



Jewish Federation
OF NORTHERN NEW JERSEY

Resources for Synagogues and Religious Schools

Remote learning and engagement tools

Introduction

Times like these are difficult for everyone, but present particularly unique challenges to synagogues whose core mission revolves around connection and engagement. In an effort to help you better serve your community during this unprecedented time, we have gathered a list of resources that may be helpful as you create new models for education, engagement, and connection. This is a living document that we will be adding to as more resources become available. We encourage you to please share any resources you have found that would be helpful to other synagogue communities. Please share those or any comments via this link [here](#).

Dealing With the Coronavirus Crisis

These links offer perspective, guidance and practical suggestions about how to deal with the new realities imposed on communities by the coronavirus. The resources come from the religious denominations as well as some leading education organizations. Included are informative articles, action oriented links, and guidelines regarding best practices in a crisis.

Resources from the denominations

- [Union for Reform Judaism's guide: "How Reform Congregations are Coping with COVID-19 \(and tools to help\)"](#).
- [United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism](#): "Coronavirus and Beyond: Virtual Communication Tools for Synagogues"
- [Orthodox Union](#): "Tech Tools for Shuls" during this difficult time.
- [Reconstructionist Judaism Virtual Shabbat Box](#)

Resources from other Institutions

- [Jewish Education Project Resources](#):
 - [Jewish Education Project's Coronavirus resource page](#)
 - JEP's online appointment options: (for questions or help with all things digital technology): Please see "Help" section for links to make an appointment with their EdTech staff.
 - JEP's other Coronavirus Webinars: [CoronaVirus Webinars](#)
 - [Padlet Resource page](#) from Webinar speaker, Mindy Gold- Ed Tech Management, on Coronavirus through Digital Engagement.
 - NEW! [Collected Covid-19 Educator Materials and Resources](#). This is a Google Drive Folder with documents for Educators. It has annotated resources intended for Jewish educators in Day Schools, Congregational, Youth, and Community settings.
- [Prizmah Covid-19 Guidance](#): Prizmah or Center for Jewish Day Schools "Coronavirus COVID-19 Guidance"
- [BBYO on Demand](#): BBYO offers on demand content to help educators teach their students in this time.
- [Staying Indoors Museum of the Jewish People at Beit Hatfutsot](#).
 - [Jewish Lens in time of Coronavirus](#).
- E Jewish Philanthropy Articles:
 - ["Switching to Remote Working? Welcome to the Club"](#).
 - ["10 Critical Insights for Online Gatherings"](#).
- Jewish Boston Teens:
 - ["A Teen Guide to Navigating the Coronavirus"](#).
 - ["Coronavirus: Considerations for Continuity of Operations Planning, Safety and Security for Communal Institutions"](#).
- Combined Jewish Philanthropy: Communal Security Initiative CSI Covid-19 Conference Call with Synagogues [Sign-Up](#). "This webinar is designed to help institutions consider factors to inform this decision-making process and to provide proven practices and resources relating to safety and security in the current context."
- [PJ Library Resources for Quarantine Families](#)

Virtual Education Tools

Due to the social distancing guidelines, all in person learning experiences have been cancelled. Fortunately, there are many platforms that allow you to provide a unique learning experience for both adults and youth students.

- [Google Classroom](#).
- [Zoom Education](#).
 - Zoom [Link](#) to register for a free account with no time limit (This is being offered for all K-12 schools, including religious schools)
 - [Blog on how to use Zoom for online learning](#).
 - [21 Tips for Teaching on Zoom](#):
- [Webex Education](#): Tools to transition to virtual learning.
- [Unpacked for Educators](#) (formerly Jerusalem U) has various full web-based content for you to use:
 - [Distance Learning](#).
 - [How To Webinar for Using Unpacked for Educators](#).
 - [Live classes](#).
 - Monday, March 23rd at 12 pm EST Open Dor Media will be hosting a [Global Student Zoom Event](#) featuring Natan Sharansky.
- [Scholastic Learn at Home](#).
- This article shares [all Education companies offering free subscriptions](#) due to School closings.

Virtual Communication Tools

With so many people working remotely, here are a few great platforms that allow you to have face to face meetings, conference calls with multiple people, or internal text-like communication.

- [Zoom](#): face to face virtual meetings
- [Free Conference Call](#): phone calls for multiple participants.
- [Slack.com](#): This is an easier more fast-paced way to connect with your team as opposed to email.

Are you stuck? Reach out!

- Josh Keyak, Manager, Synagogue Leadership Institute
 - Email joshuak@jfnnj.org
 - Phone number 201-820-3914
- Rachel Jacobus, Community Outreach Associate
 - Email rachelj@jfnnj.org
 - Phone number 201-820-3902
 - Cell number 201-663-3769 (text or call)

- The Jewish Education Project:
 - The Jewish Education Project Coronavirus Tech Help Appointments: 30 or 60-minute appointment with our EdTech staff through our [Online Scheduler](#).
 - Complete our [Educator Support Request Form](#) for help with many of the issues you are dealing with and one of our staff members will reach out to you.

Suggestion Box

Have suggestions or more resources? Please follow the link below to submit those via Google Form [submit here](#).