

Anniversary Blessings Rabbi Stacy Offner Vice President of the Union for Reform Judaism delivered a lovely *Mi Sheberach* blessing for Reform day school advocates when she spoke directly to PARDeS Chair Jan Epstein, and Eric Petersiel, Leo Baeck Day School Head of School during the Torah service on Shabbat Morning, November 8, 2009, at the 70th URJ Biennial at the Toronto Convention Centre. (Click here to read Rabbi Offner's anniversary blessing.)

Yasher Koah and this blessing for you:

Mi Sheberach Avoteinu, Avraham Yitzchak v'Ya'akov, v'imoteinu Sarah, Rivkah, Rachel v'Leah,

May the one who blessed our ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacobs, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah, guide and bless you *talmidei Torah*, who have come forward to the *bimah* today and with reverence for God and respect for the Torah.

Today we celebrate the reverence for God that is nurtured by our day schools. We celebrate the Torah literacy that is achieved by our day school students.

On this Chai anniversary of PARDeS, this double Chai anniversary of the Leo Baeck Day school, and this 25th anniversary of our Union's resolution in support of Reform Jewish Day schools, we have come to see that our day schools don't simply help to assure continuity, they give our young people the skills to shape a meaningful Jewish future.

May God Bless you and all students of Torah everywhere with health of body, vigor of mind and an insatiable thirst for learning.

Together we say:

Amen