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AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

MS-831: Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation Records, 1980–2008.

Series C: Council for Initiatives in Jewish Education (CIJE). 1988–2003.

Subseries 3: Lead Communities, 1988–1997.

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Milwaukee, Wis. Best Practices/Pilot Project, April 1993.

For more information on this collection, please see the finding aid on the
American Jewish Archives website.

Fax Memorandum

TO: Annette Hochstein, Seymour Fox and Shmuel Wygoda
Steve Hoffman and Henry Zucker
Ginny Levi

FROM: Shulamith Elster

RE: Pilot Project/Best Practices: Milwaukee

DATE: April 14, 1993

The enclosed memo from Ruth Cohen in Milwaukee provides a good summary of the activity that Barry and I described in the telecon this morning.

S.





bcc: Shulamith Elster ✓
Barry Holtz

MILWAUKEE JEWISH FEDERATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jane Gellman, Howard Neistein and Louise Stein
FROM: Ruth Cohen *RC*
DATE: April 2, 1993
RE: Best Practices/Supplementary Schools
(Revision #2)

Please review the following summary of the steps for initiating activity in the area of Best Practices in the supplementary schools. Your comments, revisions, etc. would be appreciated.

Step 1

Barry Holtz will develop a one page prospectus that will outline the following:

- o What services are available through CIJE/Best Practices Project, who can assist participating synagogues, and how would this assistance be provided.
- o What are the expectations from participating synagogues.

Step 2

The Lead Community Co-Chairs and Project Director would identify several individuals, who are members of the Commission on Visions and Initiatives in Jewish Education, to contact the rabbis of each synagogue and invite them to participate in the Best Practices/Supplementary Schools initiative.

Step 3

The Lead Community Director, Co-Chairs and the designated contact person would meet with interested rabbis to further explain the Best Practices/Supplementary Schools plan. The rabbi would be asked to identify 3-4 key players who would form a "synagogue team" to support the development of a "Best Practices" plan which is responsive to institutional needs.

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The Synagogue Team would include at minimum, the rabbi and one lay leader.

Step 4

Barry Holtz and Shulamith Elster will conduct a seminar for the synagogues' teams to present the Best Practices Project and discuss opportunities for receiving actual programmatic and planning assistance from the Best Practices Project.

The teams would be invited to participate in an individual consultation session with Barry and Shulamith approximately one-two weeks later.

Step 5

Barry and Shulamith will conduct individual consultation sessions with interested teams to discuss their concerns, needs, future plans, etc.

RC/nm



| NAME | Hillel Fdtn. | BBYO | JCC | JFS | Lubavitch Nursery | MAJE | Cong. Schools | Day Schools | Orthodox | Conservative | Reform | Rabbi | Jewish Educator | Prof./ Secular Educator | Federation | Funder | Lay Leader |
|-------------------|-----------------|------|-----|-----|----------------------|------|------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------|-------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------|--------|------------|
| Dan Bader | | | | | | | | | | Beth El | | | | | | X | |
| Brad Bernstein | | X | | | | | | | | Beth Israel | | | | X | | | |
| Maris Bock | | | | | | | | MJDS | | | | | | | | | |
| Alan Borsuk | | | | | | | | YES | Beth Yehuda | | | | | | | | |
| Rabbi Lee Buckman | | | | | | | X | | | Beth Israel | | X | | | | | |
| Claudia Cohen | | | | | | | | Hillel | Kehillat Torah | | | | | | | X | |
| Jane Gellman | | | X | | | | | MJDS | | | | | | | | X | |
| Betsy Green | | | | X | | | | | | Sinai | | | | | | X | |
| Judy Guten | | | X | | | | | | | Emanu-El | | | | | | X | |
| Stan Jaspan | | | | | | | | Hillel | Kehillat Torah | | | | | | | | |
| Rick Marcus | | | | | | X | | | | Shalom | | | | | | X | |
| Rick Meyer | | | | | | | | | | Sinai | | | | | | | |
| Ina Regosin | | | | | | X | X | | | | | | | | | X | |
| Steve Richman | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | X | |
| Bonnie Shafrin | | | | | | X | X | | | Shalom | | | | X | | | |
| Jerry Stein | | | | | | | | | | Beth Israel | | | | | | X | |
| Louise Stein | | | | | | X | | Hillel | | Beth Israel | | | | | | | |

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|------------------|----------------|------|-----|-----|-----------------------|------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|-------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------|--------|------------|
| Bonnie Sumner | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | X | | |
| Jerry Tepper | | | | | | | | Hillel | Kehillat Torah | | | | | | X | | |
| Eve Joan Zucker | | | | | | | X | | | Emanu-El | | | X | | X | | |
| Stephen Baruch | | | | | | X | X | MJDS | Anshai Lebowitz | | | | X | Principal | | | X |
| Jay Beder | | | | | | | | MJDS | Lake Park | | | | | UWM-Prof. | | | X |
| Eliot Bernstein | | | | | | | | Hillel | Lake Park | | | | | | X | | |
| Elaine Berke | | | | | | X | X | | | Beth Israel | | | X | | | | X |
| Rabbi Stan Cohen | | | | | | | | WITS | Lake Park | | | X | | | X | | X |
| Jeff Conn | | | | | | | | | | Beth El | | | X | Principal | | | |
| Merzy Eisenberg | | | | | | | | MJDS | | | Emanu-El | | X | | | | |
| Norman Gill | | | | | | | | | | | Shalom | | | | | | |
| Don Grande | | | | | | | | WITS | Beth Yehuda | | | | | | X | | |
| Linda Hay | | | X | | | | | MJDS | | Beth Israel | | | | | | | X |
| Susan Jona | | | | | | | | Hillel | Lake Park | | | | | Teacher | | | |
| Nili Lamdan | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Shlichah | X | | |

