

JOSEPH KUSHNER HEBREW ACADEMY RAE KUSHNER YESHIVA HIGH SCHOOL

TANACH CIRCLES ENCOURAGES STUDENTS TO MAKE TANACH THEIR OWN

Modeled on literature circles, students in Tanach circles in the high school independently prepare chosen Tanach texts and they are each tasked with individual roles. After researching background materials, illustrating scenes, connecting materials to contemporary times, and developing thinking questions about the tasked *perakim*, the students come together and run discussions on the material. They make the Tanach their own as they approach it in their own ways, focusing on whatever speaks to them most. This year, student groups are learning *Shoftim*, *Daniel*, *Esther*, *Melachim alef*, and more. Many report that Tanach circles are a highlight of their Torah learning experience, and the depth of thought that emerges in their conversations reflects their excitement and engagement.

