



DECEMBER 2021

A GLIMPSE INSIDE

**VHA ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 5782/2020-21**



vancouver
HEBREW ACADEMY

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IN HONOUR OF
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Our deepest gratitude for fortifying the future of Vancouver Hebrew Academy.

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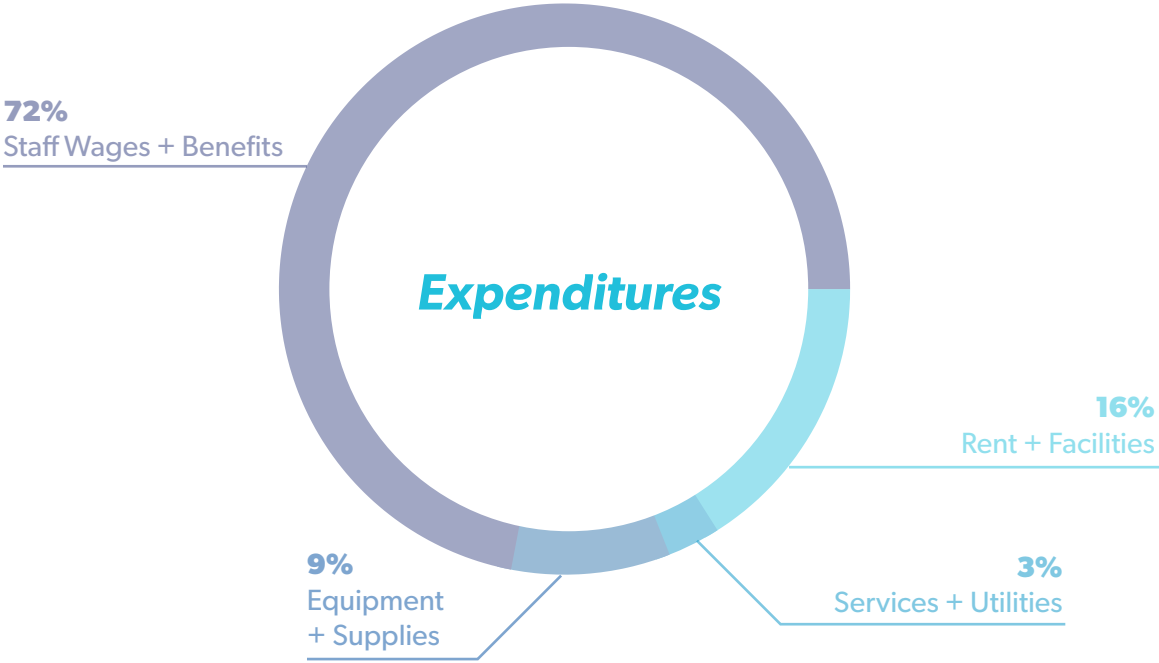
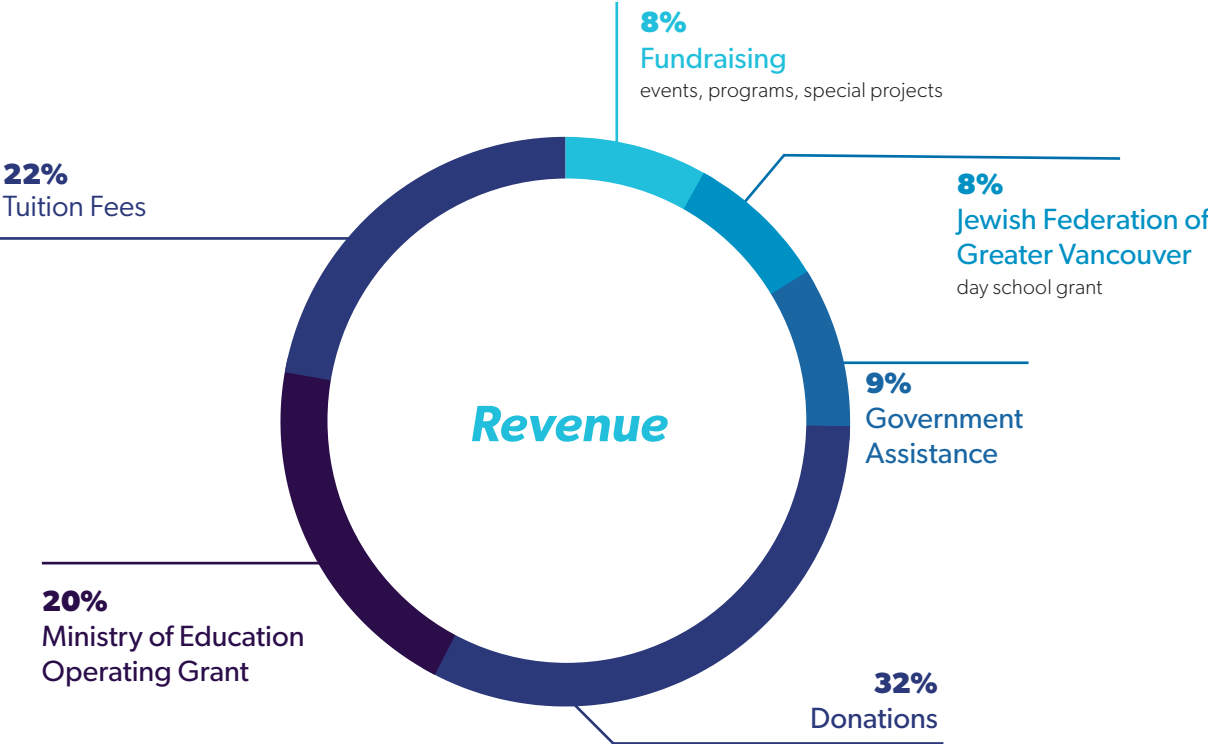
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Financial Summary Snapshot

June 30, 2021



Suzanne Ferera VHA’s School Counselor



A Letter to the Community

My name is Suzanne Ferera and I am the new part- time school counsellor for VHA.

I am a registered Occupational Therapist with over 35 years of experience in mental health. I am a certified Calmer, Easier, Happier parenting practitioner with a private practice where I go into family’s homes and help parents learn strategies to help their children who have behavioural difficulties.

When I was approached by Rabbi Cohen and Mrs Brodie about joining the school, they asked if I could help the staff and the parents use the same strategies to bring out the best in the students. This was music to my ears. This demonstrated to me that the school has the best interests of the children as their priority and, as that is my passion, I knew this would be a good fit.

Since I started at the school in September, I have been teaching the staff and the parents the strategies of:

- Descriptive Praise, which is a powerful teaching and training tool that helps children want to cooperate;
- Reflective Listening, which is a strategy to help children and adults manage their uncomfortable feelings constructively;
- Preparing for Success, which is a number of strategies that help establish the rules and routines we want our children to learn, and includes how to follow through when children get things right and when they get things wrong.

As always, whenever we learn new skills it is a journey, and the staff and parents have been working hard to learn and implement these new strategies. We are already seeing improvements in how the students are cooperating and learning to express their feelings.

I feel deeply honoured to be part of this team and help the staff and the community to continue to work on the ultimate goal of bringing out the best in our students.



*The VHA family thanks the staff and families of
Vancouver Talmud Torah and Congregation Beth
Israel for their assistance during our construction.*

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