

# The Gifts we Give. The Gifts they Gain.

Webinar: May 10, 2021  
Jewish Education Center of Cleveland

Nachama Skolnik Moskowitz  
Rabbi Stacy Schlein

In the midst of every crisis,  
lies great opportunity.

Albert Einstein





Erin Levine (she/her/s)



Nachama Skolnik Moskowitz



Stacy Schlein



R Fox



Deborah Niederman



Samantha Vinokor-Meinrath

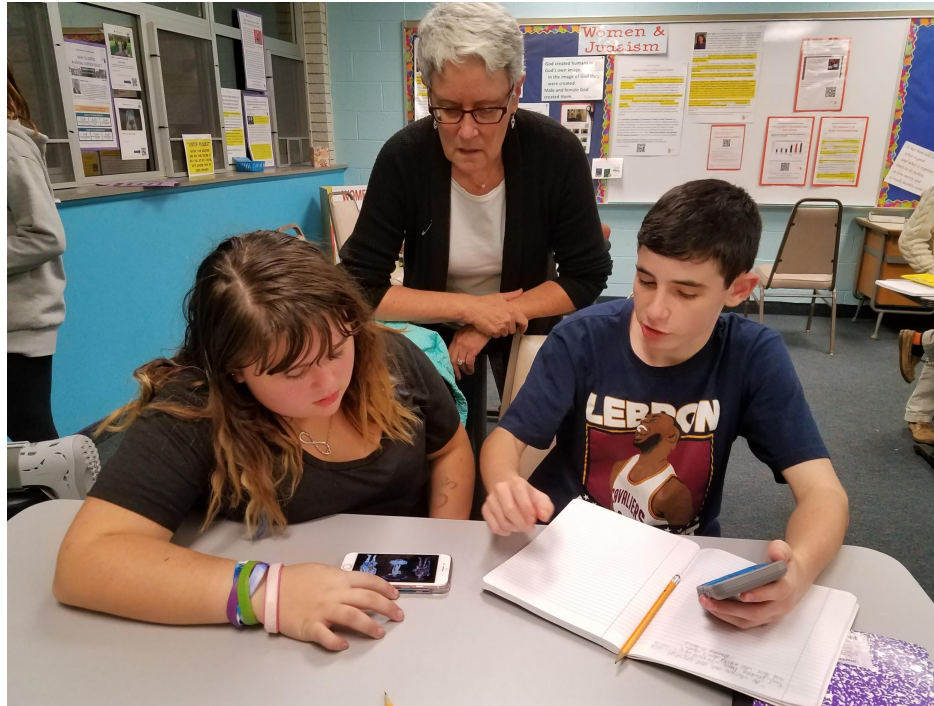


Judith Schiller

# Initial process of listening and reflecting



# Initial process of listening and reflecting



# If not now, when?

**Mindset shift** - in how we think about learning and engagement, about teachers and learners

**Framework** - in how we can scaffold and guide the learning “enterprise”

**Content** - in how we support educators to make the shift via a curriculum that supports the mindshift and builds on the Gifting Framework.

# Other Framework Examples

**VISION:** For example, “We aspire to be an innovative and engaging community for Jewish learning, spiritual growth, and the celebration of Jewish culture for all generations, in a manner that brings compassion and joy.”

**GOALS:** For example, the UAHC 10 Goals of Jewish Education

- Jews who affirm their historic bond to *Eretz Yisrael*, the “Land of Israel”
- Jews who cherish and study Hebrew, the language of the Jewish people

**OUTCOMES:** For example, the 18 x 18 Framework

Be able to identify critical issues facing American Jewry and be motivated to act on them



# The Gifting Framework



**The 3  
B's**



**The 7 Gifts**



# The Three B's

Judaism provides a path for

***becoming*** - personal growth and fulfillment as an individual

***belonging*** - in sacred community, starting with one's family and expanding to other communities, and

***behaving*** - via sacred routines, as well as hands-on work to repair the world

Through the celebration of rituals, study of our sacred texts, and connections to the Jewish community, we have the opportunity to discover - individually and in collaboration with others - meaning and purpose.

