



5778
2017-2018



FRS **PARENT** **HANDBOOK**



FRS PARENT HANDBOOK



Dr. Eliyahu Krigel, CJE

Director of Education

Herzl-Ner Tamid Conservative Congregation

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www.h-nt.org



Facebook: Frankel Religious School



Shalom FRS Parents,

Welcome to FRS! Thank you for your partnership. My door is always open to you! We want all our students to be challenged in a positive way so please keep the communication open so we can continue working together as partners throughout the year.

This parent handbook is meant to serve as a guide to the procedures and policies of FRS. There are many opportunities to get involved and learn with your child throughout the year at FRS. In addition to our robust Garinim (Seeds) group for families with children four and below, we are also starting a group called Shtilim (Saplings) for our K-2nd grade families. B'Yachad (Learning Together) will be consistent as well all year and that's our family learning group for third through fifth grade families and also for sixth and seventh grade families.

We will continue beginning each Sunday morning with a lively school assembly and prayer service from 9:30-10:00 and we would love full parent and grandparent participation during that time. All students are invited and we encourage students to sit in their grade level classes with their teacher during this time.

In addition to some new programming for our K-2nd grade families, we would also like all our families with students who are interested in taking their Hebrew conversation to the next level to get a King County library card if you don't have one already. Mango Languages is a Hebrew language software that can be accessed for free with a library card and we would like all students to take advantage of this language learning opportunity. We will be using Mango Languages in class from time to time in a proctored way and would love all our students to have a jump start with their Hebrew language acquisition.

A special thank you to all our teachers, teacher assistants, and members of the Parent Committee who are so dedicated to FRS and HNT. It has been my honor and a great privilege to work with such a talented team!

B'Shalom,
Dr. Eliyahu Krigel

Herzl-Ner Tamid Conservative Congregation The Frankel Religious School (FRS)

OUR MISSION STATEMENT (2017-2018) -- 5778

The mission of the Frankel Religious School (FRS) is to build a vibrant school where students actively live Jewish lives expressed through their actions and values. The Frankel Religious School creates a foundation for fostering deeper connections to Judaism, Herzl Ner-Tamid, Israel, and the modern world. We are a school of inquiry and we promote asking good questions. We strive to foster a welcoming and enthusiastic community where all family members can find multiple ways to connect to our congregation through social and learning events, parents' activities, volunteering, social action, and friendships. Our goal is for every student to have a best friend at FRS. Please be in touch with Dr. Eliyahu (eliyahu@h-nt.org) to see how we can create this meaningful relationship together. Families from all across the Jewish spectrum have an important place at the table of learning in our community, as we engage in continuous learning from babies to bobbies.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Rabbi Jay Rosenbaum

