



# THE DRS STAR



A DRS Publication Written By The Students For The Students

700 Ibsen Street, Woodmere, NY 11598



A good time was had by all at DRS's annual Purim Mesiba. R-L: Rabbi Weberman and Rabbi Farber sported their Purim spirit.

## A Fun Time Had By All at DRS Purim Chagiga

By Yehuda Posner

On Motzei Shabbat, March 15th, Jewish people around the world began celebrating the festive holiday of Purim. On that night, DRS held its annual Purim Chagiga. Students were encouraged to come dressed in Olympic-themed costumes to celebrate this joyous holiday together with their Rebbeim, teachers and friends. Following Megilla reading, everyone was invited to the gym for amazing food and singing and dancing, led by Neshama Orchestra. On Purim night, DRS honored thirty boys who finished learning Masechta Megilla after 60

days of optional learning. At the end of the party, DRS showed its great Purim shpiel, with hilarious videos made by the DRS seniors.

The DRS Purim Chagiga "is most important for modeling and instilling appropriate Simchat Hachag to our students," said Rabbi Kaminetsky, the menahel of DRS. The annual DRS Purim Chagiga shows one of the true qualities of DRS, achdut (unity). It is awe inspiring to see everyone gather together to celebrate such a joyous occasion as Purim.

## HALB Wins Number Six School Vote

By Yitzchak Carroll

NOTE: Simone Development unsuccessfully bid \$12 million for the building in 2013, as opposed to the "\$12" erroneously reported.

The residents of the Lawrence School District approved the sale of the currently vacant Number Six School to the Hebrew Academy of Long Beach (HALB) by an overwhelming majority during the March 31 referendum. "By any measure, the public has spoken with a very clear and convincing voice," said HALB Board President Mr. Lance Hirt, in a statement emailed to the entire HALB family. "We are truly grateful to be in this position and we are enthusiastic about the new chapter that our school is now able to embark upon," he added.

Voters approved the \$8.5 million sale, which includes a stipulation of \$2.7 million if the

district does not save more than approximately \$566,000 annually in transportation and special services costs. "The sale of the Number Six School will result in a significant savings for the district, and by maintaining its use as a school, it continues to enhance the community," Lawrence Superintendent Gary Schall told the Long Island Herald.

The deal, which needs approval from the Town of Hempstead, would move the elementary school to the property. Renovations are expected to be completed within two years, HALB officials said in an email. "This is an amazing opportunity and we look forward to working with all of you in creating a new home for our elementary school," Mr. Hirt said.

## Is Six Really the Magic Number?

By JARED WILLNER

In DRS, the students have a difficult life. With the school day ending at 6 p.m., the students have little time for homework and other activities. Along with the hours, the students must put up with Sunday school, making a hard five day school week even longer. Is having six days of school and ending at 6 p.m. really necessary? Is six really the magic number for a good education?

Ending the school day at 6 p.m. is definitely not necessary to keep up the good grades being earned by the students of DRS.

Many other Jewish day schools fit their double curriculum into a shorter day. Even just a short change from 6 p.m. to 5:50 p.m. would definitely reduce the stress level of the students. To achieve this goal is simple, and has already been accomplished with the Thursday club schedule. By simply taking a mere 60 seconds from each class, the students would be able to leave school and get home before the sky turns completely dark.

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## Articles

### TECHNOLOGY CORNER :

#### Drones

By DAVID HERMAN

Since the Wright brothers invented the plane, the pilots have always flown in the plane. For a while, it never really occurred to the world that the planes could actually be flown without an actual person inside the plane. Not until Israel invented the first ever Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle (UCAV), better known as the drone. The drone is a new type of plane that doesn't need any humans in it, only a few expert pilots flying it in the background. The drones that are used are usually armed, and therefore can be used to cause immense damage.



The idea of a drone has been used for as long as 40 years now, when the Israelis invented it. Israel used its drones on a few occasions, such as the Yom Kippur war in 1973, and the Lebanon War, in 1982. In more recent times the USA are using them to help fight the War on Terror. Currently, more than 25

different countries are using the drone.

