

APPLAUSE

for CJC's Unsung Heroes



"One who is engaged with the needs of the community is likened to one who engages in the words of Torah-both are meritorious and bring blessing."

--Jerusalem Talmud

Flynn Lesko's honest, quiet, thoughtful, intelligent demeanor goes with him wherever he goes. His willingness to share his journey through a transphobic world has been filled with maturity way beyond his years. His patience with those around him endears us to him. It is not a surprise that Flynn will be attending UMBC on a merit scholarship in the fall. Wherever he finds himself, he will be one of the shining lights.

From CJCS Educational Director - Jerry Kiewe

I am confident that all of you will go on to achieve great things in your lives ... and know that you have ALREADY accomplished a great deal. You have contributed, in particular, to our school, to our students and you have thereby enriched the Jewish community. I hereby publicly acknowledge you and offer thanks for your years of service.

For the past two years **Sam Levine** served as a classroom assistant for Pre-K, Kindergarten and 1st grade students. He oversaw group work, helped to chaperone field trips, and helped students with individual needs. Sam even arrived early to help teachers carry in supplies. Outside of the classroom, Sam helped operate "Snack Shack." This past fall, he assisted a student with learning and emotional challenges in need of one-on-one tutoring in order to learn to successfully read and learn Hebrew. Sam was also an active member in B'nai B'rith Youth Organization (BBYO). Sam is an exemplary young man and we are proud to know that he is headed for the US Naval Academy.

When he first became a Student Aide in 2016, **Robby Taylor** expressed a desire to work one-on-one with students in our Resource Room and he's been embedded there ever since. It was always clear from watching his interaction with other students that he has a way of making them feel at ease; he shows that he cares and he is incredibly patient. From setting up a sound system to directing traffic, moving tables and distributing text books, prayer books, kippot and more,,,Robby delivered! We know that he will prove to be an asset to whomever has the good sense to work with him.

Mark Thomsen is quite possibly the most unassuming Student Aide that CJCS has ever had. He is extremely reliable and his attendance is excellent. Mark is present with no fanfare and no fuss. He would arrive, take care of matters in his classroom, and often depart quietly. Mark is insightful, a diligent worker and very respectful. We are honored to have him continue with CJCS post Bar Mitzvah and look forward to more success in his future.