



Administration and Staff Biographies

HEAD OF SCHOOL:

Rabbi Seth Linfield
Head of School & Chief Executive Officer
slinfield@tarbut.com x 3002
Employed by TVT since 2010

Rabbi Seth Linfield has served as the Head of School and CEO for Tarbut V'Torah Community Day School since 2010. Previously, Rabbi Linfield served as Head of School of the Lehrman Community Day School in Miami Beach, Florida and the Solomon Schechter Day School of Essex and Union in New Jersey. He earned his undergraduate degree in mathematics in 1980 from New York University, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and his law degree in 1983 from Stanford Law School. Rabbi Linfield received his *semikha* (rabbinic ordination) in 2006 from HaRav Shlomo Koenig of the Yoka Kollel in New York and is a member of the third cohort of the Day School Leadership Training Institute, a joint venture of the Avi Chai Foundation and the Davidson Graduate School of Jewish Education at the Jewish Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Deana, are the parents of four daughters and three sons.

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:

Derek Gavshon, Dip.Law
Chief Operating Officer
dgavshon@tarbut.com x 3004
Employed by TVT since 2002

Derek Gavshon was born and raised in South Africa. He graduated from the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa with a Law degree prior to immigrating to the United States. Mr. Gavshon joined TVT in January, 2002 as the Business Manager. During his tenure as Business Manager, he oversaw the building of TVT's 60,000 square foot Upper School campus on the Samueli Jewish Campus. He revamped the business office; including the financial aid process, method of collecting accounts receivable, systemized accounts payable, budgeting, and tuition setting. In March 2007 Mr. Gavshon was appointed Acting Head of School before becoming Chief Operating Officer in 2010.

PRINCIPALS:

John Fowler, M.A.
Middle School Principal
jfowler@tarbut.com x 3014
Employed by TVT since 2009

John Fowler is Head of the Middle School at Tarbut V'Torah. Mr. Fowler's career in independent school education has been marked by a commitment to experiential education and collaborative leadership. He came to Tarbut from Milken Community High School in Los Angeles, where he served as a Dean of Academics and Student Life for four years. At the Athenian School in Danville California, where he worked for eleven years, Mr. Fowler was head of the science department and chair of the Board of Trustees' task force on environmental stewardship, an experience he recounts in *The Greening of Athenian* an article published in *Independent School Magazine*. He has chaired visiting accreditation teams for WASC and has served on accreditation teams for CAIS. Mr. Fowler was a 1999-2000 Klingenstein fellow and a member of the 2008-2009 cohort for the NAIS Fellowship for Aspiring School Heads. He holds an undergraduate degree from California State University, Hayward and an M.A. from Columbia University. Mr. Fowler is an avid hiker and mountain biker and volunteers his time for various trail maintenance associations.

Gail Freeman, M.Ed.

Lower School Principal

gfreeman@tarbut.com x 1115

Employed by TVT since 2011

Gail Freeman comes to TVT by way of the Associated Hebrew Schools in Toronto, Canada, where she had served as Vice Principal since 2003 and as Head of Guidance and Special Education prior to that. Mrs. Freeman also has experience as a Hebrew teacher and social worker, in addition to having served as a principal for the Boys Town School in Johannesburg, South Africa, where she spearheaded many new and innovative programs. Mrs. Freeman holds two Bachelor's degrees, one in Hebrew and Sociology and a second in Social Work from the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa, where she also earned a Master's of Education in School Counseling. Additionally, Mrs. Freeman holds a Post Graduate Teaching Diploma from Zlotnik Avida Hebrew Teachers Seminary in Johannesburg; a Diploma in Reflective Education from Hebrew University, Jerusalem; Principal Certification from York University, Toronto; and is a Graduate of the International Holocaust Seminar in Yad Vashem, Israel.

Laura Roth, BA, M.A., Psy.Ed

Upper School Principal

lroth@tarbut.com x 1140

Employed by TVT since 2007

Dr. Roth received her undergraduate degree from the State University of New York at Binghamton. She went on to get her Master's Degree and Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the University of Hartford. She did her Clinical Psychology internship at The Cambridge Hospital, the teaching hospital for Harvard University. After working in the psychology field for five years, Dr. Roth became involved in education when she served as Director of Counseling Services and the Dean of Faculty at Windward School, a well regarded independent school in Los Angeles. Dr. Roth also taught at Antioch University in the graduate school of Clinical Psychology. In 1999, Dr. Roth became part of a team of educators who worked to found Sage Hill School, where she was the Dean of School Life, acting Director of Admissions, a psychology teacher and JV tennis coach for five years. In 2005, Dr. Roth was appointed Head of Upper School at The Meadows School which is considered to be the finest independent school in Nevada. She missed her family and friends, so Dr. Roth was thrilled to accept the offer from TVT to become Principal of the Upper School and moved back to Orange County in March, 2007.