But what do these countries gain from using drones? Why not just use regular fighter jets with the pilots actually in them? The reason is because it's safer for the soldiers (and because of the money, as well). With regular fighter jets, if

the plane gets shot down, there might be casualties. For example, nearly 45,000 pilots died in World War II from being shot down. However, with the drones, the pilots will never be in danger. They will be safely piloting the plane in the military headquarters. Also, because of this new technology, there is no need for any equipment a pilot would need, such as the cockpit or the flight controls. This makes the plane much lighter, faster, and cheaper.

The drone really is a great invention. With it, the Israelis kept their independence and the Americans are battling terrorism, and winning. There are no human casualties, and it is more effective than a fighter plane. One day, they might even put an end to terrorism.

### Senior Perspective

By ANONYMOUS SENIOR(s)

As I look around after 4 years at this school, a chorus of mixed emotions rushes through me. Most of these emotions can be understood; I am sad that I will miss this place with all of the great memories and friends that I have made. I am relieved that some of the pressures of school will be over and I can use my year in Israel to learn about myself in a stress-free environment. But one emotion stands out stronger than any other that is associated with my 12th grade experience: confusion. My confusion stems from a very disturbing trend that occurs in many institutions, but is especially troublesome in ours. For some reason, homework, attendance, classroom participation, and overall effort, which were staples of my 9th through 11th grade years, mysteriously disappeared in the senior year. There is a serious increase in classroom apathy and many seniors have stopped caring entirely and have resorted to

killing class time by disrupting or distracting others with laptop games. This is something that must be fixed as it is a serious threat to the future of the seniors, teachers and students in younger grades who look to the seniors as role models.

I am sure that what I am saying isn't new to anyone. There is a colloquial term for it known as "senioritis." Personally, I object to using this term because it puts too much blame on the students themselves. Granted, they are not blameless in the situation, but I feel that they get a bad rap for the lack of productivity. In the end, it is the school's job to make the learning something that the students want to do. Now, basic human psychology dictates that people respond to incentives. If the students have incentives to learn, then they will be motivated and will be more inclined to learn. The school has a responsibility to provide these incentives. *(Continued on Page 5)*

### Bats Blog: 2014 MLB Awards

By EYTAN ARYEH

The 2014 MLB season is finally underway, and that means the awards are back! Miguel Cabrera won the AL MVP award last year fairly easily, but this year will be different. The 'Millville Meteor,' Mike Trout, will have another outstanding year and be a top candidate for the AL MVP once again. Robinson Cano, on his new team, will also be a threat to Cabrera. Cano had a great year last season, batting .314 with 27 homers and 107 RBIs, and shows that he can do it again this spring with an average of .417. However, even with all of these threats, Cabrera is too dominant and will walk off with his third consecutive AL MVP title.

Paul Goldschmidt has the best chance to win this year's NL MVP. He had 9 RBIs in the spring and is showing a lot of potential for the 2014 season. Andrew McCutchen can have another one of his MVP seasons, but it will be tough. He had a .317 average with 28 steals and 21 home runs. Buster Posey can also be a threat, but he will have to have another one of his 2012-like seasons with his

.336 average to win this year's NL MVP.

This year's AL CY Young race will be a tight one. Max Scherzer, last year's winner, has a big contract to live up to and will probably be a distraction for him, but he can't be counted out. Clay Buchholz is an early favorite for this award. He had a shaky spring, but should be able to come on strong in the regular season. However, Yu Darvish will walk away this November with the CY Young Award if he gets his run support to help him win 20 plus games.

The NL CY Young race shouldn't be too close, either. Clayton Kershaw is too dominant of a pitcher to lose. His fastball clocks at an average of 94 mph and his curveball alone struck out 80 batters last year. The only other contender is Stephen Strasburg. The only way Strasburg can win this award will be if he pitches like he did in 2012.

