



Anshai Torah
Director of Lifelong Learning
Dallas, TX Area



Background

Congregation Anshai Torah is a thriving 550-member congregation affiliated with USCJ. Celebrating its 25th year in 2023, the congregation has been fortunate to attract a steady flow of young families since its inception in 1998. Today, blessed with a strong demographic in each of the three generations, the congregation continues to envision a bright future, punctuated by its emphasis on youth. Guided by the principles of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, Anshai Torah welcomes Jews of the widest possible demographic categories, young and young at heart, men and women, single and married, with children and without children, traditionally observant and less observant.

With more than 275 children enrolled in its schools, the congregation looks forward to welcoming a new Director of Lifelong Learning. The position focuses attention on our Religious School and Hebrew High while acknowledging the educational needs of all three generations. (Kindergarten through second grade meets weekly for three hours; third through sixth grade meets for five hours; and seventh through twelfth grade meets for two hours each week). In addition to accepting responsibility for guiding the Religious School, the Director of Lifelong Learning will play an integral role in maintaining the adult education program and assist with the implementation of various holiday programs throughout the year. Should the candidate be a rabbi or a cantor, we look forward to expanding the scope of responsibility- providing opportunities for the candidate to develop his/her areas of strength and personal fulfillment, including pulpit presence if so desired. Candidates with a music background are encouraged to apply.

The congregation is committed to providing its children with the best opportunity to strengthen their Jewish identity, instill a sense of Jewish pride, inspire their intellectual curiosity, and ensure they develop the skills needed to engage in a fulfilling and meaningful Jewish life as adults -- all communicated with a sense of joy in being Jewish.

Dedicated to providing our children with an informal Jewish education program that enhances the formal Jewish education they receive in the classroom, the congregation is actively developing its youth programming--Halutzim, Kadima, and USY-- and the new Director of Lifelong Learning will oversee the Youth Director who facilitates these programs. Committed to year-round education, the congregation encourages its youth to attend Jewish summer camp and visit Israel. Additionally, the congregation's thriving pre-school provides a constant source of future growth.

Position

The Director of Lifelong Learning will report directly to Rabbi Michael Kushnick. Both he and Stefan Weinberg, Senior Rabbi of the congregation, are integrally involved with the education program at the synagogue. The congregation prides itself on their relationships



with each member of the staff at Anshai Torah and looks forward to enriching its leadership team with the addition of another individual who is passionate about his/her Judaism.

The Director of Lifelong Learning at Anshai Torah will be expected to be an exemplary leader for its education staff. S/he will articulate a vision for the school and implement new ideas while working with the professional staff, teachers, and lay leaders. The Director of Lifelong Learning will engage a strong parent body and interface regularly with them.

The school and shul are poised for new leadership in education and look forward to welcoming a new director who has the passion, vision, and skillset to ensure that the program reaches the next level.

Role Priorities

1. **Update Curriculum**
 - a. Modernize pedagogy
 - b. Spearhead innovation
 - c. Provide more hands-on learning opportunities
2. **Support and Nurture Teachers**
 - a. Develop relationships with teachers and utilize their strengths to benefit the students and the school
 - b. Support classroom management
 - c. Support lesson planning
3. **Foster a Community of Engagement**
 - a. Religious School should be engaging for the students, and allow them the opportunity to connect with other Jewish kids
 - b. Support special programming
 - c. Enhance Hebrew High program which creates a path to keep post-B'nai Mitzvah students engaged
4. **Oversee Education related Communications**

Responsibilities

1. **Oversee and support all aspects of Religious School (175 students)**
 - Enhance the vision for the school that will reflect the Jewish values upon which the curriculum is premised -- Hebrew, Tefillah, Tanakh, Holidays, Traditions/Practices, and Ethics
 - Review current curriculum, enhance/change where appropriate, introduce innovative ideas and practices to heighten learning experiences
 - Maintain a high level of communication with staff and parent body

- Supervise and support teachers, providing timely and professional feedback and maintain regular staff meetings with on-going staff development
 - Actively engage parent body to work with director
 - Oversee the budget, working closely with the congregation's Executive Director
 - Utilize administrative assistant to ensure files, class rosters, etc. remain current
 - Support annual fundraising campaign
 - Coordinate various school functions during the year that focus on Shabbat and Holidays
 - Continue to enrich and promote a Special Needs Initiative for our education program
2. Oversee and support Hebrew High School (55 students)
 - Create engaging programming to maintain and grow participation of teenagers
 - Oversee the education-themed trips that support the curriculum of the Hebrew High program
 3. Oversee a robust Adult Education Program and develop programs to attract new learners
 4. Coordination of all educational programs
 - Integrate various youth activities -- Religious School, Day School, Youth groups, and Hebrew High programs
 - Assume role as dynamic spokesperson for education department
 - Reflect Jewish values as a role model for students and parents
 - Collaborate with the Preschool Director to ensure the next stage of learning for our youngest members
 - Organize Shabbat and Holiday Programming (with clergy) that will enhance the formal education of Religious and Day School students, providing opportunities for these two cohorts to interface and integrate with each other. Collaborate with our rabbinic staff on organizing congregation Hanukah and Purim programming.

Qualifications

The ideal candidate has experience leading a school or has the leadership skills necessary to be a dynamic leader. The Director of Lifelong Learning will be a person who looks forward to being a role model for the congregation's children and their parents. The new Director of Lifelong Learning will be welcomed onto the leadership team and become a vital part of the team that guides the synagogue.

The successful candidate will:



- Be a warm and welcoming leader who loves children and can create a nurturing environment
- Have a love of Judaism and model the joy of Shabbat and Hagim
- Have experience in Jewish Education, preferably in a leadership role
- Have experience with curriculum development
- Be proficient in the Hebrew language
- Education/Training may include Master of Jewish Education, Rabbi, or Cantor
- An individual with a musical background and the ability to lead services, preferred

Candidates who are passionate, motivated, energetic, committed, organized, kind and relatable are encouraged to apply!

Compensation

The salary for this position is \$110,000-\$140,000 commensurate with experience. Benefits include healthcare, 20 days paid time off, pre-school tuition discount, religious school discount, free synagogue membership and attendance at all programming (inclusive of family), professional dues allowance, convention allowance, and membership with the Joint Retirement Board for Conservative Judaism (403(b) retirement savings plan).

This position description is based upon material provided by Congregation Anshai Torah an equal opportunity employer.

To apply for this position, please click [HERE](#).

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