



March 15 2016 / 5 Adar II 5776

Dear Parents and Students:

This year **Purim** will take place on **Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>** with the Fast of Esther taking place on Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

As a Jewish High School, we want to promote pride and joy in Jewish life. Together with a student Jewish Life Committee, we have designed a fun, festive and meaningful morning on March 24<sup>th</sup>. In the morning, our students will be able to fulfill all of the mitzvot of Purim.

Attendance at school for Purim, as on any other school day, is mandatory and our regular absence policy is in effect.

Additionally, we are concluding our morning with a very special Purim *Seudah*, a joyous meal, which is one of the mitzvot of Purim. We will be joined by over 20 Holocaust survivors for this event and are ordering food for the entire high school.

Over the years our students and teachers have developed some wonderful customs to enhance the joy of this holiday in the school and this year we look forward to a memorable day.

The activities for our high school will include:

1. A costume contest (Wear a costume - get a dress down pass)
2. Purim *Shpiel* (The Jew News with Dana Lipson)
3. A carnival - including Dunk Tank, Snow Cone machine and other activities with the PTO providing Humantashen to add to the festive mood
4. An optional traditional Megillah reading (dress down pass and donuts for those in attendance) to begin the day, in partnership with our parent minyan; students who do not attend should be at school by 9am
5. Anti-BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) - Israel products *Mishloach Manot* (sending gifts to our friends); see below for details
6. Opportunities to give gifts to the poor (*Matanot L'evyonim*)
7. Festive Meal with local Holocaust survivors (Schwarma, Lafa, salad, hummus, chips, tahini)

—continued—

We encourage all of our students to come in a costume. Purim costumes need not be limited to the Purim figures; they can be homemade and should be as creative as possible, while remaining appropriate. Roller blades, skateboards, and any like sporting gear will not be permitted for safety reasons.

\*\*\*\*\* **IMPORTANT** \*\*\*\*\* **Israel Products only!** \*\*\*\*\*

We will be giving ready-to-eat gifts to our friends called **Mishloach Manot** and will be preparing them after tefillah. This year as a campaign against BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions aimed at the State of Israel) we will be preparing a special “*Klee*” (vessel or dish) that can be displayed in a prominent place in your home and/or office, which should be filled with **Israeli products only**. The students will use Israeli products to fill this ‘*Klee*’ to be used for Mishloach Manot.

A donation of \$1 for the ‘Dunk Tank’ will be given to the needy in our community as *Matanot L’evyonim*, and will be distributed on Purim day.

Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to making Purim a joyous day at RHS and ensuring that your student will be celebrating with us in our RHS community. **For the schedule of the day, please reference the next page.**

**Please note that Purim day is a half day (12:30) dismissal.**

*Chag Purim Sameach!*

Sincerely,

Rabbi Marshall Lesack  
Principal

Rabbi Baruch Plotkin  
Rabbi-in-Residence



# Purim Event Schedule

## March 24th



Time	Event	Location
<b>7:45 – 8:45 am</b> In partnership with our Parent Minyan	<b>Tefila with Megillah Reading (optional)</b> Costume contest and grogger contest	<b>USDA</b>
<b>9:00 – 9:45 am</b>	<b>Mishloach Manot</b> – Assembly of gifts and donations to the poor. <u>Israel products only! - Anti - BDS</u>	<b>Room 130</b>
<b>10:00 – 11:00 am</b>	<b>Carnival</b> – Dunk tank, Bounce House, Cotton Candy, music, video games, humantashen	<b>High School Building</b>
<b>11:00-12:15</b>	<b>Festive Seudah (meal)</b> with Holocaust Survivors plus Purim Shpiel	<b>Sandler Center</b>
<b>12:30</b>	<b>Dismissal</b>	