A new professional development initiative of National NCSY, the Education Seminars hope to provide guidance on educational techniques and programmatic substance for NCSY professionals throughout the country. We will focus on long-term development of more sophisticated educators and professionals and on the development of relevant skills for current NCSY Educators.

We request of EVERY participant in the conference to prepare 2 things:

1) Bring an educational program that you have done in the past. Either at a club, Beis Medrash session or Latte & Learn. Please email this in advance.
2) Prepare a 30-second description of when you decided to become an educator.

Wednesday, November 20

5:30PM – 5:45PM
What’s the Point?: An Introduction
Any new initiative requires an explanation. Why are we here and what can we expect to gain from this seminar? This introduction will explain the motivation and methodology of this conference and what the organizers expect and what the participants will gain.

RABBI YAAKOV GLASSER

5:45PM – 6:15PM
Who Is in the Room?
As educators, we will be creating discontinuity in the solid form of di–hydrogen oxide, or, as teens these days call it, an “ice breaker.”

6:15PM – 7:15PM
Dinner
During dinner we will have an open discussion centered on the following questions:

▶ What are your primary educational goals?
▶ What are your primary educational challenges?

7:15PM – 8:15PM
The Mechanics of Mentorship: Perspectives of Teen Spiritual Progression
NCSY is all about relationships. This session will explore the dynamics involved in leveraging relationships to stimulate healthy and long–lasting religious growth.

RABBI YAAKOV GLASSER

8:15PM – 9PM
Of Doctrine & Documents: Planning an Educational Program
Learn the fundamentals of how to plan and strategize a great educational program. Based on a clear document outlining fundamental educational doctrines, you will discover how to create and develop amazing programs.

DEBBIE STONE AND MARC FEIN

9:00PM – 9:15PM
Break!
Even educators need time to relax.

9:15PM – 10PM
What Do You Want Me to Talk About?
Choosing a topic to learn with teens can be a tricky endeavor. After talking about demons and the Torah view on life in outer space, what should you speak about next when introducing Judaism? Learn how to brainstorm and find great topics for Torah and inspirational discussions.

DOVID BASHEVKIN

10:00PM
Optional Opining
Mind Your Q’s and A’s: How to Run an Ask the Rabbi Session
The fundamentals of how to approach a question and articulate proper answers will be discussed. Additionally, some of the major questions facing teens now will be addressed.
The Education Team will stay late and discuss any individual issues that concern the staff. This is a great time to bring education programs you have worked on and receive individualized feedback on how to enhance the impact and effectiveness of your programs.

Thursday, November 21

9:00AM – 9:15AM
Introduction 2.0

9:15AM – 10:00AM
The Prestige: How to Present Relevant and Compelling Torah Sessions
Before cellphones, text was a noun—not a verb. Learn how to find the Torah texts and the strategies to infuse them with life and relevance. Unite the noun of “texts” with the excitement associated with the verb.

DOVID BASHEVKIN

10:00AM – 10:45AM
Transmitting Experiences
It’s more than just telling everyone to “close your eyes...” Learn how to create educational and interactive experiences. What are the key components to creating memorable experiences that can inform and inspire NCSYers.

MARC FEIN

10:45AM – 11:00AM
Break!

11:00PM – 11:45PM
Formtastic!: Formal Education in Informal Settings
Formal education skills are not limited to the classroom. Learn how to incorporate formality and structure to informal educational experiences.

DEBBIE STONE

11:45PM – 12:15PM
Morning Wrap up

RABBI YAAKOV GLASSER

12:15PM
Lunch

1:00PM – 1:45PM
Pick Your Area of Interest

GROWTH: IT’S NOT JUST FOR TEENS
BY DOVID BASHEVKIN
Learn the expertise necessary to becoming an expert in an area of Torah (or general knowledge). Discover the organizational skills and tools to become the master of an intellectual domain.

E3 – ENGAGEMENT, EMPOWERMENT, EXCITEMENT
BY MARC FEIN
Have you ever attended a program where you just sat there the whole time as someone spoke at you? Do you remember anything from it beyond your intense desire never to return? Learn how to create active and collaborative learning environments so that your teens don’t nickname you “nap time.”

PERSONALIZING PERSONALITIES
BY DEBBIE STONE
Learn to understand your personality; what your strengths are, how to utilize them and how to work well with your opposites —because opposites don’t always attract.

1:45PM – 2:15PM
Of Doctrines & Document 2: The Haunting Return of Intentionality

2:15PM – 2:30PM
Creation Cohort Introductions

2:30PM – 4:30PM
Creation Cohorts
Part of education is implementation. Here we will break into groups, each with a member of the National office, that will each be tasked to create and present an education program at the end of the conference. One group will focus on a text–based program, while the other will focus on an experiential program. The conference will close with presentations and feedback on the each group’s program.

4:30PM – 6:30PM
Creation Cohort Presentations and Feedback

5:15PM
Mincha

6:30PM – 6:45PM
Closing

“IF PEOPLE KNEW HOW HARD I WORKED TO GET MY MASTERY, IT WOULDN’T SEEM SO WONDERFUL AT ALL.” – MICHELANGELO