

COMMENTS AND COMMENDATIONS

FROM THE NATIONAL ACCREDITATION BOARD PEER REVIEW REPORT:

- The principals are young but they more than compensate for their limited experience with their total dedication. It is unusual to see the kind of cooperation that exists between the two principals. They share and consult with each other, make cooperative decisions and give each other the space to work independently where necessary. They both exude caring and devotion to the students.
- There is a pronounced, nurturing, family-oriented atmosphere at the school that promotes individual growth. The girls are comfortable in the school environment and are happy to be working hard.
- Team members observed a number of very creative classes. Even if they had been planned in advance, they indicate how creative and flexible many teachers are. Discussions with the students would lead one to believe that the “out of the box” things evident were not an anomaly but the rule. Teachers took pains to come at a number of subjects from different angles and approaches; the students indicated their appreciation of this quality.
- Differentiation in the class: auditory, visual and kinesthetic, allowed for the majority of the students to be actively involved in class. Enthusiasm and excitement were tangible.
- Varied instruction in many classrooms observed meets the needs of students with different modalities of learning and the student body feels their individual learning styles and needs are addressed.
- The faculty and staff clearly serve to the strengths and the needs of the individual students so that continuous improvement takes place, not only academically but within the whole *gestalt* of the student.
- The Limudei Kodesh and the general studies both reflect the school’s mission statement and are in sync with one another. There is carry-over from one department to the other and subjects are dealt with from dual perspectives.
- There is a personal and deep commitment by the Administration and faculty to the personal growth of each young lady and her academic progress, and the faculty takes exceptional pride in their school and in the development of their students.

- The close relationship between administration, faculty and students is commendable. The "open-door" policy by the administrative team with regard to students is particularly impressive. Coupled with the *mechaneches*, a personal guidance counselor, virtually every student has access to adult consultation.
- There is excellent communication between the Administration and the parent body. Parents with whom the team met and those who were interviewed by phone were very complimentary and committed to helping the school improve and move in the direction of excellence.
- The school's mission of in-reach and outreach is demonstrated by many of the faculty members in their professional lives. The members of the faculty, especially those of the Judaic department, are positive role models; they demonstrate and maintain a consistency of "*midos tovos*" and "*yiras shomayim*."
- The use of technology in the school is noteworthy. Some Orthodox Jewish schools are somewhat hesitant to embrace all that the technological world has to offer. RBCA has remarkably seen fit to see that technology is being integrated in all disciplines.