

Town Hall #2

9/10/19

Gallup Award

California

Granite Bay High School, The Gazette

Judge's comment: "The strengths of the Gazette are coverage and reporting... Leadership is also strong, with a broad array of voices found on section fronts and on op/ed pages. I rarely saw a weak lead and the professionalism of the news writing voices was terrific."

Shalhevet High School, Boiling Point, Los Angeles

Judge's comment: "Boiling Point is very thorough with outlining its policies and is transparent in their process as a publication. They have taken every challenge they've faced and used intelligence, passion and grit to move past it."

Georgia

2019 Newspaper Pacemaker finalists announced

NSPA honors 49 scholastic print news publications for journalistic excellence

MINNEAPOLIS — Honoring the nation's best, the National Scholastic Press Association has named 49 scholastic student newspapers and newsmagazines as finalists in its prestigious Pacemaker competition.

"The Pacemaker is the association's preeminent award," executive director Laura Widmer said. "NSPA is honored to recognize the best of the best."

These Pacemaker finalists will be recognized and the Pacemaker winners will be announced at the [JEA/NSPA Fall National High School Journalism Convention](#), Nov. 21-24, 2019, in Washington, D.C.

The NSPA Pacemaker Award has a rich tradition, and the association started presenting the award to high school newspapers a few years after NSPA's founding in 1921. Through the years, yearbooks, magazines, online sites and broadcast programs were added to the competition.

RELATED: [Registration opens soon for fall convention](#)



El Estoque

Monta Vista High School
Cupertino, California

Editors: Rana Aghababazadeh, Roshan Fernandez
Adviser: Julia Satterthwaite



The Boiling Point

Shalhevet High School
Los Angeles, California

Editors: Lucy Fried, Clara Sandler
Adviser: Joelle Keene

Editors: Jennifer Wang, Dina Zeldin
Adviser: Ashley Chapman



The Communicator Magazine

Community High School
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Editors: Abigail Gales, Ava Millman, Henry Schirmer,
Cammi Tirico
Adviser: Tracy Anderson



InPrint

Fenton High School
Fenton, Michigan

Editor: Ellie Bennett
Adviser: Pam Bunka

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COMMUNITY WEBSITE !!**

[@theagendacommittee](https://www.instagram.com/theagendacommittee) www.thejustcommunity.com

Visiting Students:

- Ben Arbib
- Shirah Azrad
- Esther Berg
- Sami Brous-Light
- Milan Chaim
- Gabrielle Judaken
- Liv Kessous
- Caroline Kboudi
- Rami Melmed
- Yonah Gereboff
- Julian Olschwang
- Maor Shaham
- Korin Silberberg
- Johnathon Stoff
- Gabriel Terech
- Elliot Tessel
- Samantha Wannan
- Linoy Zur
- Ross Goldberg

From:

- **Milken Middle School**
- **Pressman Academy**
- **Sinai Akiba**

Mensch of the Week!

- Town hall will now be awarding those wonderful Mensches of the Shalhevet student body each week.
- *The Mensch Award* will place you into our wonderful Mensch Hall of Fame on the JC Website!

Mensch of the Week is...

Noa Talasazan!!

“I observed her picking up trash on the floor that wasn't hers, multiple times throughout last week, AND three different faculty shared with me that she was being super helpful to other 9th grade students who had questions about schedules and general first two weeks of school.”



MENSCH HALL OF FAME:

- Head over to the “Gallery” page, then click “Mensch Hall of Fame!”

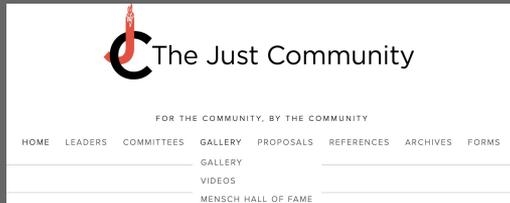
www.thejustcommunity.com

The Mensch Hall of Fame



Noa Talasazan 23’:

“I observed her picking up trash on the floor that wasn't hers, multiple times throughout last week, AND three different faculty shared with me that she was being super helpful to other 9th grade students who had questions about schedules and general first two weeks of school.”



Meme of the Week:



Freshmen with a
paper due in 2
weeks



Seniors with a
paper due in 2
hours

Fashion Club Outfit of the Week:



SABRINA
JAHAN!!

#FreeBTO: Ben comes home in 10 days..



**OUR LAST
JUST COMMUNITY
RELATED
TOWN HALL...
FOR A WHILE**

Representative Elections:

- Each committee has a certain amount of grade “Representatives.” They work on general committee related tasks, and provide perspectives and input from each grade.
- You can run for these positions, and some of you will be... on September 26th.
- More info will be posted soon...

How proposals work (kinda):

- Any new addition to the student handbook or change must be voted on by the Just Community in a Town Hall or other assembly forum. (This goes for anything not related to Halakhah or central Shalhevet value)
- We are able to amend proposals *during* Town Hall.
- Therefore, if a change were to be made (e.g., *who runs elections*), this change would need to be voted on by the greater community.

Chairgate

- Last year's JC elections had a bit of an issue...
- There was a miscalculation on the Fairness Chair voting due to an oversight by the Agenda Committee.
 - Otherwise known as, *Chairgate*
 - Now we have 3 chairs!!! YAY :D
- Keep in mind, because these elections usually have other people on the Agenda Committee who are not the chair running, all the work will fall on the Agenda Chair.
- Fairness and Agenda feel that it's time to reform...

