When I was last full-time at JPDS-NC, I was in 6th grade. There were three other students in my Judaics class, car alarms would go off each day as we played in the parking lot at recess, and we preferred a version of four-square that is now referred to as "old school." Since I began as the assistant teacher for General Studies in 2nd grade in August, I have seen that JPDS-NC has grown and changed in so many ways. For all the differences, however, JPDS-NC still has a delicious and comforting haimishness (homey-ness) about it, a pervading sense of goodwill and love.

I am most excited about building new relationships at JPDS-NC and rekindling old ones, as well. Since graduating from JPDS-NC, I have lived in many cities and attended a few different institutions, such as the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School and Bryn Mawr College. I am still close, however, with many of my classmates from the JPDS-NC Class of 2004, and now, I even get to work alongside two of my former teachers: Elana Cohen and Janet Collier. I am so excited to see what this new year brings.

Maya Felman