

June 2, 2015

Dear members of the RJC community:

We know many of you have read the recent article in *The New York Times* regarding Rabbi Rosenblatt. We wanted to reach out to give you some background on the situation and tell you about the steps the Board is taking related to this matter.

The full Board met for several hours last night and had a robust dialogue, allowing all points of view to be expressed. We recognize that there are strong feelings about the situation and the appropriate steps the congregation should take going forward. We want to assure you the Board agreed upon a process that includes gathering more information and giving careful consideration to our options in the best interest of the community.

Separately, Rabbi Rosenblatt has informed us that he is planning to send his own communication to the congregation.

As you know, Rabbi Rosenblatt is a highly respected member of the community who has given decades of devoted service to the Riverdale Jewish Center and its members. That said, we take any allegations of impropriety very seriously. Years ago, when RJC leadership heard rumors about the Rabbi's alleged interactions surrounding athletic activities, the details were assessed and no evidence of misconduct was found. In order to avoid even the appearance of impropriety as to such activities, in the 2011 time frame the Rabbinical Council of America issued explicit guidelines regarding participation in athletic activities by clergy. The RJC has followed those guidelines.

It bears emphasis that as far as we are aware, Rabbi Rosenblatt has fully complied with the guidelines, and there is nothing in *The New York Times* article that indicates otherwise. Significantly, if we ever saw evidence to the contrary, we would of course take appropriate measures.

Please be assured the Board is paying close attention to this matter and giving careful consideration to our options. We have another Board meeting currently scheduled for next Monday night, and will keep you updated on the process.

Respectfully,

Executive Committee

Riverdale Jewish Center