

## **ELENA BATMAN (SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR)**

Dr. Elena Batman is a teacher with a wide range of professional teaching experience. A member of Pi Lambda Theta and Kappa Delta Pi, she holds BM, MME, MM, and DM degrees and was a Emily Boettcher and Yule Bogue full scholarship recipient at Northwestern University. She has taught at Belmar Elementary School and Glennon Heights Elementary Schools in Lakewood, Colorado, Colorado State University Summer Music Camp, the University of Northern Colorado String Project (students grades 1-7), Northwestern University, and as a substitute teacher in multiple school districts, grades K-12, teaching a variety of subjects. She has served as a union representative in both Actor's Equity Association and the American Guild of Musical Artists, and has also been a coach/instructor for a variety of equestrian sports. Her students have included beginners through working professionals, young through mature and experienced. Many have been scholarship and competition winners and are performing in major venues throughout North America, and some have become teachers themselves.

Internationally, she was a cultural envoy and invited guest teacher and performer in the countries of Viet Nam, Cambodia, and Laos. As a professional singer, major musical performing experience includes Broadway and National Tours of The Phantom of the Opera, operatic credits with New York City Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago and other companies, in addition to extensive concert appearances (including Carnegie Hall.) Dr. Batman has performed coast to coast and around the world, and now makes her home in the Chicago area with her husband and daughter.

## **RENA ROZEN (K-2)**

Rena was born and raised in the West Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago, where she attended Ner Tamid Congregation, Camp Ramah and has traveled to Israel. Rena has been in professional education for over 20 years. She is a dancer and gymnast, a Certified Personal Trainer through the National Academy of Sports Medicine, and a certified Jazzercise Instructor. Incorporating all of these skills, Rena has been the Israeli Dance Specialist at various camps and schools, taught dance/exercise classes to high school girls at Bais Yaakov High School, and continues teaching private classes. During her educational time and her career, Rena has performed in numerous plays and dance performances; including choreographing the performances.

In the profession of teaching, Rena has her undergraduate degree in teaching and fitness and possesses her Masters of Arts in Teaching with an 04 certificate. Rena has taught at the Elizabeth Meyer School in Skokie, the Baker Demonstration School in Wilmette, substituted across the Skokie School District, has been the inclusion specialist for a special needs child, a tutor for kindergarten through third grade students, and for the last couple of years as an instructor at The Mayer Kaplan Jewish Community Center.

Rena is very involved in the Jewish community and Jewish education; her children attended Solomon Schechter Day School, Chicagoland Jewish High School and during the summers, Camp Ramah in Wisconsin. Rena's nephew has just made aliyah and is serving in the IDF through Nefesh B'Nefesh. Rena looks forward to incorporating her many attributes of Judaism, education, dance and exercise to all levels at EHNTJC; where her mother is a member.

## **JOSH MORREL (Aleph-Bet-Gimmel)**

Josh Morrel is very excited to work with Aleph, Bet and Gimmel students this year! He grew up in Morton Grove and graduated from Stevenson High School. In 2006, he graduated from the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. During that time, he spent two summers working at Tamarak Day Camp and also spent a year during that time teaching Sunday school for second graders at the Sinai Jewish Congregation in Champaign, Illinois. Since, he has taught Social Studies, English and Hebrew at the Fasman Yeshiva High School, Niles North High School and currently, at Glenbrook North High School. Moreover, he spent a year teaching Hebrew reading, writing and prayer at an interfaith Church and Synagogue in downtown Chicago. He is a huge Chicago White Sox and Bulls fan and enjoys reading and writing during his spare time.

## **JACOB WALLACH (Dalet/Hey)**

Jacob Wallach grew up in Israel during the country's formative years completing his primary and secondary education there, in addition to serving 2.5 years in the IDF as Tank Commander in the Armor Corps. He completed college and graduate school in Chicago, making his home here. In 1978, he and his family lived in Israel. Jacob wanted his children to experience some of his childhood experiences and have a good command of Hebrew. During that time he had a chance to do more army reserve duty, including a stint in Lebanon during operation "Peace for the Galilee." His family returned to Chicago in May 1985. Over the last two decades, Mr. Wallach has been engaged in computer work full time, while continuing to his passion for Jewish studies through formal classes and self-study.

Mr. Wallach has taught at Temple Jeremiah for the past 10 years. He has also taught Hebrew, Bible, Prayers, Jewish History and Jewish Studies at Bernard Zell Jewish Day School, Temple Chai, B'nai Emunah, and Beth Tikvah. His personal interests are varied and include collecting out of print books, and playing soccer. Jacob was a former Israeli Soccer League player. He and his wife, have "two wonderful children - a son and a daughter, and four granddaughters who are all "smart and pretty."

In addition to a B.S. degree from Roosevelt University, and an MBA from DePaul University, Mr. Wallach holds a B.A. degree in a Hebrew Literature and Hebrew Teaching Diploma from the Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies.