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NEWS & VIEWS

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Hebrew College Announces Sale of Campus

As Hebrew College nears its 100th year, we continue to create opportunities for innovation, ensuring that our centennial anniversary will mark the beginning of another century of excellence in Jewish learning and leadership. In another transformative transaction in the College's distinguished history, our Board of Trustees finalized an agreement to sell the College's Newton Centre campus. The agreement allows Hebrew College to remain in its current location for several years under favorable terms.

"Hebrew College is uniquely positioned as a leader in pluralistic Jewish education, and we are committed to meeting our learning community's evolving needs with responsibility and creativity," said President Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld. "This transaction lays a strong foundation for future growth, and we are tremendously excited for the opportunities that lie ahead."

Andy Offit, Chair of the Board of Trustees, commented, "In addition to reducing operating costs, this transaction will allow Hebrew College to be debt-free for the first time since the move to this campus more than 17 years ago. This will afford us the ability to rededicate precious resources to expanding our educational programs and investing in the people who truly make Hebrew College what it is."

The College's leaders determined that the sale is a smart strategic decision that will allow for greater investment in critical areas that advance the College's mission even further. Highlights of the transaction include:

- The College will be debt-free upon completion of the transaction
- The transaction provides an opportunity to invest in people and programs, and assures the College's sustainability
- The agreement allows Hebrew College to remain in its current location for several years, under favorable terms

"This is an important step in assuring the fiscal stability of Hebrew College as a vibrant partner in supporting the Jewish future of our community," said Rabbi Marc Baker, President and CEO of CJP. "The resources gained through the sale will help support our collective pursuit of a highly engaged and educated Jewish community."

As always, we value the involvement and support of Hebrew College's students, alumni, staff, friends and community partners. Together, we look forward to continuing to strengthen the College as a premier center of pluralistic Jewish education and leadership.

[Read Board Chair Andy Offit's letter](#)



Posts from this [Hebrew College-hosted blog](#) are published weekly in [Patheos](#).

Chasing Compromise

Parashat Shoftim (Deuteronomy 16:18-21:9)

By Rabbi Jane Kanarek
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“Imma, you’re not being fair!” complains my eldest son as he fights with his middle brother over who gets to choose stickers first. “Imma,” says my middle son, “you *always* let him choose first!” “Work it out!” interjects their father. “I want them first,” chimes in the youngest. It is a classic parental dilemma: do I make the judgment about who gets the stickers first or do I wait and let them argue until they compromise? Should I be the judge or should I be the mediator?

The Torah portion *Shoftim* commands Israel to establish judges and magistrates wherever they should live. The Talmud, as is its way, explicates the details of judging. How many judges are necessary to render a verdict? How do we account for and protect against the bias of judges? What are the criteria by which we appoint judges? How do we ensure that judges are just? Yet judging is not the only way that the Talmud imagines resolving conflicts between disputants. It also imagines mediation as a technique for conflict resolution...

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