



MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

**BERMAN**  
MELVIN J. BERMAN HEBREW ACADEMY

**OPPORTUNITY  
STATEMENT**



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 3** | Our School
- 4** | Our Values
- 6** | School Profile
- 7** | Ideal Candidate Profile
- 9** | Our Campus
- 10** | Welcome to Greater Washington, DC
- 11** | How to Apply

# OUR SCHOOL

**The Melvin J. Berman Hebrew Academy was founded in 1944 by Orthodox community leaders who were committed to providing children in the Washington DC area with a deep Jewish identity developed through a strong Jewish education. The Hebrew Academy of Greater Washington, as it was originally known, was established as the first Jewish day school in the DC area, opening with 21 children. Today, Berman is the only Modern Orthodox day school in the Washington, DC Metropolitan area.**

Berman educates and inspires over 600 students through a warm and nurturing co-educational program for preschool through 12th grade. Students at Berman Hebrew Academy gain so much more than a thorough grounding in general and Judaic academics; they receive a deep grounding in Torah values and middot, the Jewish learning and character-building principles that guide our lives. And because Berman's modern Orthodox approach is imbued with Zionist values, our students gain a love of Israel, which becomes a central part of their Jewish identities.

Berman's integrated Judaic and general curriculum combines a warm and caring environment with a dynamic, challenging and creative co-educational course of study. Small class sizes and individualized attention mean that students can engage in activities they need to become well-rounded while discovering and nurturing the greatest strengths within themselves.

Berman provides a comprehensive Jewish and general education in an atmosphere of reverence, good citizenship, and love of the Jewish people and Israel. In partnership with the community, Berman strives to continue this journey, shaping a future for our students that is filled with purpose, accomplishment, caring and commitment to Jewish life and Jewish values.

Our graduates go on to our nation's top universities and Israeli yeshivot and seminaries. They become successful in their chosen fields and leaders in their communities as they live as committed, observant Jews in today's world.

Berman is a unique institution that serves a thriving Jewish population and enjoys a robust and balanced budget, a stable and capable administrative team, a seasoned and talented faculty, strong community support, and a talented and active parent body and lay leadership.



# OUR VALUES

At Berman we live by three core values that are a consistent presence in our children's day to day experience at school and are visible in our students and alumni as they go out into the world:

## Academic Excellence

*Chochma* (wisdom) is measured not simply by what our students know, but by what they can *do* with what they know. As such, activities, exercises and assessments are all designed to measure how students synthesize, weigh, apply and deploy the knowledge and skills.



## Character Development

We offer our students social and emotional guidance, tools, and resources needed to forge both a healthy sense of self and healthy relationships with others. We instill *derech erez* and a deep sense of *achrayut* for ourselves, each other, the Jewish community, and people around the world.



## Religious Commitment

We equip our students with religious purpose, skills, routines, and responsibilities so they can continue a life of *Torah*. We inspire students who are deeply committed to the Land and State of Israel, its history, culture, people, and language.



**Berman graduates are prepared to lead their lives as religiously committed Jews and citizens of the world who:**

- know how to learn and love to learn Torah;
- pursue their highest levels of academic, personal, and professional success;
- are deeply engaged in synagogue and communal life;
- are deeply committed to the Land and State of Israel, its history, culture, people, and language;
- exhibit the highest levels of moral conduct, tzedaka, and chesed.



**BERMAN**  
MELVIN J. BERMAN HEBREW ACADEMY

TORAH תורה  
מציון MITZION  
WASHINGTON



**sulam**  
Unlimited Learning.

In typical years, Berman integrates the **Torah Mitzion Kollel** of **Israeli shlichim** and **Bnot Sherut** in the program across all divisions.

Berman partners with and houses **Sulam**, a program for children with special learning needs and offers a unique immersion program between the two schools.

## SCHOOL PROFILE

As a preschool – 12th grade school, Berman provides a comprehensive trajectory of education spanning more than a decade. The Middle School plays a central role in the progress of our students, serving as a critical bridge from the world of preschool and elementary school to the experience of high school. Similarly, these other divisions join with the Middle School to create a robust educational environment where students thrive through lived values.



While the entire Berman school system provides an important context for the Middle School, it is not only defined by what comes before and after. The Middle School also has its own unique identity.



Middle School is a time of exploration and rapid growth, both physically and emotionally. Our curriculum and program are geared towards fostering the maturation of the student and the growth of the individual through a comprehensive dual curriculum of limudei kodesh, including Hebrew language, general studies, and co-/extra-curricular learning opportunities. Students experience all of this within a warm, nurturing, and supportive environment.



