



# Bet Shira Early Childhood Center

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Judith Gampel Ed.D.  
Director

Dear Dr. Botel-Sheppard,

Bet Shira Early Childhood Center was blessed to provide two Penn Literacy Network Mini-courses for our teachers. When we enrolled our staff in the classes, I did so with the anticipation that our already talented and highly skilled teachers would benefit from being exposed to new strategies to provide literacy experiences to our students. I didn't anticipate how much these two courses would impact our program.

The Four Lenses of Learning and The Five Early Reading Writing Talking Processes take everything that our teachers have learned over the years about teaching literacy, science and math, making these frameworks useable for our classrooms. My teachers feel that these two mini-courses have been the most practical and worthwhile workshops that they have ever attended.

As a director, I am thrilled to see my teachers excited about teaching integrated curriculum. Our hallways and classrooms have been transformed with more attention to a print-rich environment for our students. Our teachers are so invested in the learning that is taking place in the classrooms that our students are truly benefitting from their participation in the coursework! Our already academic program has been taken up a notch with the influence of PLN.

Both you and Lisa Chavenson were incredible instructors. Your teaching style and way with words set a high standard for our staff. The strategies that you introduced to our staff were not only clever but also able to be adapted for students of all ages. How lucky our staff was to be exposed to two great role models like you and Lisa!

I can't thank you enough for the positive impact this program has had on our school. Ultimately because of PLN, our Bet Shira ECC students will be better prepared to succeed when they enter elementary school.

Wishing you well!

Judith Gampel, Ed. D.  
Director  
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