

## ABSTRACT

The Mission of Tikun Olam Hebrew Language Charter High School is to prepare students to become academically excellent and culturally sensitive members of our complex society. Focusing on academic excellence and social/emotional well-being, the school will provide students with a rigorous academic education, immersed in the Hebrew Language and Israeli culture, while engaging them in meaningful service learning. Educators, families, and community members will work together to create a comprehensive educational program that will graduate young citizens prepared to be leaders in their chosen pursuits.

The Vision and Practice of Tikun Olam Hebrew Language Charter High School is to serve a diverse student body with an integrated academic curriculum. Tikun Olam means “repairing the world” or “perfecting the world.” Students will share a culture of service as they learn that they are responsible for others just as they are for themselves. As Sharon Akman, our lead founder believes, *The giver shall be the receiver*. Tikun Olam Hebrew Language Charter High School will be a learning community that extends far beyond the school walls.

Tikun Olam will serve a Region of Residence that encompasses the New Jersey communities of New Brunswick, Edison Township, and Highland Park. This area is a perfect location for the school, owing to its thriving communities of ethnicities and faiths, as well as its proximity to Rutgers University, the state’s premier institution of higher learning, which is centered in New Brunswick. Tikun Olam will open with grades nine and ten, increasing by one grade per year until it reaches full capacity of grades nine through twelve. Any child in the target area who is eligible under the laws of New Jersey for admission to a public school will be admitted, on a space-available basis. The school will comply with all applicable anti-discrimination laws governing public schools, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and New Jersey Education Law. New students will be admitted each year without regard to prior measures of achievement or aptitude, athletic ability, mental or physical disability, ethnicity, race, creed, gender, national origin, religion, or ancestry.

Students will attain proficiency in the New Jersey Core Curricula Content Standards (NJCCCS), while learning the Hebrew language. Tikun Olam instruction will be differentiated and individualized based on each student’s needs. Tikun Olam will teach all of its students modern Hebrew using a partial immersion approach, in which language education students learn through formal language instruction, as well as language infusion into daily school activities. In order to fully develop and execute its education plan, Tikun Olam is applying for a CSP Grant for planning, program design, and initial implementation of the school. Among other activities, these funds will allow the school to find and hire a lead person, train board members, provide professional development for educational staff, establish a financial management system, develop operational policies and procedures, and hire a part time Outreach Coordinator to ensure the diversity of student population envisioned by the founders.

Tikun Olam Hebrew Language Charter High School’s founding organization is the Friends of Tikun Olam, located at 45 N 8<sup>th</sup> Ave, Highland Park, NJ 08904. The lead founder and contact is Sharon Akman—telephone: 732-572-6741; e-mail address: shoshy@raritanavenue.com.