

From the Head of School ~

Dr. David Portnoy

Dear Yavneh Family,

I am so proud to report that our students have successfully completed a rigorous battery of academic exams in Math, English, Science, History and Hebrew during the past week, preparing them well for the rigor of college exams (as many of our alumni have told us over the years). All of this would not have been possible without the healthy exam snacks provided by our wonderful PTO moms and dads. What a great way to support our students during this challenging and stressful week!



I would be remiss if I didn't share, in a little more detail than last week, how extraordinary our Hanukkah celebrations were this year at Yavneh. With special thanks to Rabbi Tannenbaum for recruiting two of the most talented Jewish song leaders today, Happy and Eric (yes, those are their real names ;o), our Hanukkah singing and dancing seemed to lift the roof on our Beit Midrash just a little higher than usual. In short, in the words many students, "It was just awesome!" And another smilingly asked me, "What kind of school gets to do this?!"



The warmth and happiness of celebrating Hanukkah together was sweetened by the fact that our Mock Trial team also hosted visitors from Lubbock HS, who make an annual trip to DFW and visit with us at Yavneh each year. It is a great early-season opportunity for our student-lawyers, and also a time to share our Jewish day school experience with non-Jews who come with respect, questions and friendship. Special thanks to Mock Trial coaches Warren Abrams and Rick Cohen, and to "Judge" Chad Davis (Yavneh Class of 2005, current attorney and proud Yavneh Mock Trial alumnus) for their leadership of this important program.

Our students and teachers all deserve a winter break, which I hope will be filled with health, happiness and quality time together.

On behalf of all of us at Yavneh, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for your support and kindness all through the year.

Shabbat Shalom, and best wishes for 2016,

Dr. P