The 2014 season will be a very interesting one. There are plenty of big contracts that players need to live up to, and there are many young stars that can steal awards.

## The Star Columns

### Editorial Roundup

By YITZCHAK CARROLL

A student lounge on the non-existent third floor, a slurpee machine, and monthly chesed trips were just some of the promises that candidates for the 2014 Student Council elections made to secure votes for themselves. While these reforms would be great if implemented, they will never happen in the near future. It is important to remain honest in all of one's endeavors, no matter how big or small. It would be nice, however, if the school expanded the role of the student council and had them act as representatives of the students.

As a private school in New York State, DRS has to option not to administer Regents examinations to the more than 300 students in all four grades. While in the past, Regents were a good metric to evaluate student performance against other schools throughout the state, at this point, with the Education Department changing up the exams and implementing the Common Core curriculum, it is time for DRS to back out and cease administering Regents, starting in the 2014-15 school year. Other local institutions, including the Great Neck-based North Shore Hebrew Academy, as well the Lawrence-Woodmere Academy, have realized that the implementation of the Common Core will do more harm than good. It is time to end the administration of Regents at DRS before the Common Core curriculum is completely implemented.

It was a tad disappointing to see the course selection offerings for the 2014-2015 school year in early March. While they were definitely challenging, it would have been nice to see some career-based options as well. Perhaps students could intern at a local business, become certified Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs), or take career-oriented business classes, as opposed to liberal arts course and APs. Doing so will prepare the leaders of tomorrow to succeed in this complex world.

### Students Enjoy DRS Lunches

By MATAN BAUMAN

DRS offers an array of vendors, from which we can get lunch from on Mondays through Thursdays. Each vendor brings something tasty and enjoyable for the students to enjoy for their lunch. On Monday, students can get pizza from David's Famous Pizza. On Tuesdays, students can get from Carlos and Gabby's. Wednesdays are either Wok Tov or Traditions. And Thursday lunches are provided by Stop, Chop and Roll. Additionally, every day, students can buy sushi, snacks, or drinks from the Stop, Chop and Roll table in the back of the lunchroom, or can use the drink and snack machines in the cafeteria.

I went around the school, asking students about their favorite and least favorite days to get lunch. The survey consisted of three questions. The first question was, "What is your favorite lunch?" The second was, "What is your least favorite lunch?" And the third was, "If DRS would change vendors, which restaurant would you want them to bring in from?"

Regarding question #1, 41% of students prefer Tuesday lunch, 27% prefer Thursday lunch, 18% prefer Wednesday lunch, and 14% prefer Monday lunch.

For question #2, 41% of students do not prefer Wednesday lunch, 27% don't prefer Thursday lunch, 23% don't prefer Monday lunch, and 9% don't prefer Tuesday lunch.

Chosen Island, Holy Schnitzel, Dougies, and Sunflower Café were the four most popular choices for new vendors DRS could bring into the school.

DRS lunches are a great aspect of the school. Almost every student gets at least one day of lunches. Hopefully, the lunches at DRS will continue to be as great as ever!

### Wildcats Repeat Championship Victory

By ZACH LOWINGER

Coming into the season, the DRS Wildcats looked to repeat what they did last year, to win the championship. They started off the year without giving up a point on defense through the first 4 games, and finished the regular season with a very respectable 7-1 record.

Then came the playoffs. In the first round, they were faced with a difficult matchup against the Lawrence-based Rambam Ravens. DRS started off with a bang when quarterback Moshe Keller threw a sharp pass to Johnny Silber for the first touchdown of the game. The rest of the game was a breeze, as coach Yitz Mendlowitz cleared the bench. "The team was very good in the semis and got the win," Mendlowitz said.

