

Breindy Miller

Joan Dachs Bais Yaakov Elementary School

Hartman Family Foundation Educator of the Year Awardee

Breindy Miller considers teaching a privilege and feels blessed to be in the classroom every day. Over the past 13 years, a highlight of her teaching career has been empowering students to be successful in the classroom and beyond. In addition to teaching, Breindy loves learning and is constantly expanding her repertoire of teaching strategies. After attending *Machon Bnos Yehudah* Teachers Seminary, she participated in a four year course on differentiated instruction, joined a professional learning community and is most currently enrolled in the Jewish New Teacher Project (JNTP). It is especially meaningful to Breindy that she teaches in both her alma maters - Joan Dachs Bais Yaakov, as a 3rd grade *kodesh* educator since 2008, and at Bais Yaakov High School of Chicago where she teaches literature and public speaking.

One reason that Breindy is so passionate about teaching is because she wholeheartedly believes in contributing her skills and time to benefit the community. While teaching part time, she worked for 10 years as the special projects manager for Agudath Israel of Illinois. During that time, she coordinated the accreditation process for Jewish camps and collaborated with *Maot Chitim of Greater Chicago* on the *Yom Tov* food distribution. She also created a framework for and implemented a daily meal program benefitting 15 Jewish camps and day schools.

Breindy aims to instill *Torah* values and inspire a lifelong love for learning by providing her students with the tools they need to be successful both in and out of the classroom. Her teaching philosophy is grounded in the idea of teaching the whole child – socially, emotionally, spiritually, and academically – in an environment that is positive, safe and respectful.

Breindy expresses gratitude to the Hartman Family for acknowledging the contributions that teachers make to our community and is most grateful to the ATT for enabling teachers to offer Chicago's Jewish students the best educational experience possible.