Senior Rabbi

206-232-8555 x211 | Rabbi@h-nt.org

Dr. Eliyahu Krigel, CJE

Director of Education

206-232-8555 x220 | Eliyahu@h-nt.org

Mobile: *in case of an emergency* | 425-559-3739

Cantor Bradlee Kurland

Cantor | 206-232-8555 x214 | Cantor@h-nt.org

Nadine Strauss

Executive Director of Communications

206-232-8555 x203 | Nadine@h-nt.org

Synagogue Office: 206-232-8555

Jaime Slutzky, FRS Parent Committee Chair

jaimeslutzky@gmail.com

Irit Eliav Levin, Garinim Chair

irit316@gmail.com

Kathy Packer, Shtilim Chair

kathy.epstein@msn.com

FRS Teachers & TA's 2017-2018

<u>Class</u>	<u>Teachers</u>	<u>TA's</u>
Pre-Gan (Preschool)	Cindy Droker Jordan Ortega	Daniel Scherzer Risa Wagner Brooke Mhlstin
Gan (Kindergarten)	Bess Rosenberg Hepner Yehudit Ortega Ariela Ikezawa	Josh Kittay Sam Raskind
Kitah Alef (1st Grade)	Kathy Packer	Golda Glasser Anna Glasser
Kitah Bet (2nd Grade)	Rachel Yedidia	Boaz Malakoff Lilly Pruchno
Kitah Gimmel (3rd Grade)	Sherri Kittay	Talia Ikezawa
Kitah Dalet (4th Grade)	Andi Neuwirth	Benjamin Beder
Kitah Hay (5th Grade)	Nicole Eibling, Lucas Waggoner	Shira Schechter Jacob Lessing
Kitah Vav (6th Grade)	Sheri Kittay	Gavin Farac
Kitah Zayin (7th Grade)	Dr. Eliyahu Krig Jordan Ortega	Raviv Cohen Danielle Kohorn Ella Gonchar
Mondays 3-5th Grade:	Andi Neuwirth Jordan Ortega Yehudit Ortega	Leah Glasser
Tuesdays 3-5th Grade:	Andi Neuwirth Rachel Yedidia Jordan Ortega	
Wednesdays 3-5th Grade:	Andi Neuwirth Jordan Ortega Yehudit Ortega	Jared Marcus
Mondays AND Wednesdays with 6th Grade	Sheri Kittay	
Tuesdays with 7th Grade	Sheri Kittay	
Virtual Kehillah	Amy Spring	
FRS Satellite School in Seattle on Thursdays	Andi Neuwirth Michaela Covner	
Madrichim (8th – 12th Grade Teacher Assistant Training Program)	Rabbinic Intern Natasha Mann Sheri Kittay Dr. Eliyahu Krigel	



SCHOOL HOURS:

Grade	Day(s) of Week	Time
Pre-Gan	Sunday Only	9:30 AM - 12:15 PM
Kindergarten-Second Grade	Sunday Only	9:30 AM - 12:15 PM
Third - Fifth Grade	Sunday and M, Tu, OR W	9:30 AM - 12:15 PM, 4:30 PM - 6:15 PM
Sixth Grade, Non-JDS	Saturday, M, AND W	9:30 AM - 12:15 PM, 4:30 PM - 6:15 PM
Sixth Grade, JDS	Saturday Only	9:30 AM - 12:15 PM
Seventh Grade, Non-JDS	Saturday and Tuesday	9:30 AM - 12:15 PM, 4:30 PM - 6:15 PM
Seventh Grade, JDS	Saturday Only	9:30 AM - 12:15 PM
Ninth – Twelfth Grades <i>Masa Leadership Program</i>	Tuesdays, Monthly	6:30 PM - 8:30 PM at HNT
Eighth – Twelfth Grade TA Training Program	All Day	When FRS is in Session

Please contact the school office when ...

- ✓ Your child is ill or unable to attend a class
- ✓ Your child will be arriving late or leaving early
- ✓ You are running late to pick up your child
- ✓ You wish to request a change in your child's Hebrew School schedule
- ✓ Your child would like to bring a friend with him/her to class
- ✓ You would like for us to be aware of major events in the life of your family that may impact your child's emotional needs



- ✓ You have information to share about your child's medical or learning needs
- ✓ You wish to reach your child's teacher by phone or e-mail
- ✓ You have questions, concerns or feedback about your child's Jewish learning
- ✓ You need to update your contact information
- ✓ You would like to schmooze with Dr. Eliyahu Krigel

START TIMES, PICK-UP, DROP-OFF, & MORE:

Our classroom doors open 10 minutes before class begins. Traffic conditions on the East side frequently cause delays, please plan accordingly. If you are going to be late picking up your child, please call Dr. Eliyahu in the office at 206-232-8555 ext. 220 or on his cell phone at 452-559-3739. (Calls will not be received on Shabbat). If we do not answer, please leave a message with your phone number and the time that you plan to arrive.

Please arrange your schedule to drop off and pick up your child on time. Our teachers have outside commitments after school and need to leave school at the conclusion of student pick-up. Because late pick-ups impact a teacher's ability to leave, we will assess a \$25 fee for every 10 minutes that you are late to compensate hired staff that will need to remain with your child. The fee will accrue after 12:30 PM on Saturday, 12:30 on Sunday, and after 6:30 PM (3rd-5th grade) Monday-Wednesday.

