

Susan A. Ticker

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Valued collaborator • Respected problem-solver • Successful community builder

EDUCATION

- Ed.D.** Davidson Graduate School of Education, Jewish Theological Seminary, NY, NY
Doctoral candidate ABD • Completed all courses in Judaic Studies and Education
- M.B.A.** Rutgers Graduate School of Management, Newark, NJ
Dual major in Marketing and Finance
- B.A.** Brown University, *magna cum laude*, Providence, RI
Religious Studies major: Early Christianity and Ancient Judaism
Honors Thesis: The Concept of the Sacred in Emile Durkheim

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Teacher and Learning Consultant**, Jacksonville Jewish Center, Jacksonville, FL 2021-present
- Online Teacher**, Forest Hills Jewish Center, Queens, NY 2020-present
- Hebrew Team Leader**, Reform Temple of Forest Hills, Queens, NY 2019-22
- Taught 7th Grade learning groups, and introduced Leadership Training for teen aides.
 - Mentored faculty in on-site and online learning strategies.
- Interim Director of Educational Programming**, Temple Israel Center, White Plains, NY 2017-18
- Director of Youth & Family Engagement: Lead educator responsible for programs for 800+ youth and families. Supervised educators, crafted holiday celebrations, and managed budget.
 - Teen Engagement: Director of initiative serving 50+ teens with seminars and electives. Expanded curricular offerings, designed communications, and oversaw budget.
 - High Holiday Program: Hired and supervised 15 educators and 60 teens for 450 youth ages 2-18. Offered diverse experiences, including music, theater, yoga, text study, and prayer.
- Director of Community Engagement**, Congregation Rodeph Sholom, NY, NY 2016-17
- Collaborated with lay leaders, clergy and staff to create multiple pathways for members to engage with synagogue community to deepen connections to each other and Jewish living.
 - Expanded offerings, strengthened marketing, increased participation, improved user experience, and nurtured relationships.
 - Designed and led adult education, including an original series on Sacred Time.
- Communal Education Consultant**, The Jewish Education Project, NY, NY 2009-16
- Supported educational innovation and ongoing systemic change in 10 synagogues.
 - Facilitated educator peer networks to foster personal reflection and professional growth.
 - Offered professional learning to strengthen design, facilitation, and assessment skills.
 - Led study of Jewish education and engagement for young children and families in U.S.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (continued)

Lead Consultant and Evaluator

Temple Beth Sholom, Roslyn, NY

2008-11

- Assessed impact of new peer mentoring and adult leadership model using mixed methods.
- Measured preschool parent satisfaction through interviews and focus groups.
- Presented recommendations to leadership to guide program improvement over 3 years.

Hazon, NY, NY

2007-09

- Evaluated curriculum design for food education initiative piloted in 3 Jewish day schools.
- Presented recommendations to guide program improvement and grant report over 2 years.

Camp Jewish Discovery Project, NY, NJ & PA

2007-09

- Assessed training program for 30 Judaic Specialists at 5 JCC summer camps.
- Developed and completed research on program design and learner outcomes.
- Documented growth in staff leadership, identity building and Jewish literacy in 3 summers.

Israel Education Project Director, Jewish Reconstructionist Federation, NY, NY

1999-03

- Led collaborative process to bring fresh vision and programs to 13 NY & NJ congregations.
- Designed creative engagement and learning experiences for adults and youth.
- Directed all grant project operations, including budget, marketing, and reporting.

Interim Executive Director, Northern NJ Region, USCJ, Linden, NJ

1998-99

- Directed regional office serving 65 NJ congregations in central and northern NJ.
- Developed budgets, managed financial reporting, and advised synagogue leadership.
- Collaborated with the board to set policy and maximize resource utilization.
- Planned logistics, negotiated lease, and coordinated successful office relocation.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Teacher and Administrator, Schechter Regional HS and Golda Och Academy, NJ
- Curriculum Specialist and Lead Teacher, West End Synagogue, NY
- Faculty, Florence Melton Adult Mini-School, Chicago, IL; Whippany, NJ; Paramus, NJ
- Founding Faculty Member and Prayer Leader, Passover Retreat, Ramah Darom, GA
- Teacher, Home-based Jewish learning for children and adults, IL and NJ
- Corporate Finance Vice President, Stonegate Group and PruCapital, Chicago, IL
- Corporate Finance Director, Prudential Investment Corporation, Newark, NJ

CERTIFICATES

- Wise Aging Facilitation, Institute for Jewish Spirituality
- DSLTI, Day School Leadership Training Institute, to prepare new heads of schools
- CFG, Critical Friends Group Coaching, National School Reform Faculty
- NETA Hebrew Language Teacher Training for middle and high school educators
- *Ivriyon*: Hebrew Language Immersion Program for Day School Educators
- CIE, Center for Israel Education, Emory University, for North American educators
- CFA, Chartered Financial Analyst

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2008** Rabbi Wolfe Kelman Memorial Prize, best essay in contemporary Jewish history and/or sociology, *A Portrait of a Principal: Lessons on Leadership and Learning*
2003 Or L'Noar Award for inspiring youth, JRF-NY, presented at NY Region Gala Dinner

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

- 2016** *Toward Continuous Engagement: Supporting Young Children and Families in Transition in Part-time Jewish Educational Settings*, The Jewish Education Project, NY [online]
2009 *A Portrait of a Principal*, Network for Research in Jewish Education Conference, NY
2008 *Budget and Finance for Schools and Non-Profits*, Educational Leadership, HUC-JIR, NY
2008 *The Power of Camping: Building Literacy and Leadership through Staff Development*, Promoting Literacy in Jewish Educational Settings Conference, Univ. of MD
2002 *Israel Education and Engagement*, UJC General Assembly, Philadelphia, PA

AFFILIATIONS, SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- Alumni Interviewer, Undergraduate applicants to Brown University
- Member, Executive Board, Interfaith Center of Northeast Florida
- Member, City of Jacksonville Transition, Constituency and Community Outreach Committee
- Hiking, white-water rafting and kayaking, and NY Times puzzles and word games