

# Previous School Challenge Grantees & Models Developed

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**We are grateful for the innovative vision and commitment to educational excellence in Judaic Studies we witnessed while working with these partners over the past five years.**

**App Smashing Jewish Texts** developed by Stars of Israel Academy: Rabbi Yehudah Schwartzberg and Rabbi Baruch Gottesman, 2016

*This model integrates more than 100 apps to increase effectiveness of Talmud education.*

**The Binah School's Digital Access Project** developed by The Binah School: Rabbi Mordechai Rackover and Rina Hoffman, 2014

*This school created a wiki-type index of Torah-based websites for teaching students about access to, and appropriate use of, online Judaic resources and for helping them make guided, values-based choices about appropriate and inappropriate content.*

**The Torah Textbook Project** developed by The Hillel Day School [now Katz Hillel Day School]: Rabbi Mordechai Smolarcik, 2013

*This model reconceptualizes Gemara curriculum by presenting the material to students in the form of an iPad textbook, which allowed for interactive activities such as videos and created electronic assessments and data gathering. This model also promoted differentiation and individualized instruction for students with different learning styles and ability.*

**The "LeHaVa" Project [now LaHaV]** developed by Shalhevet: Dr. Noam Weissman and Rabbi David Stein, 2013

*This curricular approach emphasizes traditional skill building, language acquisition, and conceptual analysis to prepare students for lifelong engagement with Jewish learning. The approach asks students to apply these lessons to contemporary issues, leading students to live rich, meaningful, and informed Jewish lives involving serious and sustained engagement with Torah learning.*

**Encounters with God** developed by JEIC HaKaveret Design Team Members: Amy Meltzer and Sharon Freundel, 2017

*Through this model, teachers become more comfortable within their own spirituality and therefore more adept at expressing it. This helps them become better at introducing spiritual concepts and encourages thoughtful and open conversations in class.*

**Identity Builders** developed by JEIC HaKaveret Design Team Members: Dr. Jen Glazer and Rabbi Shmuel Feld, 2017

*This model empowers educators to help students define who they are, shifting the focus of the classroom from accepted predetermined truths to a growth mindset, which uses sources to develop identity that is informed by our sacred texts and traditions.*

**You can elevate Jewish learning in your day school by implementing innovative educational models. Contact Sharon Freundel, Managing Director, at**

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