Students not picked up by 6:30 PM on weekdays or 12:30 on Sundays will be brought to the school office. Parents picking children up late should park their cars and come in to the school office to meet their children.

When picking up children, for preschool, Kindergarten, First and Second Grades, please park your car in a designated space and walk to your child's classroom to meet your child. Children in these grades will not be dismissed to the carpool line for safety reasons.



For all other grades, you may either park or walk to your child's classroom, or drive through our parent carpool line. In order to maintain the safest environment for all of our students, we ask that drop-off and pick-up be done only in the designated area and not up along the hill.

ATTENDANCE POLICIES

Jewish education is a sacred task shared by parents and synagogue. Therefore, the Frankel Religious School is committed to a model of whole-family education, where there are opportunities to create meaningful Jewish experiences for not just our children but for the family as a whole. Research has shown that the most successful synagogue schools are ones where the entire family is involved and our school is grounded in this value. Our curriculum seeks to expose our students to a fun, meaningful, and relevant Judaism that provides a solid foundation for lifelong participation in Jewish community.

School Attendance: We want to see your child here!

Students need to have at least a 70% attendance record in order to receive credit for completing a year of school. If attendance falls below 70% parents will need to follow the protocol for "accommodations" as noted below.

"Accommodations for "other priorities": At times, life events conflict with a child being able to attend at least 70% of our regular school program. In this case, for a child to receive credit for completing the school year, parents must submit a letter to the FRS Director of Education that provides an equivalent action plan to what the student would have done in the school that year. The plan must give attention to both our competency and community requirements and must address how the child will meet curricular goals as well as peer group and community involvement. Although the plan will be self-monitored during the year, parents must submit an end of the year statement about how goals were met in order for school credit to be received.

**Personal Emergency Information: We need to be able to reach you in an emergency!**

Prior to the first day of class, each student must have a completed Registration Form on file with full information, including emergency contacts, medical needs, insurance coverage and signed consent for treatment. We cannot admit any child to class without this information on file in the school office.

Early Dismissal: For those doctor appointments and other reasons...

Students requesting early dismissal must present a written request signed by his or her parents to the classroom teacher. Parents wishing to pick up their children before the regular dismissal time must go directly to their child's classroom. Children are not permitted to leave their classrooms unless they are accompanied by a parent or designated driver.

Leaving HNT Grounds: Walking home or going home with friends...

Student safety is our first priority. To ensure students are where they need to be, we ask if your child wants to walk home, go to a friend's house, or has a change in carpool plans, you notify us in writing. For safety reasons, no student will be permitted to leave the synagogue grounds without expressed written permission from a parent and/or guardian.







INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY SNOW!

In the event of inclement weather, there are a number of ways to determine whether school will be in session:

- Check your email for a message from Dr. Eliyahu Krigel.
- Call the HNT switchboard at 206-232-8555. If at all possible, the outgoing message will be changed to reflect any closure.

Inclement Weather Policy...

- If the Mercer Island School District and/or Bellevue is closed then we will be closed.
- If at all possible, your students' teachers will contact you by phone to inform you of a closure.
- If it is Shabbat, please know that you will not receive an email or a phone call. Please use your best judgment. If you chose to attend, please escort your child into the building and make sure that you teacher was able to come in.

As always, our students' safety is our primary concern. In the event that school remains open, but you feel that the roads in your neighborhood are impassable, we urge you to use your discretion in traveling to school.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Books, Materials, and HNT Property

We teach our students to respect the property of others. The school provides students with all textbooks, workbooks, and learning materials needed for their classroom work. Should a student deface or lose a textbook, the book must be replaced at the family's expense. If a student defaces or damages school or synagogue property, the student and his or her family will be responsible for the cost of repair or replacement.



Illnesses - ☹️

If your child comes down with head lice, strep throat, chicken pox, or any other communicable disease, please notify the school office immediately. Please do not send a child to school if they have a fever or have vomited within the previous 12 hours, if they have the symptoms of the flu, or if they have an excessively runny nose or a persistent cough. If in doubt, ask yourself if you would want your child to be around these symptoms if another child had this illness.

