

## חדר חב"ד

חינוך יסודי על טהרת הקודש עש שפואל זהבי ז"ל

> The Shmuel Zahavy Cheder Chabad

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Rabbi Yona Shur Executive Director June 8, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

## Re: Arnie Gotfryd and Maxi Mind Brain Training

This letter is an endorsement of the unique cognitive remediation services provided by Dr. Arnie Gotfryd, PhD and his Maxi Mind Learning Centres, Inc. organization.

Over the past few years, Dr. Gotfryd has been contracted by our school as well as by parents in the community to train several underperforming students most of whom suffer from the divided attention, distractibility, impulsiveness and restlessness which are characteristic of ADD and ADHD.

His training regimen involved two treatments primarily – the Learning Breakthrough Program and Play Attention. The former is a sensory integration activity regimen using a balance board, a pendulum ball, bean bags and a ball toss. The latter is computer based, involving games that train various levels and types of cognitive skills. It integrates biofeedback wherein a calm and focused mental state allows the student to win games, even without the use of a keyboard or mouse.

With each student, I have personally witnessed significant and relevant positive changes during the course of training. Students tend to perform better academically, have fewer behaviour problems, and seem calmer and more cheerful overall. They have more patience for the classroom and engage socially to a greater degree. Teachers and parents have noticed the improvements in their grades and behaviour as well.

Based on these anecdotal successes I have decided to implement a more substantial pilot project at our school for the fall of 2010, wherein we expect to engage many of our students in Grades 2 through 6 for several half-hour sessions per week for a period of about three months. Our standardized and detailed student records will make it feasible to readily monitor the success of this program.

On a more personal note, I can attest to the fact that Dr. Gotfryd is a highly respected member of the community with a long history of success working with youth, in both classroom and extra-curricular contexts. He has a very professional approach and works seamlessly within the school context where one has to be accountable to the administration while satisfying multiple stakeholders with diverse needs.

I whole-heartedly recommend Maxi Mind's services to any elementary school administration interested in safe, simple and effective short-term interventions that can make a lasting positive difference.

Yours sincerely.

Rabbi Baruch Zaltzman

Principal