“Fair Elections Proposal”:

“Create a Joint Council between the chairs of the Fairness and the Agenda Committees to administer, design, and run all components of Just Community elections”

“Fair Elections Proposal”:

- “In light of recent events (i.e., *Chairgate*), it has become evident that an explicit framework should be established for the administration, design, and execution of Just Community elections; We feel that the Agenda Committee—which has historically overseen Just Community elections—should henceforth split its responsibilities with the Fairness Committee, given that the Fairness Committee is to uphold every member of the Just Community’s “Right to Fairness;”

SAC's Opposition:

“SAC (Student Activities Committee) strongly opposes the new proposal regarding Agenda and Fairness overseeing elections. We believe that if both Agenda and Fairness committees oversee the elections then SAC should be involved as well. SAC is a Committee that requires electing officials, Chairs, representatives, etc. Thus, we believe that SAC should help oversee that our candidates are fairly elected, along with other candidates for other committees. The proposed solution is that Fairness, Agenda, and SAC will all oversee the elections in Union in order to facilitate a fair election.”

The Case for Agenda & Fairness:

- Agenda has always taken on the responsibility to run elections
- Yet, after last year's mess up with the "Instant Runoff" voting system and the Fairness election, it is clear that more oversight is required, and Fairness seems like the best option, they uphold "Fairness" at school.
- Running elections is a massive responsibility, and usually falls directly on the chair, as many non-chair members are going to run for positions. Therefore, it makes sense to have more people come and help.

The Case for Agenda, Fairness, & SAC:

- If we are adding more committees for increased oversight, we should also have SAC.
- The elections affect SAC just as much as they do for Fairness or Agenda.
- SAC is just as equally involved in the JC as Agenda or Fairness.

The Case for *just* Fairness:

- Adding multiple committees together could get confusing, it could be more efficient for Fairness alone to oversee it.
- Agenda has always done it, but has many other responsibilities, and stretches itself too thin. Therefore, Fairness has room to take on elections and should do so alone.

Let's discuss:

- **Should we keep Agenda as solely running Just Community elections in line with years of tradition?**
 - *Running elections: Planning elections, designing the voting systems, creating election infrastructure, administering any and all debates and other election-related activities or events, overseeing - and protecting the integrity of - Election Day, reviewing ballot counts*
- **Or should we create a new Joint Election Committee?**
- **Should that committee be comprised of:**
 - **Fairness and Agenda chairs**
 - **Fairness, Agenda, and SAC chairs**
 - **Or... just Fairness?**

How to vote:

- The first question asks, should we change how elections work in general?
- If this passes, we will decide who will run them with the results of the second question.
- If this fails, Agenda will continue to run elections independently.

Fair Elections Proposal:

Should we change who runs elections? Vote yay or nay, if this vote passes, then we will use the second question to determine who will run them.

Should we change how elections currently work? If this fails, Agenda will continue to run elections.

Yay

Nay

Who should run them?

Just Fairness

Fairness and Agenda

Fairness, Agenda, and SAC

SUBMIT

Let's vote:

—

CHECK

SCHOOLOGY

Let's vote:

—



Why we even had to vote:

- The Constitution doesn't actually outline how elections work or who runs them, there is no framework in place.
- We are unclear as what the purpose of both Agenda and Fairness even is, and SAC is not even mentioned in the Constitution.
- ----- *SABRINA & EVAN WILL TELL YOU MORE* -----

What is the Just Community?

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- Let's get to defining...



What is the JC? What is the Constitution?

In the beginning...

The Just Community is comprised of the students, faculty, and administration of Shalhevet High School. It guarantees its members the Right to Fairness, Right to Respect, and the Right to be Heard. Three committees, the Agenda Committee, the Fairness Committee, and the Student Activities Committee, help guide the community. The Just Community thrives upon the mutual relationship between students and faculty.

But... “The jurisdiction of the Shalhevet Democratic Just Community does not include the domains of curriculum, Halacha, and local, state and federal law.”

What is the JC? What is the Constitution?

Now:

Basically the same with key differences...

- Our school is much bigger
- Student to faculty ratio is very different
- We have new committees that are not included in the original Constitution
- We no longer have some defunct committees

For example....



Constructive Consequences Committee (CCC)

“The purpose of the Constructive Consequences Committee (CCC) is to allow a group of community representatives to assign just and constructive punishments to members of the community who act in violation of the Rights clause of the Constitution.”

Constructive Consequences Committee (CCC)

However, we no longer have a CCC....

Constructive Consequences Committee (CCC)

1. Does the CCC have any place in the Shalhevet of today?
2. Should the CCC be reinstated?
3. Absorbed into another committee?
4. Officially dissolved?
5. Should it only be comprised of students?



Rewriting the Constitution:



Rewriting the Constitution:

- Formally known as a “Constitutional Convention”
- Meetings during FLEX and potentially Breakfast to meet, discuss, and rewrite the Constitution.
 - If this is your type of things, PLEASE COME! If not, you don't have to.
- Eventually, the WHOLE SCHOOL WILL VOTE ON IT!!! And maybe...re-sign it :)

Consider:

- What are the advantages and disadvantages of the model of the JC now vs. then?
- Is it realistic to strive for the balance of power/responsibility throughout the JC as outlined by the Constitution?
- How can we embody the ideals of Shalhevet at its founding in full? Is this even possible?

Next Steps...

- Records all of the opinions and ideas from this Town Hall
- Present these to the JC leaders who will then incorporate these into a first draft of the Constitution
- Hold open convention meetings
- Revise, revise, revise...
- WITH YOUR HELP :) - Present, re-sign, and ratify the new Constitution