Student Medications

PARENTS WITH CHILDREN REQUIRING DAILY MEDICATION SHOULD MAKE SURE THAT THE CLASSROOM TEACHER HAS A 3-DAY SUPPLY IN A ZIP-LOC BAG, MARKED WITH THE STUDENT'S NAME AND THE AMOUNT AND FREQUENCY OF DOSAGE.

Medications can only be given to a child in accordance with the doctor's instructions.

In the Event of an Emergency

Each classroom is stocked with Personal Emergency Kits for students and teachers. Please make sure we have your current emergency contact information so that we can reach you in the event of an emergency.

Kiprot and Head Coverings – Our Jewish “Gear”

It is a Jewish minhag (custom) to wear a head covering as a way of recognizing God's presence in the universe. Wearing a kippah or other appropriate head covering reminds us of our Jewish identity and enhances our awareness of being in a special place and engaged in activities like learning that are holy. We encourage all Religious School students and teachers - male and female - to wear kipprot or appropriate head coverings in the synagogue and school buildings. (Baseball caps and sweatshirt hoods are not appropriate). Students may bring a kippah from



home or use one provided by the school.

Dress Code: The good, the bad, and the inappropriate...

When students attend a service in the Sanctuary or Social Hall during Shabbat or on a special holiday, we ask that they dress appropriately. Out of respect, we ask that students not wear athletic gear, baseball hats, shorts, gym gear, or other such clothing when going to the Sanctuary or Social Hall for a service. Students in 7th grade need to plan for this contingency since they will attend classmates' B'nai Mitzvah services to support their friends on their special day. Students in 6th grade also occasionally visit portions of the services as a part of their classroom curriculum. Students in 6th and 7th grade must wear Shabbat appropriate clothing on Saturdays for Shabbat School. By dressing up, we honor Shabbat and raise our awareness of the holiness of the day. Thank you for your cooperation! In the event that dressing up will not work, please contact Dr. Eliyahu to discuss further.

Snacks – Yum!

The school will provide light snacks during religious school hours. If for whatever reason your child can't eat the snacks provided, we ask you send a Kosher snack that they can eat. If they wish, parents may provide a special treat for the class in honor of a child's birthday. All food brought into the school must be **dairy** or **vegetarian** and also **nut-free**. Baked goods must be packaged and must carry a Kosher symbol. Please contact Dr. Eliyahu about the specifics of our Kashrut policy or for further clarification.

Tzedakah \$\$\$ Sacred Giving

Our school promotes the values of Tzedakah (sacred giving) and Gemilut Hasadim (acts of loving-kindness). Tzedakah money will be collected on a weekly basis. The students, guided by their teachers, will decide how the Tzedakah money collected by the class will be allocated. Periodically throughout the year, the



school may institute special drives, bake sales, or campaigns to fund raise for a needy cause or to bring toys, clothes, or food for a particular group. Please contact us if you would be willing to speak about a cause or project with which you are involved.

Missing a Class?

We expect that parents will make every effort to schedule secular activities around the Religious School schedule. If necessary, students can attend Religious School on an alternative day if a conflict arises, as long as the school office is notified at least 24 hours in advance. If it becomes necessary for a student to miss several class sessions, it is the parents' responsibility to contact the teacher to arrange for make-up work.

In cases of frequent absences resulting in academic deficiencies, the Religious School may require that the child receive tutoring at the parents' expense.

MANGO LANGUAGES INSTRUCTIONS

This year we will be using the language learning software Mango Languages to improve our Modern Hebrew speaking skills!

1. Apply for a KCLS Library Card if you do not already have one: <https://w3.kcls.org/get-a-library-card>.
If you have a library card but do not know your login, the user name is the Library Card number and the password is often the last four digits of your phone number
2. Use the search bar on the KCLS site and type in "Mango Languages". See the first search result and click "start learning a language in Mango".
3. Create a Mango Languages profile to track your progress.
4. Once logged in, select "Languages" from the bar on the left and select "all languages". Then select Hebrew.



