



# Ottawa Jewish Community School

*Established in 1949 as Hillel Academy*

## **HEAD OF SCHOOL – Ottawa Jewish Community School**

### ***THE SCHOOL:***

In 1949, a group of visionary Ottawa parents founded Hillel Academy to meet the growing need for a pluralistic Hebrew day school. Guided by Rabbi Baruch Kravetz, the school quickly became a cornerstone of Jewish life in the city. Rooted in core Jewish values—Tzedakah, Tikkun Olam, heritage, and a love of Israel—Hillel offered a high-quality trilingual education (English, French, Hebrew) that empowered students to thrive.

After moving through several locations, the school found its permanent home in the 1980s at 31 Nadolny Sachs Pvt., now part of the Ottawa Jewish Community Campus. In 2009, the school was renamed the Ottawa Jewish Community School (OJCS), continuing its legacy of excellence and community leadership.

With 193 students enrolled in 2024–2025, diverse and inclusive, OJCS remains a vibrant reflection of the community it serves. Learn more at [www.theojcs.ca](http://www.theojcs.ca)

### ***OJCS Mission***

The Ottawa Jewish Community School is an all-day, trilingual elementary school that aims to develop academic and personal excellence in its students in an inclusive, caring and pluralistic environment that is based on Jewish religion, culture and values. The School's mission is summarized in the OJCS' community themes:

***Respect. Responsibility. Reaching for Excellence.***

### ***OJCS Philosophy***

The OJCS is rooted in the belief that children are naturally open to growth, learning, and reason. Our students thrive in a nurturing environment where they develop both intellectually and spiritually, actively shaping their Jewish identities and deepening their connection to Israel.



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OJCS embraces diverse learning styles, using differentiated instruction and inquiry-based methods to spark curiosity, critical thinking, creativity, and reflection. Students are recognized not just for academic achievement, but for their compassion, understanding, and lifelong love of learning.

With a flexible curriculum in both Jewish and General Studies, OJCS offers a wide range of academic, cultural, and extracurricular opportunities. A strong sense of community enhances educational experience, as parents, professionals, and community leaders regularly contribute—reading with students, leading workshops, sharing expertise, and volunteering in school life.

## ***THE OPPORTUNITY:***

OJCS seeks a visionary leader who is both an accomplished educator and institution builder. The Head of School will be charged with upholding the highest standards in Jewish, French, and General Studies, while fostering a dynamic, inclusive learning environment. They will also play a central role in engaging the broader community and shaping the school's future priorities and growth. This position requires a passionate and decisive leader with strong administrative, mentoring, and planning skills. The ideal candidate will embody the school's values and effectively translate its mission into actionable strategies and impactful programming.

As a key figure in the Ottawa Jewish community, the Head of School will develop strong relationships with local institutions, serve as OJCS's ambassador to the community and stakeholders, and work closely with the Board to guide long-term vision and strategy. The Head will also advocate for Jewish day school education and promote an environment that respects and welcomes students from all streams of Judaism, encouraging open dialogue, mutual respect, and inclusivity.



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## KEY QUALIFICATIONS:

The ideal candidate will have the following attributes:

- Deep understanding of and commitment to **Jewish values, history, and practice**.
- Proven **leader in education** and organizational management within complex, multi-stakeholder environments.
- **Strategic and tactical decision-maker** with a respectful, assertive presence among staff, parents, and students.
- **Persuasive communicator** able to articulate vision and values to diverse constituencies, including faculty, board, parents, and donors.
- **Business-minded** with experience in developing and implementing a sustainable operational model.
- Committed to **academic excellence** in both Judaic and secular studies; dedicated to teacher growth and performance.
- **Visionary thinker** with a big-picture mindset and creative, results-oriented problem-solving skills.
- Hebrew and French language skills are a plus.

## Ottawa Jewish Life

Ottawa's Jewish community—15,000 strong—is vibrant, diverse, and deeply connected. Nearly one-third of the population is under 25, and there's a strong presence of both young families and baby boomers. The community is building what it calls a "Jewish Superhighway"—a broad network of meaningful, inclusive Jewish experiences where everyone has a place.

Jewish life in Ottawa is welcoming, affordable, and full of opportunity. The city offers kosher food, 12 synagogues across all major denominations, Jewish schools, and a thriving Jewish Community Centre (JCC). OJCS is located on the Jewish Community Campus which also includes the JCC, Hillel Lodge (a long-term senior's care facility), Tamir (for adults with development disabilities) and much more—offering cradle-to-senior services and programs that support Jewish life at every stage.



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## ***Ottawa: Canada's Capital City***

Ottawa is a cosmopolitan capital with small-city warmth. With a population of over one million, it blends history, culture, and natural beauty in a uniquely livable environment. The economy is anchored by government and tech, offering stable, high-quality employment opportunities.

Residents enjoy four seasons of activity—from world-class museums and festivals to biking trails, ski hills, and the iconic Rideau canal. Multicultural globally connected, Ottawa boasts diverse dining, vibrant neighborhoods, and excellent public services. It's a city where international flair meets Canadian charm—and where families can thrive.

***A detailed position profile is available upon request.***

***Siegel Executive Search Solutions Inc., member of the Executive Search Alliance, is advising Ottawa Jewish Community School on the basis of an exclusive consulting assignment. Interested applicants may explore this opportunity in confidence by submitting a resume to [kerry.siegel@execsearchalliance.com](mailto:kerry.siegel@execsearchalliance.com) not later than August 29, 2025.***

The publication of this advertisement is neither an assurance that an applicant will be hired, nor that the position will be held open for any specific period of time in the event that a suitable candidate for the position is identified at an earlier date.

*We thank all applicants for their interest but only those who are considered for an interview will be contacted.*