But later that day, in the championship, the Wildcats were again faced with a difficult matchup with the only team they lost to in the regular season, the MAY Eagles. The game started off slowly with

MAY going up 6-0. During halftime, "Coach Yitz" gave a very inspiring speech. The game started with the MAY Eagles starting off with the ball. The DRS defense was unstoppable with 4 interceptions on the first 4 drives. The offense took it from there, with Moshe Keller throwing for 2 touchdowns and running it in for one more. "In the championship game, we started off slow and allowed them to get on the board early," Mendlowitz stated. "[In] the second half, we came out with heart and determination and blew 'em out with 3 straight scores and big interceptions by the defense," he added.

Congratulations to the DRS Wildcats on the championship, and hopefully they will make it a 3-peat next year! SEE pictures on page four.

-Ruvie Sturm contributed reporting.

## Articles

### Is Six Really the Magic Number?

By JARED WILLNER

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In addition to the long hours, the students have school on Sunday. Many people argue that Sunday school is not a big deal, because it ends at noon and is only Gemara shiur. But having Sundays off allows the students to sleep in to recuperate from the long hours, and to have a separation from one week to the next. Sunday school also makes life harder for those parents who do not live locally in the Five Towns. These parents have to arrange carpools and drive their kids to and from school for a short day, where minimal learning actually takes place.

So are these long hours and the extra day really worth it? I think that the extra time spent on Sundays is wasted and can be put to better use. Instead of spending the time in school, students should relax a little. Taking the day off is not a waste, but is necessary to survive the stresses of high school.

### DRS Sports Photos

#### Varsity Hockey Ends Season in OT Defeat, Football Wins Championship

Photos by Ruvie Sturm and Yoni Guttenmacher/Star



## Articles

### Fantasy Corner: The Booms and Busts

By BARUCH WEISSMAN

The Fantasy Baseball season is in full swing (no pun intended) and there have been many surprising performances, both good and bad, in the early weeks of the young season.

We'll start with the good. In just 9 games, Brandon Belt has 5 home runs and a hot .325 average. He's been a great surprise to fantasy owners so far this season. Mark Trumbo has also supplied his owners with some power, hitting 5 home runs of his own. Jose Fernandez has been tearing up his opponents, getting 17 strikeouts and 2 wins in his first 2 games, while sporting an absurd 0.71 ERA and a 0.79 WHIP. Yovani Gallardo has also been on fire, pitching 12.2 scoreless innings while picking up 7 strikeouts and 2 wins in his first 2 starts.

Now for the bad. Edwin Encarnación has been a huge disappointment for owners so far, hitting a freezing .182, with no home runs, and recording just 1 stolen base. Prince Fielder has also been disappointing so far this season, as he's hitting just .162 with no home runs. As for the pitchers, Jered Weaver, Jim Johnson, and Joe Nathan have all been awful in the first few weeks of the season. Weaver is 0-2 with a 6.00 ERA in just 2 starts. Jim Johnson has blown 2 saves and has an 18.90 ERA and a 4.50 WHIP in just 3.1 innings. Joe Nathan owns a 12.27 ERA and a 2.73 WHIP in 3.2 innings pitched, and it seems like his end may be near.

The waiver wire has been very generous in the beginning of the season. Charlie Blackmon, Angel Pagan, and Melky Cabrera have all been amazing in the early stages of the season, and have granted their owners an amazing source of power and high batting average. Dee Gordon and Ben Revere have both been a great source of steals, as well as a high batting average. Yordano Ventura, the 22 year-old pitcher on the Royals, has been bringing the heat this season. In his debut, he lit up the Rays for 6 strikeouts in 6 shutout innings, while giving up just 2 hits and no walks. He lit up the radar gun, too, as he consistently hit over 100 mph with his fastball. Fantasy Baseball is back, and this year is bound to be as fun and exciting a year as any other.

