



Yeshiva High School of Arizona

Sivan 5786
June 2026

Highlights OF MESIVTA OF PHOENIX



BUILDING ON A FOUNDATION *of Torah*

Baruch Hashem, construction on the Mesivta's long-awaited expansion began in February and continues to make tremendous progress.

Before construction began, twelve boxes of *sheimos*, collected from both the Mesivta and the broader community, were buried beneath the foundation of the new building. It is our hope that the entire expansion will rest upon a true foundation of Torah, serving as a place where Torah learning will flourish for generations to come.

A special milestone was the הנחת אבן הפינה, the laying of the foundation, where our primary investors, Rabbanim, Rebbeim, and talmidim gathered with a shared commitment to help build a lasting תורה מקום. Rabbi Goetz began the process by pouring from the cement truck, with others adding concrete to mark the occasion. As he noted, the intentions invested at the foundation become embedded within the building itself, helping shape the future growth of the talmidim and their Torah.

Despite the challenges of building while the Mesivta remains fully operational, learning has continued uninterrupted even as major construction takes place around us. The talmidim have embraced the project with excitement, often checking on the latest progress and watching the future home of the Mesivta take shape.

The expansion will include a larger Beis Medrash, expanded classrooms, a new dining room, dormitory space, conference facilities, and additional areas to support the Yeshiva's continued growth.



The enthusiasm of the talmidim has been especially inspiring. They have followed each stage with interest, offered ideas, and even used leftover construction materials to build their own treehouse! We invite members of the community to stop by for a tour and witness the incredible progress firsthand.

Disconnect to Connect: TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS INITIATIVE

Throughout the year, the Mesivta continued its efforts to help talmidim develop a healthy relationship with technology and strengthen their ability to focus on what matters most.

Centered around the theme of "ושכנתו בתוכם," talmidim were encouraged to consider how reducing distractions can create greater space for Torah, growth, and meaningful relationships.

The initiative began with a hike and barbecue at Blue Wash Trail, where talmidim took part in activities designed to help them enjoy the outdoors, and connect with friends and Rebbeim.

As part of the program, Rabbi Goetz met with the talmidim to offer guidance and chizuk about developing greater self-control in technology use and the benefits of reducing



digital distractions.

The program also featured a special presentation by Mr. Adjmi of Adjmi Apparel Group, who shared practical insights and personal experiences on the value of "Disconnect to Connect." He spoke about how limiting technology use can strengthen relationships, improve focus, increase productivity, and help people be more present in their daily lives. These programs challenged the talmidim to think seriously about their technology habits and inspired many to take meaningful steps toward a more balanced approach.

Alumni EVENTS

Welcoming Our Alumni Back for Pesach

One of the highlights of the Pesach season was the first annual Alumni Yarchei Kallah, which brought together many graduates returning home from yeshivos in both America and Eretz Yisrael.

The program featured a seder and shiur led by Rabbi Zagelbaum, followed by a special lunch with their Rebbeim and inspiring words from Rabbi Goetz. Drawing a powerful lesson from the fire on the Mizbe'ach, Rabbi Goetz encouraged the alumni to keep their passion for Torah burning constantly, even during vacation periods and breaks from the regular yeshiva schedule.

The gathering was a great opportunity for alumni to strengthen their connection to the Mesivta, reconnect with their Rebbeim, and enjoy spending time together once again.



ALUMNI Shabbaton

This year's Alumni Shabbaton brought together many graduates currently living and learning in Phoenix. Throughout Shabbos Parshas Behar-Bechukosai, Rebbeim welcomed alumni into their homes, each hosting a group of former talmidim for a special seudah filled with Torah, conversation, and warm reconnecting.

Following Shabbos, the alumni gathered at the home of Ben Kikrov for a memorable Melaveh Malkah. Together, participants reflected on the past, discussed the challenges and opportunities of the present, and shared their hopes and aspirations for the future.



TRIPS & Activities



Jackpot Ranch and the JackpOlympics

The Mesivta's annual trip to Jackpot Ranch was once again a tremendous success. With increased participation this year due to the Mesivta's record enrollment, we made use of a brand new bunkhouse that had just been built, to accommodate the growing number of talmidim.

Among the highlights was a new hike to the breathtaking Devil's Bridge in Sedona, giving talmidim an opportunity to enjoy the beauty of Hashem's creation while challenging themselves physically.

The excitement continued with the much-anticipated annual game of Jackpot Jeopardy, testing the talmidim's grasp of yedios klalios and general knowledge. This year's theme, "JackpOlympics," featured relay races, distance runs, long jump competitions, and many other activities. The combination of teamwork, sportsmanship, and fun made the experience memorable for all who participated.



Special EVENTS



Sefer Torah Dedication

A particularly meaningful occasion this year was the dedication of a new Sefer Torah to the Mesivta in celebration of the refuah sheleimah of Mrs. Laurie Segal. Dedicated by the Segal and Cutler families, the event brought together family, friends, and members of the community in a heartfelt expression of gratitude and tefillah.



Dr. Charles Kirschner,
Holocaust Child Survivor
spoke to the Mesivta



Rav Reuven Leuchter
spoke to the Mesivta



Woodworking elective
made challah boards



Rav David Schustal spoke to the Mesivta

Twelfth Grade Trip to Lakewood

The twelfth-grade class had the privilege of traveling to Lakewood for an inspiring and memorable trip centered around kavod HaTorah. A major highlight was attending the Adirei HaTorah event, where the talmidim witnessed the tremendous honor accorded to Torah and those who learn it.

During their visit, the students toured various locations connected to Bais Medrash Govoha and met with Rabbi Yerucham Olshin, one of the Roshei Yeshiva, from whom they received brachos. They also heard words of inspiration from Rabbi Yosef Heinemann, CEO of BMG, who emphasized the tremendous zechus of supporting Torah learning.

The trip left a lasting impression on the talmidim, strengthening their appreciation for Talmidei Chachamim and inspiring them to continue growing in their own learning and commitment to Torah.



Bochurim proudly holding seforim they won in raffles
and as prizes for coming to Motzei Shabbos learning
throughout the winter.

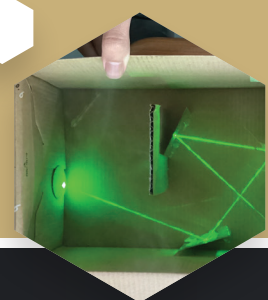
GENERAL STUDIES *Highlights*

Geometry in Motion was the 10th grade's final capstone Geometry project, where students designed and built working models showing how geometry appears in real engineering and motion.

Some students created laser mazes, using mirror angles and reflection paths to guide a laser accurately to a target. Another group completed an RC car rolling lab, testing how different geometric body designs affect speed, wheel rotations, and long-distance predictions.

Twelfth-grade students explored Edgar Allan Poe's *The Raven* and Markus Zusak's *The Book Thief*. Through these works, students analyzed literary techniques, historical context, character development, and the resilience of the human spirit during times of conflict.

Across all grade levels, students strengthened their ability to interpret literature, support claims with textual evidence, communicate effectively in writing and discussion, and make connections between literature and the world around them.



Mesivta Receives Accreditation



We are proud to announce that the Mesivta has officially earned accreditation through Cognia, an internationally recognized education quality evaluation body, following a rigorous assessment process that spanned more than a year.

The review evaluated all aspects of the school, including

Torah Studies, General Studies, extracurricular programs, and overall school culture through feedback from students, parents, and faculty. This achievement reflects our ongoing commitment to educational excellence and continuous growth.