

What's the recipe for a healthy 5774?  
Some tasty samples await you.

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# WISH EXPONENT

— WHAT IT MEANS TO BE JEWISH IN PHILADELPHIA —

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## Finding a Formula for Teen Learning

BRYAN SCHWARTZMAN | JE STAFF

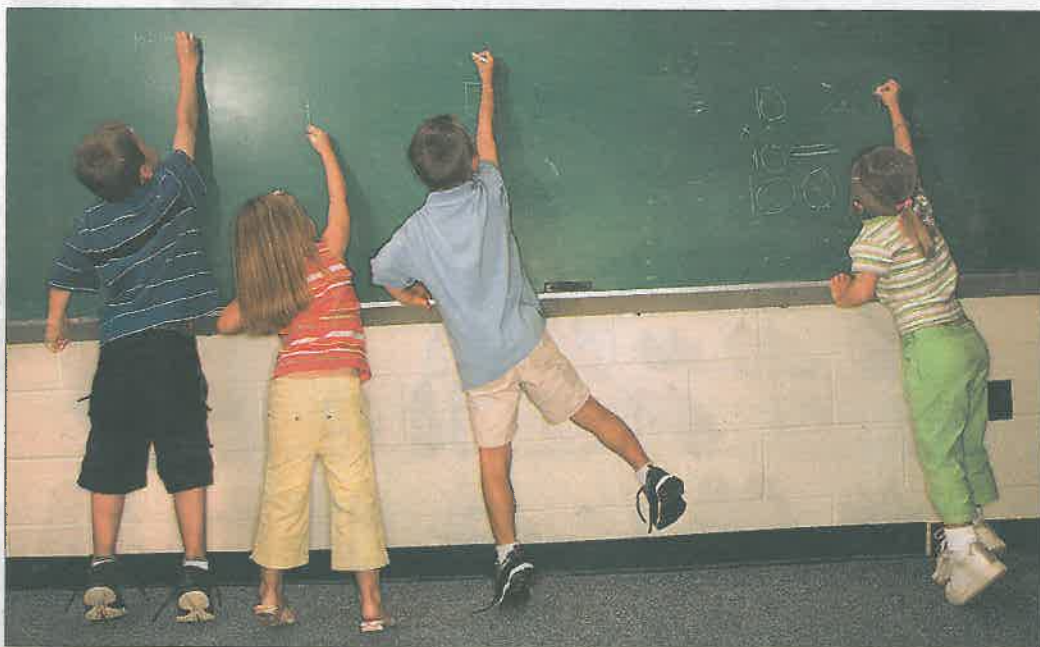
AFTER BEN STERN became a Bar Mitzvah at Temple Sinai in Dresher, his parents gave him little choice: He'd be continuing his Jewish education at the Jewish Community High School of Gratz College.

Stern wasn't happy about it, at least at first. But now, two years later, the sophomore at Upper Dublin High School said he wouldn't have it any other way.

"I'm pretty sure as long as I am in high school, I will continue," said the 14-year-old Stern, who added that going to class once a week doesn't wreak too much havoc with his schedule as a two-sport athlete.

Stern said he appreciates being able to choose his classes and stressed that they touch on subjects that he sees as relevant to his life.

"They are not your basic Hebrew school classes," he said. "It is more classes that help you with your Jewish identity, Jewish values, Israel and the problems it faces."



As students prepare to return to school, this week's issue examines some of the transitions taking place on the local Jewish educational landscape.

The issue, say educators at Gratz, isn't getting students to stay with the program once they've started. The challenge is getting them through the door in the first place.

Keeping teenagers engaged in Jewish learning post-Bar and Bat Mitzvah during critical identity-

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## Perelman Chooses New Head of School

BRYAN SCHWARTZMAN | JE STAFF

THIRTY YEARS after she last taught in Philadelphia, Judy Groner is returning to lead the Raymond and Ruth Perelman Jewish Day School.

Perelman's board recently approved the contract of the 56-year-old who is currently the head of school at the B'nai Shalom Day



▲ JUDY GRONER

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