### Senior Perspective

By ANONYMOUS SENIOR(S)

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Otherwise, who can blame the students for not wanting to do something they deem pointless? In grades 9-11, the school does not need to supply these incentives, as most students in our school are trying to get into college, so that is enough to motivate them to try their hardest. But the school relies on the college incentive as a crutch and is therefore not in a position to incentivize learning once students reach 12th grade, at which point they have already gotten into college and their grades no longer matter. There is an extremely slim chance that colleges will withdraw acceptance, but that is not nearly enough of a draw to encourage full effort. It should be noted that the school does exempt seniors who have an average of 90 or above, but most students who meet this requirement are motivated students anyway.

On the other hand, if the students are not being handed incentives, there are plenty that they can realize for themselves. The most basic is the accumulation of useful information. While some will roll their eyes and wonder how the material they are learning is useful, it is a fact that most ways of earning money come from information asymmetry (a term used to describe when someone pays someone else for information). For example, whenever one sells a house, they use a realtor, even though it would be cheaper to sell it themselves.

This is because the realtor has information that the seller doesn't (such as market value, potential buyers, etc.) and can make money off of that information. This shows that in the modern market, information truly is power, and smart students will try to maximize the amount of information they receive regardless of how relevant it may seem. There is another benefit to having a productive senior year. Most students in this school go to Israel after high school, before going to college. If one goofs off during their senior year, then there will be a two-year gap in between meaningful educational experiences. The time it takes to readjust will be severely detrimental to the student. Academic success in college means a lot more than it does in high school, so it is not smart to risk one's future success by taking it easy in their senior year.

In conclusion, senior year should not be taken as a joke. If a joint effort between the administration and students is undertaken to help make the senior year worthwhile, then the students can have a productive, yet rewarding, final year.

### Freshman Reflections

By JONATHAN CRANE

Upon first entering DRS, it seemed like any other school, but after spending almost an entire year here, the freshmen feel that DRS is something more. It is a school filled with achdut, spirituality and fun. It isn't only about classes and academics; there are also teams and clubs. From the debate team to the cooking club, color war to shabbatons and trips – these are all examples of the little things that DRS does to make our school experience better. This year was a great year where everyone settled into a high school atmosphere, and had a lot of fun both in and out of the classroom. We have done so much already this year, from having our own inter-shiur competitions, to winning the JV basketball championship. One freshman said, "I truly feel that I grew and made a lot of new friends." "It was the best 8 months of my life so far," said another. I wish everyone good luck in sophomore year!

## Articles

### Should Women Be Banned From DRS Home Games?

By JEREMY LICHTER and DAVID ITZKOWITZ

**JL:** Being a part of the “skirt league,” men are banned from attending games at SKA. While there are many parents who are happy with this rule due to religious preferences, a majority of parents find this rule upsetting. What makes a parent most proud is to see their children play on a team that he or she worked hard to make. The ability to watch these games brings both pleasure and enjoyment. It is frustrating when a parent is prohibited to attend one of these games. While there is a great possibility that complaints have been made, there is not much anyone can do about this rule.

The problem of men attending games at SKA is the fact that men should not see women playing sports or dressed in inappropriate attire. While this is the case for girls, it is a completely different story with boys. According to the Torah, there should be no problem of both men and women attending sports games that involve just men. The boys are dressed appropriately and it would be a shame to not allow mothers with kids on the team to come to the game. For as long as DRS has been established, there have been no problems allowing both parents join in the action of the game, and it should continue to stay that way.

**DI:** This question has been posed many times and many people have different opinions, but the overwhelming majority says yes. The question then is as to why we allow women to attend games in an all-boys school. First, we have to look at why people say they shouldn't be allowed to attend. The main reason, as said before, is because we are an all boys school, women should not be allowed to attend games.. The other reason for them possibly not coming is because we are an all-boys school so no girls should be at the games. So then, how about the family that has cousins that want to come, or sisters? Of course, you'll say family is allowed, but honestly, how close are you with your ‘third cousins twice removed’? Probably not that much. So in conclusion, I believe that girls should be allowed to come, and in fact it's better for them to come than to be banned from games.

