

CAMP RAMAH IN NEW ENGLAND

2018 OPENING DAY PROCEDURES!

For full-summer, first and second session, and mini *aleph* and mini *gimmel hanichim* (campers) arriving on June 26 and July 25, the gates will open at 11:00 a.m. and drop off will end by 1:00. Mini *bet* and *daled hanichim*, arriving on July 10 and August 7, will drop off between 11 a.m. and noon.

It is a long-standing tradition for those who drop their children off at camp to unpack and settle their children into their *tzrifim* (bunks). For those of you who do not drop your *hanichim* off at camp, don't worry, our *tzevet* (staff) will help with this process.

Once parents who have dropped their *hanichim* off have finished the unpacking process and had a chance to visit the health center, office, and/or meet with senior *tzevet* (staff), we will ask them to say their goodbyes, depart and we will begin *edah* (age unit) programming. Some *hanichim* feel anxiety about when their parents will leave. We want to make this transition smooth and clear. Parents will say goodbye to their children at the *tzrif* (bunk) where *tzevet* members (including *yoetzot*) will be available to help and then integrate the camper into activities with their *edah*. Senior staff (our Director, Assistant Director, and Director of Camper Care) will also be available to greet you and answer any questions during drop off time.

We expect the vast majority of all *hanichim* (campers) arriving by plane to be at camp by 1:30. They will be greeted by their *madrachim* (counselors) and will have time to drop their belongings off at their *tzrifim*. Luggage sent to camp on our MD, CT or MA luggage trucks will already be waiting in their *tzrifim* for the *hanichim* when they arrive from the airport.

At 2:00, camp will kick off with a full-camp sit-down lunch in our *chadar ochel* (dining hall). After lunch, *hanichim* will participate in a *Tzohoryim Tzrif* (afternoon of programming by bunk), that will allow us to have ice-breakers and other fun *peulat* (activities) and also to do other first day things like *agam* testing (waterfront evaluation). We want to get the kids active and involved from the get go!

At 5:30, the *hanichim* will go back to their *tzrifim* where any *hanichim* who have yet to unpack will be able to do so (with help from their *madrachim*), with additional activities for those who have already settled in.

At 6:00, we will gather for a *Tekes Peticha* (opening ceremony) as a whole camp to welcome everyone into the community. It should be a *ruach* filled and fun event. After that, the *Tzad Aleph* campers will head to *aruchat erev* (dinner) while the *Tzad Bet* campers will attend a short orientation on our "Roo" (Sports team) program.

After dinner, each *edah* will have their opening *peulat erev* (evening activity) followed by *harga'ah* (bed-time activity in the *tzrif*). After such an active and fun day, we will help the *hanichim* get comfortable for a good night's sleep as they anticipate the start of a great *kayitz* (summer)!