

Sari Kravitt

Hillel Torah North Suburban Day School

Hartman Family Foundation Educator of the Year Awardee

Sari Kravitt grew up in Buffalo Grove and upon graduating from Stevenson High School, she attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and received her bachelor's degree in psychology. It was clear to Sari that she wanted to work with children, so she attended graduate school at National Louis University and received her master's degree in elementary education.

Sari taught 2nd grade at Hillel Torah in 2010, and since then, Sari has taught 2nd, 4th, and 7th grade at the school. Working at Hillel Torah has provided Sari with exciting and interesting growth opportunities beyond teaching children in the classroom.

Sari has developed and facilitated a *Responsive Classroom* professional development demonstration at an ATT's Teachers Conference Day. She is the acting PTA liaison between the Hillel Torah staff and its parent body, member of Hillel Torah's *Museum of Science and Industry* team, school supplies coordinator, and HT *Fun Run* coordinator.

Sari is also a proud graduate of the Jewish New Teachers Program where she mentored new teachers at HT as part of a two-year program. She was accepted into the *Legacy Heritage Teacher Leader Fellowship* at Brandeis University and is expecting to complete this program by 2022. Sari participated in the *National Assessment of Educational Progress Achievement Level Setting* as a panelist helping to develop standards and benchmarks for 4th grade writing.

Sari credits her amazing Hillel Torah colleagues for helping her become the teacher she is today and will continue to be in the future. Sari's teammates have been mentors and collaborators along the way always pushing her to think outside of the box to make each lesson thoughtful, child-centered, and engaging. They have been supportive in the work environment and in her personal life, becoming not just colleagues but friends.

Family plays an important role in Sari's life, continuously encouraging and supporting her to be the best and most well-rounded, caring and devoted educator that she can be. Sari's husband Joshua, is her #1 cheerleader and supporter of her teaching career, as well as being a familiar face at Hillel Torah. Sari and Josh are proud parents of a seven-month-old baby boy named Austin and a two-year-old golden retriever named George.