### Threats from Bennett

By JOSEPH SULTAN

JERUSALEM – Bayit Yehudi Leader Naftali Bennett threatened Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu that if there would be a release of Arab terrorists, he would resign from the government, and will even remove his entire party from the coalition in this case.

Reports last week have shown that similar threats have been issued earlier, but only quietly. As Bennett saw that the deal was becoming more serious, he felt it was necessary to make a public threat.

Just a few days ago, Bennett was caught off guard, publicly encouraging the building and settling in ‘Area C’ of Judea and Samaria, which the Israelis claim is their land, while Palestinians believe it belongs to them.

Deputy Foreign Minister Zeev Elkin agrees with Bennett. He says that agreeing to such a deal can cause much tension, and can also lead to a government shutdown

"Returning to the deal would project weakness and give the Palestinians a reward for their stubbornness," Elkon said. "It would result in them attacking Israel even more. We cannot turn the other cheek when they spit at us in the face. Surrendering to Palestinian hostility has only brought upon us disaster."

### School Policy: Class During Lunch – A Rabbinic Violation?

By BRIAN CHERNIGOFF

In Pirkei Avot (Ethics of our Forefathers), it states, “If there is no flour, there is no Torah.” If one does not nourish himself properly in a physical sense, he will not be able to study Torah. Currently, there is an unacceptable practice occurring in DRS that is contrary to this popular saying of the Rabbis. It is administering class during lunch. I believe that this policy is not right and therefore must be abolished.

In a report from 2000, the United States Department of Agriculture recommended that students be given at least twenty minutes to eat lunch. I believe that the reason that this was recommended is because when students work through lunch, not only do they not have 100 percent concentration on the class scheduled during lunch, but it also ruins their focus on the rest of their classes of that day. “I think that class during lunch should be banned because kids cannot focus while eating,” said sophomore Benjamin Pleshty, a strong advocate for abolition of this rule. “One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well,” said Virginia Woolf, a twentieth century female British writer. It seems that eating a proper lunch in a stress-free environment is a

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**DRS Star Humor Column****By NOACH LEVY**

Congratulations to the DRS Star on a successful year!! Now, at the beginning of the year, I asked for people to submit jokes to me. Unfortunately, there wasn't enough room for me to include suggested jokes with the regular stuff, so this issue will be dedicated to those who submitted jokes!! (Note: I will be doing this for future years as well). Unfortunately, only one group submitted jokes, and that was the AP Chemistry class, and a lot of them looked something like this:

**"Young blood mud trees to the tree mandrake, asks plenty good for planting. Then Harry told boy things have great measure such as meter coulombs having joined blood mud coins. Things go awry standing in field beanstalk talking tiger Tigger pooh. Half tried man blood mud goes odor wing. Deep depths fiery fires water hole magenta? How does he do that!!?"**

Can you understand this? I can't. I'm not even sure if it's Earthian. What do they do in AP Chemistry? Do we even want to know? I'm not making this up; I literally copy and pasted this "joke." Anyway, they did have some good jokes, such as the following:

Joke:

**Jim's car is swerving all over the road so a cop pulls him over.**

**"Step out of the car" says the cop, "I am going to need you to take a breathalyzer test."**

**"I can't", Jim responds, "You see I have very bad asthma, that can set off an attack."**

**"Alright," says the cop, "then you're going to have to take a blood test."**

**"Can't do that either," Jim responds, "I am a hemophiliac. If a wound is opened, I won't stop bleeding and I could bleed to death."**

**"Ok," the cop answers, "then I will need a urine sample."**

**"Sorry," says Jim "I also have diabetes, that could push my sugar count really low."**

**"Fine, so just come on out, and walk a straight line for me."**

**"Can't do that either" responds Jim.**

**"Why not?," demanded the exasperated cop.**

**"Well, because I'm drunk!"**

A round of applause to the AP Chemistry class! They sure are putting their iPads to good use! Lastly, one final joke of my own: What do the students always get a week before the teachers? The Wifi password!!

