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SPECIAL ISSUE!

The Minneapolis Jewish Day School accepts a major financial gift and kicks off its second quarter-century with a new name

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION
FOR THE FRIENDS OF THE
AMOS AND CELIA HEILICHER
MINNEAPOLIS JEWISH DAY SCHOOL

Amos and Celia Heilicher * 
MINNEAPOLIS JEWISH DAY SCHOOL

A Partner Agency of
 **MINNEAPOLIS JEWISH
FEDERATION**
we build community



A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

Debra Glassman, Board President

As current president of the Board of Trustees, an MJDS parent, and a member of the Minneapolis Jewish community, I am thrilled that Amos Heilicher, along with his family, continues to share our passion for Jewish education that is so vitally important for our children and grandchildren. His generous contribution clearly articulates a vote of confidence for all that the school provides for our community. His confidence in the leadership and teachers of the school, the Board's careful oversight, and adherence to our mission are so greatly appreciated.

On Tuesday June 24, 2008, the MJDS Board of Trustees voted unanimously to accept Mr. Heilicher's gift and to change the name of the school. At the opening of the 2008-2009 school year we will proudly be known as the Amos and Celia Heilicher Minneapolis Jewish Day School.

For the past few years, the board has focused much of our attention on the growth of the school. While always keeping a keen eye on the quality of the education and the warmth of the environment, we have also been keeping watch on the degree to which the learning spaces have

filled with students. The space demands have exceeded our capacity. The opportunity to plan for an enhanced and expanded school has now become a reality.

We are truly honored to share the Amos and Celia Heilicher family name with our school.

The Board of Trustees has also recently affirmed our mission (with some minor changes) and adopted a vision statement. They are shared below.

B'shalom,

MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

The Amos and Celia Heilicher Minneapolis Jewish Day School provides a strong academic foundation in general and Jewish studies in an environment in which students feel positive about themselves and others. The Day School is committed to academic excellence and the pursuit of learning as a lifelong venture. The school reflects and teaches respect for the diversity of Jewish life. We challenge our students to exemplify the values of Judaism and of American democratic principles.

Our vision is built on a strong synergy between students and faculty. Our educators inspire our students to find their passion and reach their highest potential. Graduates of the Day School will be recognized as successful learners and leaders committed to the Jewish community and the global society throughout their lives.



BRICKS AND MORTAR SECURE A FOUNDATION FOR OUR VALUES

Ray Levi, Head of School

A wall of Amos Heilicher's conference room is lined with his father's library. It includes volumes of German poetry from the nineteenth century, books in Hebrew—some dating back to study in Israel during the Ottoman period—and a collection of Judaica in English. Amos Heilicher's successes in business and as a philanthropist in the Minneapolis Jewish community have been guided by the values of his father, a teacher who answered an ad from the Talmud Torah after he arrived in America in 1914. Those values resonate for us at the Day School—prizing intellectual curiosity, immersion in both Jewish knowledge and the culture of our country, and love of Israel and the Hebrew language.

We are deeply honored by Amos Heilicher's decision to make a substantial gift to the School. We are appreciative of the confidence in our mission that this gift reflects, one that will result in our taking a new name—**The Amos and Celia Heilicher Minneapolis Jewish Day School**.

The Heilichers have a long history of support of Jewish education in Minneapolis, honoring both the commitment and vision of Amos' father. This gift will truly

serve as a capstone to the family's multi-generational involvement with Jewish education while providing tangible support for future generations of students in our community. We are humbled by the responsibility which this generosity reflects as we are asked to perpetuate the values of providing quality Jewish education and active involvement in the life of the community.

Amos Heilicher has asked that his gift be used for “bricks and mortar” when the Day School makes a significant capital expansion. This gift could not come at a more important moment for us—as we look to accommodate our growing enrollment, as we plan the curriculum to meet student needs in the 21st century, and as our Board looks to what will sustain us as a healthy and thriving educational institution in the coming years.

This gift will provide an incredible foundation for conversations with other supporters of day school education in the community. It begins to place our dreams of an expanded building and our plans for a significant endowment within reach.

In addition to our appreciation for Amos Heilicher's generosity, we are incredibly indebted to

his daughter Lisa Heilicher who has been active at the Day School for many years and was a *Ner Tamid* Award recipient at the 2006 Annual Benefit. She is a past member of the Board and the architect of programming to reach out to grandparents of our students. Her dedication to Jewish organizations in the Twin Cities, reflected in countless hours of community service, models the values and engagement that are a part of our vision.

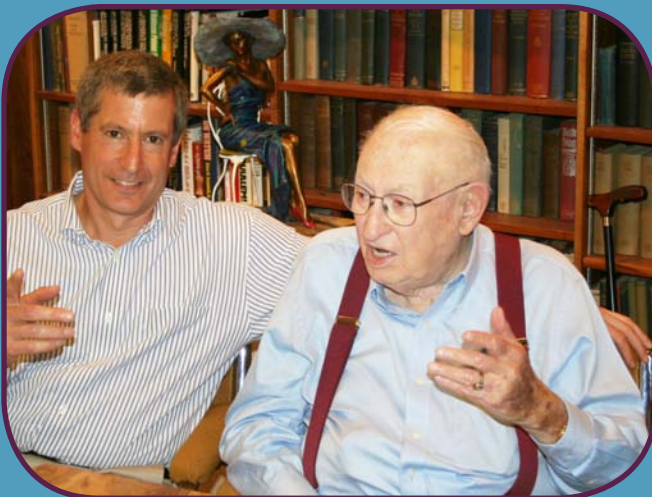
We are indebted as well to Jerry Ribnick, past Board President and Honorary Board member, who has been mentored by Amos Heilicher and who, as a devoted friend, made this important connection.

When our current building was constructed, we learned that its architecture could support and enhance our educational philosophy and program. As we become the Amos and Celia Heilicher Minneapolis Jewish Day School, our new name both honors a family tradition and offers us the unique opportunity to enhance our mission as we build on the multi-generational work of a noble Minneapolis family.

B'shalom, Ray



Amos
and Celia
Heilicher



Jerry Ribnick and Amos Heilicher,
long-time friends and neighbors.



In Amos Heilicher's conference room, on the day the gift agreement was signed (l to r): Jerry Ribnick, Lisa Heilicher, Amos Heilicher, Ray Levi, and Debra Glassman