



May 2026

Dear Middle School Teachers and Principals,

We are pleased to confirm the participation of your students:

in our exciting educational program, IsraelNow Cleveland, taking place **March 21-30, 2027**

This program is a week-long, hands-on Jewish educational experience designed specifically for eighth graders. Students who attend this program make a serious commitment of their time and focus. The intense trip itinerary includes visits to sites of biblical, medieval, and modern Israeli history. Students will also learn about Israel's absorption of immigrants from many different parts of the world, as well as its technological and agricultural innovations. They will be exposed to a new language and to Israel's diverse culture and will meet with Israeli peers who will share details on daily life in the Middle East.

Many parents have reported how pleased they are that the trip has had such a profound and transformative effect on their children. We are confident that this year's experience will be just as impactful.

We hope you will view your student's participation in IsraelNow Cleveland a legitimate school absence. Please note that due to the intense daily schedule, students will have extremely limited time for assignments during the trip. *You may want to encourage projects such as reports, presentations, scrapbooks, or picture albums to be shared with fellow students.* In addition to their first-hand experiences, we supply supplemental educational material to support such projects and we would love to **work together with you to think about a Post trip project that could work with Student's curriculum at school.**

If you have any questions, please contact us at rlawton@akivacleveland.org You can also find additional information on our website at IsraelNowTrip.org.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rachel Lawton
IsraelNow Cleveland Coordinator
rlawton@akivacleveland.org

Amnon Ophir
Director, @Akiva
aophir@jecc.org



26500 Shaker Boulevard | Cleveland, Ohio 44122 | 216.367.1388 | akivacleveland.org

@akiva is a division of the Jewish Education Center of Cleveland and a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland

