

## **Ohr Chadash Academy (OCA) Achieves Full Accreditation from AIMS**

**Baltimore, MD** – Ohr Chadash Academy (OCA) proudly announces that it has officially earned full accreditation from the Association of Independent Maryland and DC Schools (AIMS), marking a major milestone in the school's growth and commitment to educational excellence.

This achievement is the result of a rigorous, three-and-a-half-year accreditation process and reflects the tireless efforts of OCA's faculty, staff, leadership, and community members. Accreditation by AIMS affirms that OCA—serving students from Early Childhood through Middle School—meets the highest standards of educational quality, operational integrity, and professional best practices.

"This recognition is a testament to the strength of our programs, the professionalism of our educators, and the deep commitment of our entire OCA community," said Dr. Deborah Rapoport, Head of School. "We are filled with hakarat hatov and take enormous pride in what we have accomplished together."

### **What Accreditation Means for OCA:**

- **Excellence Across All Divisions:** OCA is now formally recognized for maintaining exemplary standards from the Early Childhood Center through Middle School.
- **Highest Rating in Maryland EXCELS:** OCA's ECC, licensed by the Maryland Department of Education Office of Child Care, has now achieved Level 5 status—the highest quality rating under the Maryland EXCELS program.
- **Enhanced Donor Impact:** Donors who work for employers with matching gift programs may now be able to expand the impact of their contributions to OCA through an employer match.
- **Expanded Funding Opportunities:** Accreditation enables OCA to become eligible for certain federal grants and to sponsor J-1 visas, broadening opportunities for institutional growth and faculty development.

**Professional Development & Resources:** Faculty and staff continue to benefit from robust professional development and employment resources through AIMS, as well as through partnerships with the Baltimore Association of Jewish Day Schools, Prizmah: Center for Jewish Day Schools, and the Jewish Educational Services.

Achieving this milestone confirms what the OCA community has long known—that it is a place of vision, heart, and excellence in Torah and general education.