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|----------------------|----------------|------|-----|-----|----------------------|------|------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------|-------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------------|--------|------------|
| Jody Loewenstein | | | | X | | X | | | | | Emanu-El | | | | X | | |
| Jeff Metz | | | X | | | | | | | | | X | X | Asst. Dir. | | | |
| Michael Morgan | X | | | | | | X | MJDS | | Beth Israel | | | | Director | | | |
| Amy Neistein | | | | | | | X | | | Sinai | | | X | Schl Dir. | | | |
| Jim Ross | | | | | | | X | | | Shalom | | | | | | | X |
| Marilyn Ruby | | | | | | | | MJDS | | Beth Israel | | | | | | | |
| Rabbi Isaac Serotta | | | | | | | X | | | Shalom | X | | | Director | | | |
| Devorah Shmotkin | | | | | X | | | | Lubavitch | | | | | Director | | | |
| Lilian Sims | | | | X | | | | | | | | | | Director | | | |
| Karen Sobel | | | | | | | | MJDS | | | | | X | | | | X |
| Karen Torem | | | | | | X | | YES | Beth Yehuda | | | | X | | | | |
| Rabbi Yigal Tsaidi | | | | | | | | Hillel | Kehillat Torah | | | X | X | Asst. Dir. | | | X |
| Dan Weber | | | | | | | | MJDS | | Beth Israel | | | X | | | | |
| Judy Werlin | | | | | | | | Hillel | | Beth Israel | | | X | | | | |
| Rabbi Shabse Werther | | | | | | | | YES | Beth Yehuda | | | X | | Director | | | |

[illegible]

SHULAMITH R. ELSTER

Annette Hochstein ^{as}
TO: Shmuel Wygod
FROM: Shulamith Elster
DATE: 4/26/93-

These recent communications will be of
interest. Re: Reform Movement.

2. Best Practices - Milwaukee -
Planning.

re



איחוד
ליהדות
מתקדמת
באמריקה

Commission on Jewish Education

UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TEMPLE EDUCATORS

838 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021 (212) 249-0100 CARLEFS LINIONIAHC

April 20, 1993

Shulamith Elster
6424 Needle Leaf Drive
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Shulamith:

Because of your serious concern for Reform Jewish education, we know you have been anxious to know the present status of the Commission on Jewish Education. We only delayed writing this letter until the new Director was in place and a reorganization plan had been developed by representatives of NATE, CCAR, and UAHC.

After 14 years of service to the Commission on Jewish Education, Rabbi Robert Orkand has been appointed to the Chair of the Commission. Judith Sherman and Robert E. Tornberg continue as vice-chairs. Seymour Rossel, who was appointed Director of the Department of Education and Director of the Commission, effective March 1, 1993 comes to his position with wide expertise in Jewish education and Jewish publishing.

We would be remiss if we did not recognize the tremendous contributions made by Rabbis Howard Bogot and Jon Stein to Jewish education and to our Movement. Howard, outgoing Director of the Department of Jewish Education has enriched the lives of so many of us by his enthusiasm, his commitment and his expertise. Happily, he will be continuing his work with the Department of Education as Director of Special Projects. Jon, outgoing Chairperson of the Commission on Jewish Education, led by example. In his quiet and gentle way he brought to us a vision of Jewish education that was both ennobling and enabling. Thank you, Jon!

The next few months should see a changed Commission on Jewish Education. The leadership of NATE, UAHF, CCAR and HUC-JIR recently met to plan for the future. It has been agreed that the chair of the Commission will rotate every three years among the CCAR, UAHF and NATE.

We envision a Commission that is small enough to be able to do real and substantive work, while at the same time representative enough to reflect the great diversity within our Movement. It is necessary to ask you to bear with us as we dismantle the present Commission structure and build the new Commission from the ground up. Only by allowing each organization to make appointments without regard to the past can we achieve this change.

We hope to do much of the work of the Commission in task-forces that will meet around the country--task forces that will deal with such issues as the teaching of Hebrew, day school education, early childhood education, adult education, teaching about Israel, and the future of supplementary Reform Jewish education. We hope to ask the departments, commissions, and affiliates of our Movement to help us in the task of creating an educational model that will include both the formal and informal.

It is clear that the key to our survival is education. What is also clear is that we must develop new models that work for a Jewish community that is very different from the one our mother and fathers knew. Our Movement has always been in the forefront in responding to new needs and challenges. When it comes to Jewish education, we can do no less.

We thank you for your service to the Commission. Your dedication has been instrumental in helping transform the Commission and move it in its new direction.

Sincerely,

Robert Orkand

Rabbi Robert Orkand, Chair

Judith Sherman

Dr. Judith Sherman, Vice-Chair

Robert E. Tornberg

Robert E. Tornberg, RJE, Vice-Chair



MILWAUKEE JEWISH FEDERATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Shulamith Elster
FROM: Dr. Ruth Cohen
DATE: April 23, 1993
RE: Best Practices Pilot Project

We are looking forward to working with you and Dr. Barry Holtz on the Best Practices Pilot Project.

The following are a number of questions which we have about the implementation of Best Practices projects in the Lead Communities:

1. In order to foster systematic change, it is important to integrate the introduction of new initiatives with a serious institutional planning process.

We are unclear about the following:

- o What is the Best Practices methodology for introducing new initiatives into the Lead Communities?
 - o How is this process linked to a systematic planning process?
2. What is the connection between the Best Practices Project and the resources of the "movements" (i.e., institutions of higher learning and congregational associations)?
 3. What is the connection between the Best Practices Project and the Monitoring, Feedback and Evaluation Project?

We hope that these questions will be addressed at the CIJE meeting in Cleveland.

RC/nm