

School Engagement Leaders: An Overview

Position Overview

The Indianapolis Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) is launching the School Engagement Leaders Network to strengthen advocacy, build meaningful relationships, and support Jewish students and families across a range of school communities. The network will serve public school districts including Carmel, Westfield, Noblesville, Zionsville, Pike and Washington Townships, as well as private schools such as Park Tudor, Brebeuf, University High School, Sycamore, Orchard, and others.

As antisemitism continues to rise in schools and communities across the country, we've heard a clear message from local families: more must be done. This initiative is a direct response to that call. We need your voice, your presence, and your partnership to ensure Jewish students feel safe, supported, and empowered in their school environments.

We are seeking passionate and committed volunteers to serve as School Engagement Leaders in their children's schools. These leaders will act as trusted liaisons between the JCRC, school administrators, and local Jewish families—ensuring concerns are addressed, resources are shared, and Jewish identity is respected. This role is rooted in relationship-building, cultural advocacy, and a belief that all students deserve a school environment that affirms who they are.

Key Responsibilities

- Serve as the primary point of contact between Jewish parents in your school community and the JCRC.
- Build and maintain relationships with school administrators, counselors, and educators to promote open communication and cultural understanding.
- Foster a sense of Jewish identity, inclusion, and pride within your school by encouraging respectful engagement and advocating for inclusive practices.
- Support Jewish families in navigating school-related challenges, especially those involving bias, discrimination, or religious accommodations.
- Share timely information and resources from the JCRC with school staff and families, including talking points, educational materials, and draft communications.
- Alert the JCRC to emerging concerns and collaborate on appropriate, effective responses.
- Participate in periodic virtual or in-person check-ins and training sessions.

Qualifications

- Parent, guardian, or primary caregiver of a Jewish student enrolled in a public or private K-12 school in Greater Indianapolis or Carmel.
- Ability to engage respectfully across diverse stakeholders.
- Commitment to fostering inclusive learning environments and strengthening Jewish identity in schools.
- Willingness to dedicate approximately 1-2 hours per month during the academic year.

How to Apply

If you're ready to make a difference in your school community, contact David Sklar at dsklar@indyjcrc.org or visit www.indyjcrc.org/parent-support/ to learn more and complete a brief interest form.

We deeply appreciate your willingness to help build stronger relationships and foster more inclusive, supportive school communities for Jewish students. Now is the time to get involved. Join us in this urgent and important work.

