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RONIT

Principal

Yitzchak Rabin High School

Kiryat Yam, Israel

Yitzchak Rabin High School focuses on inclusion and full integration of olim from Ethiopia and Russia. The students here come from difficult backgrounds and require not just academic excellence, but also social services. Here we try to provide extensive social projects that engage our students and encourage them to work collaboratively together.

All of our students volunteer in our community here in Kiryat Yam. We have 840 students in our high school, and every single student volunteers in a variety of programs, including learning emergency medical services, visiting Holocaust survivors, and mentoring in after-school centers.

I love my students, and I love our teachers. This is an incredibly positive environment, despite the challenges our students face. We try to personalize each student's experience, to know their story, to understand their challenges and to give them individualized attention.

The small steps we take actually lead to significant achievements in the lives of our students. For example, if a student used to cut classes, and is now attending and participating in class—that is what I consider success.

Here in Kiryat Yam, World ORT Kadima Mada has transformed education for our students. From Mada Park, to our accelerated STEM studies, and the opportunity to be included in ORT's global educational network—our students are thriving with these resources. Two years ago, I had the opportunity to participate in the LEAD training seminar for educators, and it was tremendously beneficial. The continuation of these training opportunities will be critical to our ongoing success.