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Dr. Susie Tanchel joins Hebrew College as Vice President for Community Education

NEWTON, MA — Dr. Susie Tanchel, a dynamic educational Jewish leader with three decades of experience at mission-driven pluralistic institutions, has joined Hebrew College as Vice President of Community Education, overseeing adult and teen learning programs, interfaith programming, and professional development for rabbis and educators. Dr. Tanchel comes to Hebrew College from [Boston's Jewish Community Day School \(JCDS\)](#), where she served as head of school from 2011 through 2020.

“Susie is an accomplished and deeply beloved educator who guided JCDS to preeminence as a national model of excellence in pluralistic Jewish education,” said Hebrew College President Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld. “She is an inspiring, compassionate leader and educator with a tremendous wealth of experience and vision. As the College approaches its Centennial year, we are poised to significantly deepen and broaden our impact on Jewish life in Greater Boston and around the country. It’s a very dynamic time for us, with more and more people inspired by the unique blend of Jewish literacy and creativity we are nurturing among future leaders and learners of all ages. I feel privileged to partner with Susie in carrying forward this vital work.”

In her new role, Dr. Tanchel will help to create a renewed vision for community and interfaith learning in Greater Boston, as well as professional development for rabbis and Jewish educators around the country. Her appointment comes out of a College-wide strategic planning process that began in 2018 to streamline Hebrew College’s internal structure, strengthen partnerships, and identify opportunities for greater communal impact.

Originally from Cape Town, South Africa, where she attended Jewish day school, Dr. Tanchel moved to Boston in 1988 to attend Brandeis University, where she received her undergraduate and graduate degrees. She has worked in K-12 pluralistic Jewish education for more than 25 years, including at [Prozdor](#), Hebrew College’s high school program; as a founding faculty member and associate head of school at [Gann Academy](#); and most recently as Head at JCDS. Throughout her career she has also taught a variety of adult education classes and was a recipient of the 2018 Covenant Award for Jewish Educators.

“Hebrew College’s mission inspires me deeply. I am honored to be a part of enacting this sacred mission,” Dr. Tanchel said. “I love that Hebrew College is committed both to digging deeply into the study of Judaism, Jewish texts, and Jewish education, and to connecting with all who want to learn. The main focus of my career to this point has been in day school education, and I am thrilled to be expanding my own learning about the diversity and richness of our local and national Jewish communities, and to help provide opportunities for community members and professionals to learn and to grow. I feel blessed to be a part of another pluralistic institution that embodies joyful Jewish learning and am looking forward to exploring how Hebrew College can play an even larger role in Jewish life in Greater Boston and beyond.”

About Hebrew College: Hebrew College is a Boston-area institution of Jewish learning and leadership that offers community learning programs for all ages and stages within a pluralistic environment of open inquiry, depth, creativity, and compassion, as well as graduate programs in rabbinical, cantorial, education and Jewish studies. For more information, please visit www.hebrewcollege.edu.