**Wi-Fi Issue In DRS****By Simcha Sommer, Web Editor**

For the first time in DRS history, we were told we would be allowed to have Wi-Fi in school. Since then there has been much controversy and insanity about the Wi-Fi throughout the building. It started with "DRS\_Student" and "DRS\_Guest." It then stemmed to "DRS\_Admin," "DRS\_Student2" and "DRS\_Student5." We have finally come to a thrilling conclusion at the end of the year, with a simple, "DRS\_Admin2." But why do we have this whole controversy? Why did this all get so out of hand?

The administration says that the Wi-Fi is a distraction to students and takes them away from learning. They also say that the reason that the Wi-Fi cannot be given to the students, is because so many people are on the Wi-Fi network simultaneously and that slows the network down to a crawl, so the teachers and administrators are unable to do work. But if that is so, then instead of looking to kick the students off the network, they should look into alternate ways to create a network or fix the network so it can hold everyone at the same time. One way is to buy more bandwidth (in basic terms, the amount of internet there is) for the school. The school has more than enough money for various things, including the over \$8.5 MILLION dollar purchase of the number six school, why can't they just purchase more bandwidth, which is clearly, not quite \$8 million dollars!? A few months ago, DRS Star Editor in Chief Yitzchak Carroll, wrote an editorial for the weekly online edition of the DRS Star about the Wi-Fi, titled very appropriately, "Stop the Wifi Games of Cat and Mouse – Wifi Issues Irk Students." In this editorial, he wrote, "While Wifi and the internet in general are not conducive to learning, and are a distraction from academics, students need an outlet from their studies. Regardless of how many times the school switches networks and passwords, students will eventually find out the new network and password... Eventually, this cycle of changing networks and passwords will repeat itself, as it has done in the past, and will not lead to anything productive. This game of cat and mouse needs to end."

In a recent press release, President Obama said himself, "In a country where we expect free WiFi with our coffee, we should definitely demand it in our schools." Then why is our school attempting to lock us out? The President went on to say that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) would give a \$2 billion "down payment" to expand internet access throughout the country. He said this would allow 20 million students in 15,000 schools to be able to access the internet. He furthermore noted that many big "tech" companies were offering support in making Wi-Fi more available throughout the country. He highlighted Apple, who offered \$50 million worth of equipment to disadvantaged schools, and Sprint, who offered free Wi-Fi for as many as 50,000 low income high school students. If the President of the United States thinks "In a country where we expect free WiFi with our coffee, we should definitely demand it in our schools," why do our school administrators think they know better?

**School Policy: Class During Lunch – A Rabbinic Violation?**

By **BRIAN CHERNIGOFF**

necessity to one’s health. “Better to eat a dry crust of bread with peace of mind than have a banquet in a house full of troubles (Proverbs 17:1).” This was written by King Solomon, the wisest man ever, who suggests that we should have meals with peace of mind. How could we be so brazen so as not to heed his words?

Lunch is not only a time when students eat their lunch and give their minds a little while to recharge their batteries after a long morning, but it is also a time to socialize and hang out with one’s friends. With the long school day, students often have little time to hang out and speak with one another. Therefore, it is necessary that students have a lunch period to get to know their friends better and form unbreakable bonds with them.

I believe that the practice of administering class during lunch is damaging to students’ health and overall welfare, and therefore must be discontinued. According to one medieval sage (Ritva), commenting on the Talmud (Keritut), the prohibition of causing unnecessary harm to a living creature

also applies to humans. One can deduce from this that causing another human to have less nutrition is a form of harm and is prohibited. Therefore, allowing a class to take place during lunch would take away a person’s nutrition and would be a violation of causing pain to a living creature. How could this practice be allowed?

Even though this custom has been prevalent for many years, it is still not right. I believe that the time has come for DRS students to demand their rights back and demand that this rule of class during lunch be repealed. It is time that we get *liberté, égalité* and *fraternité*! (French for ‘liberty, equality and fraternity’).

**The DRS Star**

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