Dear Friends of the ATT and the ATT schools,

This past summer, the Illinois legislature passed a historic tax credit bill that has great potential to provide serious funding for our school families and our schools. This law allows donors to make a designated donation to fund scholarships at a school or schools of their choice and to deduct 75% of that donation from their 2018 tax liability. This allows parents, grandparents and all of our community's day school supporters to give even more generously to the schools they support than before.

The reason we are sending you this email is because there are some steps that need to be taken now to allow you to utilize this credit. Here are the 4 steps in the whole process and the timeline for doing them:

- A. Create a "My Tax Illinois" account to allow you to communicate electronically with the Illinois Department of Revenue. <u>This should be done immediately</u> since it takes about 10 days for the communication of the letter codes to activate your account. The process is quite intuitive. If you need step by step instructions please, <u>click here</u>.
- B. On January 2, 2018, (at 8:00 AM) log onto your My Tax Illinois account and request authorization to donate to "Empower Illinois" the scholarship granting organization that will be serving the Jewish Day Schools. If your request for authorization is granted, you will receive a "Contribution Authorization Certificate" with a code that you will need to enter your donation. It is important to this as early as possible or you may miss your chance to receive an authorization.
- C. Once you have received your "Contribution Authorization Certificate" go to the Empower Illinois website and make your donation while designating a school or schools of your choice. You have 60 days from the issuance of the "Contribution Authorization Certificate" to make the donation or it will expire.
- D. You will receive a tax receipt from Empower Illinois. You can apply 75% of the amount of your authorized contribution as a credit against your 2018 individual tax liability. (Corporate donors have different rules; if you need information please contact us)

It is always important to consult a professional tax advisor to ascertain how this donation will impact your overall tax liability.

## WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO TAKE A SERIOUS LOOK AT THIS OPPORTUNITY TO HELP OUR COMMUNITY'S FAMILIES AND ITS EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

P.S. The Empower Illinois Website is live and is being updated as the program develops. The link is <a href="https://empowerillinois.org/donors/">https://empowerillinois.org/donors/</a> and you can sign up for updates by email as they become available.