# OUR IDEAL MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL IS...

Humble yet confident... Warm yet serious...  
Growth oriented yet accomplished...Organized yet creative

**The Middle School Principal serves the unique needs of and builds positive, productive relationships with each student and family. The principal is a role model for the educational and cultural values of the school at all times, both on and off campus.**

The Middle School Principal is responsible for helping students and families navigate the natural tides that come along during the Middle School years academically, socially, emotionally, behaviorally, religiously, and spiritually. Partnering with the Head of School and the other divisional leaders, the Middle School Principal ensures that our students thrive in a warm, nurturing, and yet rigorous learning environment.



# SUCCESS IN THIS ROLE LOOKS LIKE...



## AN EDUCATIONAL LEADER WHO:

- partners with faculty to define and strive for a common vision of great teaching and learning within the Middle School and connected to the other divisions.
- is proficient in content and process of curricular and co-/extra-curricular development/activities consistent with the mission/vision and religious hashkafa of the school.
- is experienced and expert in supervision of instruction and evaluation of academic programs.

## A CULTURAL LEADER WHO:

- maintains congruence of the school's mission and hashkafa with a bold vision and approach to carrying them out within the division.
- nurtures an environment conducive to adolescent development and growth and that promotes religious engagement and spiritual inspiration for each learner.
- strives for unity, harmony, and cooperation through tact, helpfulness, respect, and the recognition of individual differences and the special abilities and strengths of each student, teacher, and staff member.
- communicates effectively with stakeholders to ensure a strong partnership within and beyond the walls of the school.

## A SYSTEMS THINKER WHO:

- values the creation and maintenance of a system that monitors each student's progress.
- appreciates and advocates for the unique position of the Middle School, while considering the needs of Berman as a whole and how the Middle School can contribute to and accommodate them.
- anticipates and develops plans to meet the educational, physical, social, emotional, and religious needs of the school community.
- ensure compliance with legal requirements and educational standards of government and accrediting agencies/regulators.

Our ideal candidate needs to be available to join us no later than July 1, 2021 with prior experience as an educational leader and as a classroom teacher.





## OUR CAMPUS



Just eight miles from the nation's capital in Rockville, MD, Berman's campus includes over 230,000 square feet situated on approximately 20 acres. The extraordinary facility includes two levels of classrooms, batei midrash, computer and science laboratories, a media center, libraries, a 1,100 seat auditorium, gymnasiums, locker rooms, music rooms, multiple outdoor play areas, and a world class visual arts center. The grounds include large parking areas, a full-size track and athletic field facility, tennis courts, gardens, and playgrounds.



Berman also houses the synagogue and mikvah for the adjacent Aspen Hill neighborhood, where a large number of families are buying homes and contributing to the growth of the community.

# WELCOME TO GREATER WASHINGTON, DC!

Washington, DC is one of the most exciting places to live in the world. The seat of the United States government, it is abuzz with culture, activity, and excitement.



Washington DC and its surrounding suburbs, particularly in Montgomery County, Maryland where Berman resides, is one of the country's most affluent and highly educated communities. Proximity to DC and the vast Metro Rail system makes government, museums, cultural arts, and institutions of higher education easily accessible. As a result of the school's proximity to the nation's capital and this ease of access, students engage in diverse and rich opportunities not available anywhere else in the world; some of these include participating in lobbying efforts, visiting the Supreme Court and Congress, exploring the amazing Smithsonian Institution and other museums (including the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum), visiting US government offices and buildings, as well as taking advantage of internships throughout the area, including on Capitol Hill.

---

## Living in our Jewish Community

The Greater Washington Metropolitan Jewish community is known as a uniquely warm, caring, growth-oriented and intellectual community. Education, Jewish and general, are a priority for parents and the community as a whole.

With a population of more than 200,000, we have the 6th largest Jewish community in North America. It is vibrant with Jewish life and activity and includes nearly a dozen Orthodox communities (nearly all with mikvaot), two large Kosher supermarkets, a number of Kosher restaurants and bakeries, three Jewish

Community Centers, and several Jewish day schools and preschools. Additionally, the region supports well over 100 local Jewish agencies and synagogues and serves as the national and international headquarters for many large Jewish organizations such as Hillel International, B'nai Brith, AIPAC, BBYO, and others.

The University of Maryland, where many Berman graduates attend college, is home to over 6,500 Jewish students, of which approximately 550 are Orthodox, and is served by one of the largest and most active Hillels in the country.

## HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates are encouraged to contact our search consultant, **Dr. Scott Goldberg** at [search@scottgoldbergconsulting.com](mailto:search@scottgoldbergconsulting.com) to confidentially discuss the opportunity and the process.

Candidates who are ready to apply should submit the following materials as a PDF, via email:

- A cover letter indicating your particular interest in serving as Middle School Principal at Melvin J. Berman Hebrew Academy. The letter should include:
  - an overview of your qualification for this leadership position
  - brief statements of your philosophy of education, leadership style and alignment with the religious philosophy of the school
  - a current resumé

**Scott Goldberg, PhD**  
Search Consultant