

JDS For All

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The Need

Jewish Day School graduates are significantly more likely to date and marry Jews, participate in Jewish rituals, join synagogues, support Israel, and see being Jewish as important.

Unfortunately, most Jewish children will never experience those benefits. There are over 1 million Jewish school-age students in the US. Only 225,000 of them - or 22% - attend Jewish day school. If we exclude the Orthodox community, the numbers are far lower. There are 740,000 non-Orthodox Jewish school-age children in the US, and fewer than 40,000 students in non-Orthodox Jewish day schools. This means that **or every non-Orthodox student benefitting from a Jewish day school, there are 19 who are not.**

The Challenge

Although we think of Jewish day schools as premier Jewish learning institutions, Jewish day schools aren't just about Jewish learning - they're a package that comes fully loaded with a full general studies program, full Judaic studies program, extracurriculars, and a tight-knit Jewish social group. And quite an expensive package at that.

The vast majority of Jewish families are not opting into the complete Jewish day school package. And in response, we - the Jewish day school community - are saying "sorry, Jewish day school is all or nothing." **There are two choices: Jewish day school, or nothing. And nothing is clearly winning.**

The Solution

JDS for All brings the richness, rigor, and inspiration of a Jewish day school education to students spending the majority of their day in public schools, private schools, or home schools. Each afternoon, these students head to the local Jewish day school for 6-8

hours per week of high-quality Jewish learning with full-time professional Jewish day school educators and content-rich curricula. In addition to deepening their Jewish knowledge and identity, they are connected to a network of other committed Jewish students and their families **in an institution whose entire purpose is providing children with a strong Jewish education.**

In addition to generating much needed income for the school, this model will create opportunities for Jewish children and families of many stripes to study together, socialize together, and learn from each other under the warm umbrella of the Jewish day school. Jewish day school communities will become larger, more diverse, and more representative of the broader Jewish community than ever before.