

BIOS OF OUR ADMINISTRATORS

HARAV ELIYAHU WEINER, ROSH HAYESHIVA

Harav Eliyahu Weiner learned in Yeshivas Rabbeinu Yisrael Meir Hakohen (Yeshiva Chofetz Chaim) for more than a decade and a half, becoming a close *talmid* of *HaGaon Harav* Henach Leibowitz, *zt"l*, and receiving the prestigious *Yoreh, Yoreh/Yadin, Yadin semicha*. While learning in *Eretz Yisroel*, Rabbi Weiner attended *shiurim* by *HaGeonim Rav* Noson Zvi Finkel, *zt"l*, and *ybl"ch Rav* Asher Arieli in the Mir, with whom he developed a strong connection. He especially treasures the interactions he has had with his unique *zeide*, *HaGaon Harav* Chaim Pinchos Scheinberg, *zt"l*. These influences imbued him with an abiding conviction that *Iyun HaTorah* and *Mussar* are vital tools in becoming a true servant of *HaKodosh Boruch Hu*. Returning to Chofetz Chaim, Rabbi Weiner later served as *Rosh Chabura* in the *Beis Medrash* and *Kollel*.

From 2010 to 2022, Rabbi Weiner served as a *Rosh Yeshiva* in Yeshiva Zichron Paltiel of Staten Island. During these years, he became known for his personal warmth, his effusive care, and his compassion for each *talmid*. Many have attested that his strong rapport with *talmidim*, parents and colleagues, has served as the catalyst to inspire those around him with his *simchas hachaim* and *ahavas HaTorah*.

In his role as *Rosh Yeshiva*, he also wore a number of other hats. He taught on multiple levels in the Mesivta and the Beis Medrash. Known as a dynamic *magid shiur* par excellence, he soon began to give *shmuessin* and conduct *vaadim* with adults as well as teenagers. He also filled an administrative vacuum, assuming many management functions of the yeshiva.

These multifaceted activities provided a venue for forging a more intimate *kesher* with *talmidim* and community members. Rabbi Weiner views *habotzas Torah* as one of the principal goals of his life. *Talmidim* are *yechidim*. Each is a unique world unto himself. Each must be approached in his own special way if we are to touch his *neshoma*. "We can inspire well-rounded and healthy *b'nei Torah*. Equipped with the tools and skills for learning, they will exude a joyous passion, a love for Torah,

mitzvos and life. This will lead them to exemplify the highest level of *midos tovos* and *ehrlichkeit*.”

HARAV EPHRAIM FISCHER, SGAN MENAHEL

Known for his warmth and enthusiasm, Rabbi Ephraim Fischer is a highly capable *mechanech* with a track record of excellence in *chinuch* for more than two decades. Possessing *smicha* from Yeshiva Chaim Berlin, he has extensive knowledge and experience in giving shiurim to *talmidim* in many venues.

He comes to Keren HaTorah with a background that includes serving as a General Studies Principal who has conducted special programs such as yeshiva *shabbosim*, *melavah malkas*, and field trips to Israel as well as other locations. These experiences complement his ability to implement educational curricula, and to motivate *talmidim* and teachers to expand their horizons as they elevate their own personal goals.

Rabbi Fischer is most proud of his interpersonal skills and ability to build abiding relationships with students, parents and colleagues. An inspiring rebbi, he has forged permanent *keshorim* with *talmidim* who have long since left his direct tutelage.

We are delighted to welcome him as a rebbi and member of our administrative staff.

RABBI WALLACE GREENE, PH.D., PRINCIPAL

Rabbi Dr. Wallace Greene brings a wealth of experience as an educator and administrator to Keren Hatorah. Holder of *smicha* from Yeshiva University, he possesses a degree in English literature and a Ph.D. in History.

His pedagogical background includes serving at various yeshivos in the NY-NJ area. He was also a faculty member at Yeshiva University, Queens College and Upsala College for several decades.

Rabbi Greene’s excitement for children and organizational expertise have made him an educational builder. He took the tiny Hebrew Youth Academy of Essex County and transformed it into the academic powerhouse known as the Joseph Kushner Hebrew Academy. For ten years he served as principal at that institution.

Dr. Greene's concern for those needing extra attention is notable. To provide a Torah education for students who were developmentally challenged he founded the Sinai school that accommodated their special needs. More recently he served as the director of Jewish Educational Services for all the Jewish schools in northern New Jersey. That role supplied him with numerous contacts that will help enhance the program in our mesivta.

As a Senior Consultant to The International March of The Living he produced several videos that have been shown at Auschwitz. A skilled author, he is a featured columnist for *The Jewish Link*.

"The pursuit of excellence is possible for everyone. For those who are above average the stars are possible; those who are not can still achieve great things far beyond what others may expect of them."

RABBI YAAKOV ZVI NIERMAN, PH.D. CONSULTANT

Dr. Nierman is a highly experienced educator who brings to Keren Hatorah a commitment to excellence in secular studies.

For more than five decades he has served as an administrator and teacher. He established the Secular Studies Program at Mesivta Yesodei Yeshurun, a boys mesivta in Queens. For seventeen years he served as its principal refining its curriculum and assuring its fulfillment. During his distinguished career in high schools and university he received grants from the NEH, the Departments of Education of New York and New Jersey, and the Impact II Program. Professional commendations for his work include a Chancellor's New School Fellowship and the designation as Master Teacher for all high schools in the Borough of Queens. Dr. Nierman has conducted numerous educational workshops and chaired panels at professional and scholarly conferences on the local and national levels. His educational projects have been replicated throughout the York City area, and his filmstrip series, "An Audio-Visual History of the Middle East," has been in use throughout North America

As the grandparent of two families in Passaic Dr. Nierman is delighted that a new mesivta with a strong secular studies program is opening in our community. In his role as consultant to Mesivta Keren Hatorah he sees himself as the motivator and facilitator of scholarship in *limudei chol*. An expert in cross subject curriculum

development, Dr. Nierman's integrated English and social studies program teaches students to perceive the relationship between society and the literature it produces. His advanced research projects in science and social studies stimulate students to think critically as they employ resources to probe those subjects in depth.

Dr. Nierman's creative management approach promotes highly productive classes in which students interact continually with their teachers and peers. During his visits to the mesivta he will meet with students to encourage them to excel. Recognizing that parents' cooperation is an integral element in any successful educational program, Dr. Nierman will assure that open lines of communication apprise parents of their son's progress assuring their success in our mesivta.