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RABBI SHIRA H. JOSEPH HOLOCAUST STUDIES FUND ESTABLISHED FOR HINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Hingham Public Schools are pleased to announce the establishment of the Rabbi Shira H. Joseph Holocaust Studies Fund. Through a generous donation from Rabbi Joseph and her husband, Saul, and with their continued support, this fund is intended to support HPS educators by providing access to professional development aimed at teaching about the Holocaust. Classroom teachers and administrators involved in curriculum development are eligible to draw from the fund. It may be used to allow teachers to travel to the Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C. as individuals or groups. In addition, grants will be allowed for teachers and administrators to take substantive courses on issues related to Holocaust education, either online or through traditional college-level courses with a reputation for solid scholarship. Grants can also be made for Holocaust museum subscriptions, reference materials, films, and other teaching resources. These are meant to enhance and develop teaching strategies and strengthen student understanding of the complexities that led to the Holocaust. This includes the lessons learned about how the seeds of hatred were fanned, and how to recognize and speak out about anti-Semitism, discrimination, and hatred of the others.

In remarks to the School Committee on March 26, HPS Superintendent Dr. Dorothy Galo said, “This is a great opportunity for professional development training, and we certainly thank the rabbi and her husband for this generous offer.” HPS Director of Social Studies Andy Hoey added, “Thanks to the high-quality professional development made possible through this fund, our teachers will be able to expand and deepen their knowledge about the Holocaust, and countless future Hingham students will benefit.”

While the rabbi and her husband initiated this important fund in a time of increasing anti-Semitic incidents, the Hingham community is encouraged to build on their generosity by making additional donations to continue the fund’s important work. Checks may be made out to the Hingham Public Schools with a notation for the “Rabbi Joseph Holocaust Studies Fund.” For more information, please contact John Ferris, HPS Director of Business and Support Services, at 781-741-1500.