LOWER SCHOOL DIRECTOR OF HEBREW & JEWISH STUDIES:

Avi Chelouche, B.A.

Lower School Director of Hebrew & Jewish Studies

achelouche@tarbut.com x 1104

Employed by TVT since 1995

Avi Chelouche was born and raised in Tel Aviv, Israel and began his career serving in the Israeli Defense Forces' Air Force. Mr. Chelouche's educational background includes a Bachelor's in Sociology and Anthropology with a minor in Psychology, a teaching certificate, and 3 years of study toward his Master's degree in Organizational Behavior - all from the University of Tel Aviv. After teaching in Israel, Mr. Chelouche moved to Winnipeg, Canada where he worked as both teacher and Hebrew/Judaic Studies Coordinator. Mr. Chelouche joined TVT as the Director of Hebrew/Judaic Studies for the Lower School in 1995. Mr. Chelouche is well known as an innovator in Hebrew and Judaic instruction, so much so that TVT is often asked to pilot new educational programs for the nation.

ADMISSIONS OFFICE:

Susan Clain, B.A.

Dean of Admissions

sclain@tarbut.com x 3012

Employed by TVT since 2011

Susan Clain was appointed Dean of Admissions at Tarbut V'Torah Community Day School in 2011. Born in South Africa, and raised in Minnesota, Ms. Clain earned her undergraduate degree from Wesleyan University. She came to TVT after having spent more than eight years at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, where she served as the college's Dean of Admissions. Ms. Clain also has significant experience in the international education arena, having worked as Director of Admissions & Director of Marketing and Business Development for EF International Language Schools and as a shipboard administrator for the University of Virginia's Semester at Sea program. She has served on several national boards and has spoken both nationally and internationally.

Wendy Leberman, B.A.

Director of Admissions

wleberman@tarbut.com x 1102

Employed by TVT since 1998

Ms. Leberman began teaching in 1989 after graduating *cum laude* from California State University, Northridge and receiving her California Multiple Subject Teaching Credential. Working in independent schools across the country, including two Jewish Day Schools, Ms. Leberman spent ten years in the

classroom teaching kindergarten and fourth grade. She was promoted from teacher to Admissions Director at Portland Jewish Academy in 1994. After moving back to California in 1998, Ms. Leberman began her position at TVT as Director of Admissions. Since then the school has grown significantly and a new Upper School campus was built to accommodate the expanding enrollment.

ATHLETICS:

Danny Herz, B.S.

Director of Athletics

dherz@tarbut.com x 1149

Employed by TVT since 2011

Coach Herz joins TVT from the American Heritage School in Plantation, Florida where he served as Head Basketball Coach and Dean of Students. Mr. Herz also has experience coached the Maccabi Games (since 1999) and has been a classroom instructor in the subjects of mathematics and health science. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise Science and Sport Management from the University of Florida.

BUSINESS OFFICE:

Stacy Leavitt, B.S.

Accounts Payable

sleavitt@tarbut.com x 3026

Employed by TVT since 2003

Mrs. Leavitt received her Bachelor's degree from UC Berkeley School of Business. She has been working at TVT since 2003 in Accounts Payable but has been helping the school as a volunteer in the Business Office since 1995, when the school was located on Baker Street in Costa Mesa.

Cheryl Taitz, B.A. Equivalent

Accounting & Human Resources Manager

ctaitz@tarbut.com x 1106

Employed by TVT since 1997

Cheryl Taitz was born and raised in South Africa where she attended Jewish Day School in Johannesburg. Afterward she received her CIS Degree (equivalent to a Bachelor's in Business Administration) from Witwatersrand Technikon in Johannesburg, South Africa. After working 5 years as an Audit Manager in South Africa, she and her family immigrated to the United States where she worked in an accounting firm in downtown Chicago. In 1997, Ms. Taitz joined TVT as the Accounting and Human Resources Manager.

COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING:

Linsey Carbone, M.A.

Director of Marketing & Communications

lcarbone@tarbut.com x 3224

Employed by TVT since 2008

Originally from Hawaii, Mrs. Carbone majored in English at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, graduating *cum laude*. She then pursued a career in corporate marketing before returning to academia and earning a Master's of Art in English Literature at Wake Forest University, North Carolina. Mrs. Carbone is currently pursuing a Master of Business Administration from Pepperdine University.

