarten through eighth grade, founded in 1993. Pardes, located in Scottsdale, is the largest Jewish Day School in Arizona. The School prepares students to become outstanding members of society through a rigorous secular and Judaic education, a nurturing community, and a foundation in Reform Judaism that welcomes all Jewish traditions.

Pardes seeks a talented individual to serve as its Director of Jewish Life, to oversee the Jewish education and experience for the students. The Director of Jewish Life is a thought partner for the Head and face of the school for Jewish mission, vision and program. The Director of Jewish Life also serves as the spiritual and educational leader of the school community, both models and infuses Ruach, is a member of the Administrative Team, oversees the Jewish Studies faculty and the Hebrew Coordinator, directs Jewish Life on campus, and inspires students, parents and faculty with a love of Judaism.

Specific areas of responsibility include the following:

- Promote a positive Jewish learning experience that engages and inspires the school community
- Deep knowledge of Jewish content and the ability to make it relevant to students and to our diverse community
- Academic oversight of all Jewish Studies and Hebrew education, ensuring strong curriculum, teaching practices and outcomes
- Oversee Jewish Studies faculty and Hebrew Coordinator
- Lead/Conduct *Tefillah*, *Parashat* Studies, and *Kabbalat Shabbat*
- Coordinate Tikkun Olam opportunities for students and families
- Collaborate with and lead faculty and staff in school-wide Jewish holiday celebrations, as well as effective ways to integrate Jewish learning into secular studies as appropriate.
- Manage parent communication in a timely, positive, and effective manner
- Outreach to Greater Phoenix Jewish community organizations and leaders, establishing collaborations in ways that will enhance the school.
- Regularly attend school events and serve as an ambassador for the school
- Serve as a resource and guide for Jewish knowledge for the school community
- Promote professional development and learning opportunities for faculty
- Work with the Judaic Studies teachers and Hebrew Coordinator to review, update, refine, and continually develop, and document a multi-dimensional curriculum
- Coordinate and manage all school holiday services and programs
- Assist the Head of School in creating family education opportunities
- Teach Jewish Studies classes as assigned and/or needed

Necessary Qualities:

- Deep love and care for K-8 children; energized by being around them
- Engender and promote joy, inspiration, and love of learning

- Has a contagious energy, enthusiasm, and spirit for all that they do with and for the school community
- Passionate about Jewish values
- Familiarity and comfortability with working in a pluralistic Jewish environment
- Has a track record of building positive, productive relationships with and among all constituents of the school
- Well versed in K-8 Judaic curriculum and proficient in Hebrew
- Adept at both the knowledge and implementation of a 21st century learning environment and project-based learning
- Collaborative in nature, stellar at building teams as well as being a productive team member, and a strong communicator
- Creative and inventive, both spiritually and ritually
- Flexible, spontaneous when necessary, and a deep rooted belief in volunteerism
- Up-to-date knowledge with how to integrate technology as a learning tool; proficient user of technology for communication, collaboration, instruction, and professional learning.

Education and Experience

- B.A or B.S. degree; Master's degree preferred if an educator
- Rabbinic degree or prior experience as a Jewish educator
- 5+ years of experience in an academic environment (preferably K-8 Jewish Day School), ideally teaching Judaics to multiple grade levels and/or leading others who teach Judaics

Applicants should submit the following to Peter Gordon, Head of School at apply@pardesschool.org:

- A cover letter explaining your interests and qualifications
- A current resume
- A brief personal statement of religious and educational philosophy
- The names, email address and telephone numbers of three references

Pardes Jewish Day School, as an equal opportunity employer, does not discriminate in its hiring of employees on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, religion, creed, national origin, citizenship, marital or veteran status, age or disability. We actively seek diversity among faculty and administration as well as among students.