# The Seven Gifts

Within this context, Jewish learning-and-engagement has the opportunity to gift our learners Judaism's:

1. emphasis on the **uniqueness, value and blessing of each individual**
2. avenues for finding **joy, comfort and gratitude**, as well as supports for **making sense of an often times chaotic world**
3. **sense of being part of, and in reciprocal relation to, something bigger than and beyond oneself**
  - a. through the rhythms of sacred Jewish time
  - b. through unique configurations of Jewish space (within one's family, one's local community, and communities beyond)
  - c. in relation to Israel
  - d. in relation with the Divine

# The Seven Gifts

4. **richness of wisdom and memories** gathered over the millennia, manifesting as diverse but interconnected Jewish perspectives, cultures and communities.
5. **tradition of questions and questioning**, built on a foundation of the back-and-forth problem-solving discussions found on a page of Talmud or in midrashic stories, and actively engaged today through hugging and wrestling with contemporary dilemmas, challenge and complexity.
6. **empowerment of humanity**, opening the door to generating inventive and useful responses to the challenges of our time.
7. **passion for learning and growth**, especially, but not exclusively, within a Jewish context.



# The gifts we give. The gifts they gain.



→ Noah →

GIFT OF JUDAISM'S  
avenues for finding  
**joy, comfort and  
gratitude,**  
as well as supports for  
making sense of an  
**often times chaotic  
world**

# It's time to play with the Gifting Framework

Your breakout group number determines the gift you'll be working with.

Choose the content you wish to play with:

- The Lech L'cha narrative (Gen 12)
- The text: "It's not upon you to complete the work, but neither are you free to ignore it." (Pirke Avot 2:16)
- The concept of *piku-ah nefesh* (the sacred preservation of human life) using Israel's Covid-19 vaccination efforts as the example

Choose the grade/age you wish to use as your example.

# Ah, time to reflect





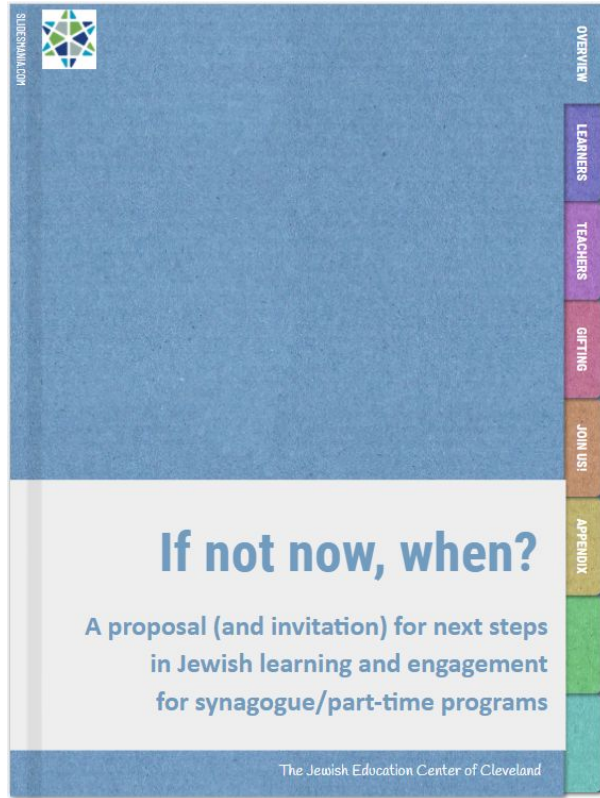
# Sooooo, if not now, when?

**Mindset shift** - in how we think about learning and engagement, about teachers and learners

**Framework** - in how we can scaffold and guide the learning “enterprise”

**Content** - in how we support educators to make the shift via a curriculum that supports the mindshift and builds on the Gifting Framework.

# And what's next - for you, for us?



Ready in early July

<https://jec-tohealthcurric.weebly.com/whats-next.html>



**YOUR feedback and questions would be  
very helpful**

Our form is super-easy:

<https://tinyurl.com/JEC-IfNotNow>