COLLEGE COUNSELING:

Clint Davis, B.A.,

Director of College Counseling

cdavis@tarbut.com x 3029

Employed by TVT since 1998

Mr. Davis is a graduate of Chico State University where he majored in English. In addition, he participated in a graduate program at Concordia University, where he specialized in Curriculum Development. Since 1998 Mr. Davis has taught English in Irvine Unified School District, Anaheim Union School District, and Tarbut V'Torah Community Day School. Currently Mr. Davis serves as the college counselor for students grades 8th -11th, and coaches varsity golf Coach for TVT. Mr. Davis is an officer of NACAC where he serves as a co-chair for the National College Fair of Orange County, WACAC where he networks with college counseling professionals from around the region and nation and NCTE the National Counsel for Teachers of English.

Pam Samuels, B.A. Equivalent

Administrative Assistant

psamuels@tarbut.com x 3027

Employed by TVT since 2006

Originally from South Africa where she earned a Higher Diploma in Education for Secondary Education, the equivalent of a Bachelors of Arts degree, from the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. Ms. Samuels taught accounting, economics and business to grades 9-12 for a number of years. Ms. Samuels currently is the Counseling Assistant where she assists the counseling staff and administration and supervises all external testing – AP Exams, PSAT, SAT, ACT, and CTP4. Ms. Samuels is active on the Upper School PTSO Board, holding the position of VP Programming.

FACILITIES:

Anthony Perez

Director of Facilities

aperez@tarbut.com x 1126

Employed by TVT since 2000

Mr. Perez is a native Southern Californian, who studied business and law at Fullerton Community College before moving on to a career in banking. After ten years he made a career change, pursuing building maintenance and supervision. He trained through R&B Enterprises for whom he was an apprentice with building and plumbing contractors. Mr. Perez joined Tarbut V'Torah after earning his air-conditioning certification and has been an invaluable member of the team for ten years.

NURSE'S OFFICE:

Henia Alony

Medical Assistant & CMA

halony@tarbut.com x 1113

Employed by TVT since 2001

Nurse Henia came to TVT from UC Irvine medical center in late 2001 where she worked in Head and Neck Surgery for several years. Prior to that, she also worked at Irvine Regional Hospital in the Transitional Care Unit and pre-op. She did pre and post op care (plastic surgery and cancer surgery), and assisted the dental specialist with Prosthodontics, as well as occasionally assisting in minor surgeries and patient care in clinic. Mrs. Alony plays a very complex and critical role in the health and well-being of our students and faculty.

REGISTRAR:

Grace Rios, B.A.

Registrar

grios@tarbut.com x 3025

Employed by TVT since 2001

Grace Rios is a native Southern Californian; she received her Bachelor's of Arts in Business Administration from CSU Fullerton. Mrs. Rios is the Middle and Upper School Registrar and the Administrative Assistant to the Upper School Principal. Mrs. Rios works closely with administration, Director of College Counseling, faculty, parents, and students in all matters pertaining to records, class schedules, and transcripts.

SECURITY:

Shalom Shalev

Director of Security

sshalev@tarbut.com

Employed by TVT since 1999

Mr. Shalev has over 15 years experience in restricted access and facility security. He believes in a strong, proud and safe Jewish environment that can shape the future leaders of the Jewish people. Mr. Shalev takes his responsibility of ensuring the safety and well-being of the students and staff at TVT very seriously. He oversees the updating and implementation of the school emergency procedures, and maintains great relations with the local law enforcement agencies.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES:

Tracie Cagen, M.A.

Director of Student Support Services

tcagen@tarbut.com x 1150

Employed by TVT since 2005

After graduating with her Bachelor's degree in Psychology from University of Arizona, Ms. Cagen moved to Los Angeles to attend Loyola Marymount University where she received her Master's degree in Counseling in Education. Ms. Cagen has worked in the field of guidance counseling in education from K-12 since 1997. Ms. Cagen works with students and families in the TVT Lower School to provide education, prevention, early identification and intervention in order to help student achieve academic and social success. The social and emotional well being of our children at TVT is of critical importance and Ms. Cagen provides counseling services to children in need of extra support and guidance. In addition to her degrees, she has passed the National Counselor Exam and holds a Clear Pupil Personnel Services Credential.

Michelle Lazerson, B.A.

Director of Lower School General Studies Curriculum

mlazerson@tarbut.com x. 1120

Employed by TVT since 1993

Mrs. Lazerson earned her degree in Psychology from California State University, Fullerton and then completed her Professional Clear Credential from Chapman University. Mrs. Lazerson has taught in both public schools and private Jewish day schools, specializing in Math, Science and Computers over the past 20 years. She began her career at TVT in 1993 developing and implementing an inquiry-based Science program for grades K-8 and in 1995-1996 led TVT through its first WASC accreditation as the site coordinator. Mrs. Lazerson returned to

TVT as the Math Specialist in 2006, and in 2008 she brought her new and exciting ideas into the Lower School Curriculum Coordinator position. She recently worked in overseeing the coordination of the 2009 CAIS/WASC Accreditation.