5. Once on the Hebrew page, select "get started".

If you have questions about Mango Languages, see the FAQs here: <https://www.mangolanguages.com/company/support/>

Mango Languages requires up to date Adobe Flash and Java software. If you are in need of these, they can be downloaded here:

<https://java.com/en/download/>

<https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>

Creating a Safe and Positive Classroom Learning Environment

FRS DISCIPLINE POLICY

Our school discipline policy is based on the Jewish values of Kavod (respect) and Derech Eretz (appropriate behavior). Our goal is for each of our students to become a "mensch" - a kind, respectful person whose behavior is based on solid Jewish values. Students, teachers, and TA's alike are expected to demonstrate caring behaviors toward each other, the school and synagogue facility, the Jewish people, and humankind. Each and every student, TA, and teacher must feel safe, respected, and valued while attending school or participating in school activities. At the beginning of each school year, each class participates in a "climate-setting" discussion to set clear expectations of appropriate behavior. These expectations include the use of inclusive, respectful, and positive language as well as respect for property and the authority of teachers and madrichim. By coming up with agreed upon norms and consequences, each class will develop a brit or covenant to help guide and support positive classroom behavior throughout the year. Should a behavioral problem arise that interferes with teaching and learning or causes emotional distress to any of our students, the following series of steps will be implemented at the discretion of the Director of Education:



STEP 1: TEACHER INTERVENTION

The teacher manages disruptive or hurtful behavior within the classroom setting, reinforcing positive behavior and enforcing consequences for negative behavior. If the disruptive or hurtful behavior is repeated, the teacher may contact the parents.

STEP 2: SCHOOL CONFERENCE

Should a problem persist beyond the teacher's efforts to resolve it directly with the student, the Director of Education will be notified. Dr. Eliyahu will meet with the student to discuss the problem and set goals for future positive behavior. Consequences for continued disruptions will be outlined. Parents may or may not be contacted immediately, depending upon the nature of the problem.

STEP 3: FAMILY CONFERENCE

Should the student be sent to meet the Director of Education a second time regarding disruptive or hurtful behavior, a conference will be held with the student, parents, teacher, and Director. This meeting is required before the student will be allowed to rejoin the classroom community. At this meeting, an agreement will be made among all parties regarding expectations and consequences.

STEP 4: WITHDRAWAL FROM THE PROGRAM

If there is no improvement in behavior, the student may be asked to leave the class, and an alternative learning plan will be developed. The student's family must provide for a school-approved tutor to enable the student to complete the learning expectations for the year. Prior to being admitted to the next grade level, the student and parents must meet with the Director of Education and develop a behavioral contract that will be signed by all parties.

**SPECIAL NOTE:
SEVERE INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR**

Behavior that is dangerous, harmful, or blatantly disrespectful to another person's physical or emotional well-being will not be tolerated. A student who puts another child in danger or deliberately causes physical or emotional distress will be immediately removed from the group setting and taken to the Director of Education, who will contact the parents to take the student home immediately. The student will not be permitted to return to class until an appropriate apology is made and a plan is set in place between the school and the parents to prevent such occurrences again.

**Dr. Eliyahu Krigel, CJE**

Dr. Krigel joined the HNT community in 2016 and has truly hit the ground running. HNT is the fourth Conservative Synagogue community he has been honored to serve over the past seventeen years. He grew up in Kansas City, MO and along with a BA from Naropa University in Religious Studies, Dr. Krigel holds a Masters of Education from the Jewish Theological Seminary and a Doctorate in Jewish Education from Gratz College.

He is a graduate of the Mandel Teacher Educator Institute and he is on the board of directors of the Jewish Educators Assembly, the Conservative movement's professional network for Jewish educators. In addition, Dr. Krigel is a trained and certified Soulful Educator through Ayeka.

Dr. Krigel instills Jewish life with meaning and opportunities for self-identification, community enhancement, and relationship development. He is enthusiastic and passionate about transforming the teacher and student learning process into a dynamic collaboration.


FRANKEL
RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
WHERE TWICE LEARNING BEGINS



EMPOWERING POSITIVE JEWISH IDENTITY