



Mrs. Alise Gold

Akiba-Schechter Jewish Day School

Hartman Family Foundation Educator of the Year

Alise Gold was inspired to become a teacher when she was a student at Ida Crown Jewish Academy. She saw how her teachers truly loved the subjects they taught and that passion and love motivated her to choose the path of education.

Alise attended Darchei Binah Seminary in Yerushaliyim and learned many teaching techniques and philosophies from her teachers there. She went on to study in Stern College for Women where she majored in Judaic Studies and then got her master's degree in Jewish education at Azrieli Graduate School. While living in New York, Alise taught at Moriah School of Englewood for three years. Since her return to Chicago, Alise has been teaching at Akiba-Schechter Jewish Day School for the past seven years. Additionally, Alise is now the Educational Director of JFE Hebrew School, the ATT's Hebrew school program in Deerfield, and helps plan curriculum, reviews lesson plans and provides guidance to teachers.

Alise's educational philosophy is that as a teacher, we teach students, not subjects. This philosophy is something that is fully supported and valued at Akiba-Schechter. Each class and lesson is meant to connect to her student's lives and allow them to learn and grow. Students are encouraged to ask questions and challenge themselves in her classroom.

Two years ago, Alise and her colleagues at Akiba-Schechter spent a year studying how to implement thematic units in the classroom. Since then, Alise has been working on integrating more thematic learning into her curriculum. Together with her colleague, Baila Brackman, she created units on the Holocaust, Ethiopian Jewry and many more in the Jewish Thought class they both teach.

Alise loves to connect to her students outside of the classroom and hosts Shabbatons in her home each year. This past year, she was fortunate to join the 8th grade on their trip to Israel. She feels that making those connections outside of school truly strengthens the relationship in school and has a great impact on the teaching and learning within the classroom.

Alise lives in West Rogers Park with her husband, Yoni, who teaches at Hillel Torah, and their four children, Ayelet, Nachi, Moshe and Noam.