Don Wofford, Ph.D

School Psychologist

dwofford@tarbut.com x 1154

Employed by TVT since 1996

Dr. Wofford consults with teachers in the development and implementation of classroom methods and procedures designed to facilitate learning and to overcome learning and behavior issues. As the director of the Student Success Team (SST) meetings, Dr. Wofford assists in providing recommendations for remediation or placement, direct or indirect services, and best practices and strategies to be implemented to support the child. Additionally, he acts as a liaison between the school and community agencies, as well as the private sector, including outside psychologists and physicians. He earned the degree of Doctor of Psychology in Educational Psychology from the Graduate School of Education at Alliant International University.

TECHNOLOGY OFFICE:

Eli Reuven

PC Technician

ereuven@tarbut.com x 1141

Employed by TVT since 1999

Eli Reuven received his Certificate of Specialization in military computer systems from the Israeli Air Force Technical College. He subsequently completed 14 additional months of study in the field of computer networking and electronics at the Computer Center of Signal Hill, California and is a Certified Apple Technician. Mr. Reuven serves as the PC Specialist at Tarbut V'Torah.

ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANTS AND STAFF:

Dora Akiva

Administrative Assistant

dakiva@tarbut.com x 1110

Employed by TVT since 1997

Dora Akiva has been with TVT for ten years as an administrative assistant in the Lower School. Before joining TVT, she worked in the medical supply field for 8 years. Born in Israel, Ms. Akiva speaks four languages: English, Hebrew, Farsi and Arabic.

Sheri Broussard, B.A.

Executive Assistant to the Head of School

sbroussard@tarbut.com x 3003

Employed by TVT since 2011

Sheri Broussard earned her Bachelor's Degree in Speech Communications from the University of Southern California, which inspired a career in the entertainment field as an administrator at JOZAK Television Productions on the lot of MGM Studios. Following this, Ms. Broussard moved into the field of healthcare with the Hoag Hospital Foundation. After eight years as a TVT parent, Sheri joins TVT's administrative staff as the Executive Assistant to the Head of School.

Fran Drosman, B.A.

Lower School Receptionist

elementaryreception@tarbut.com x 1100

Employed by TVT since 2007

Fran Drosman received her Bachelor's Degree from UC Los Angeles. Ms. Drosman works as a part time receptionist in the Lower School (Th/F). Prior to joining TVT in January 2007, she worked as a nutritional counselor, marketing coordinator at Heritage Pointe Retirement facility and a few other careers.

Marcia Katz

Lower School Receptionist

elementaryreception@tarbut.com x. 1100

Employed by TVT since 2008

Ms. Katz received her Associate's degree from California State University, Northridge in 1981. Her previous experience includes working as a Lead Teacher both at Temple Beth El Early Childhood Center in Aliso Viejo, and Temple Eilat in Mission Viejo. Additionally, Ms. Katz was employed as the Director of Education at Rim of the World Recreation and Park District in Rim Forest, where she was responsible for much of the curriculum and activities planning and facility management. Marcia Katz comes to TVT with fifteen years of educational experience.

Vicki Gladstone, M.S.

Upper School Receptionist

vgladstone@tarbut.com x 3001

Employed by TVT since 2002

Vicki Gladstone earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Nutritional Sciences from Northern Illinois University. Before joining TVT as the receptionist for the Middle and Upper Schools, she worked as a renal dietitian, hospital out-patient director, and Chief Clinical Dietitian. She is very active on campus, assisting administration, faculty, and PTSO with various projects.

Linda Ofsowitz

Administrative Assistant

lofsowitz@tarbut.com x 1138

Employed by TVT since 2000

Linda Ofsowitz was born and raised in South Africa and immigrated to the United States in 1982. Prior to joining TVT in 2000 as an administrative assistant in the Lower School, Ms. Ofsowitz was an administrative assistant at Beth Yeshurun Day School in Houston. She works primarily assisting the Lower School Director of Hebrew Language and Literature and Jewish Studies.

Gaby Schneider

Administrative Assistant

gschneider@tarbut.com x. 1136

Employed by TVT since 2002

Gaby Schneider was born and raised in South Africa where she worked in retail for 25 years. After immigrating to the United States in 2001, Ms. Schneider joined TVT in 2002 as Administrative Assistant to the Upper School Principal. She currently serves as Administrative Assistant in the Upper School offices.

Dora Schneiderman

Administrative Assistant

dschneiderman@tarbut.com x 1112

Employed by TVT since 1994

Dora Schneiderman was born and raised in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. She lived in Nigeria and Minnesota before settling in Orange County in 1991. Ms. Schneiderman worked initially as a bookkeeper for TVT before becoming the administrative assistant to the Principal of the Lower School.