



Student Driver and Passenger Policy

According to a report issued by the Governors Highway Safety Administration (GHSA), vehicular crashes are the number-one killer of American teenagers, claiming more than 6000 young lives each year. Crash rates are highest during a teen's first few hundred miles on the road and the first six months behind the wheel. In fact, a 16-year-old driver is ten times more likely to be involved in a crash than an adult.

Bearing this information in mind, parents should discuss with their sons the risk of teen driving and set forth clear driving guidelines. Additional information including suggested guidelines may be obtained by contacting the GHSA at www.ghsa.org.

Based on these recent reports and due to the concern we have for each and every student, the Yeshiva maintains a clear driving policy which must be followed diligently to help ensure everyone's safety. **Please be sure to sign the enclosed Driving Policy form and return it to the Yeshiva office in the enclosed envelope.** A copy of this Driving Policy is included in the Student Handbook as well for future reference.

As a reflection of our constant concern for the safety and well being of our students at all times, Yeshiva Toras Chaim maintains a very clear policy regarding student drivers and student passengers in cars driven by other students. This policy is vital to the safety of all students and must be followed diligently.

Parents must sign the attached consent form giving written consent for their son to drive to school (and park the car on campus). One written authorization per school year is sufficient. Even if your son will not be driving daily or regularly, a signed consent must be on file if he is to drive at all. The form must be updated for students who get their licenses during the year or for any other changes.

Students driving to and from school may not drive or enter the car at any time during the school day. This includes meal times, break times, free periods etc. **No exceptions will be made to this rule without permission from one of the principals.** No other staff member is authorized to give such permission.

Student drivers may not, at any time, drive other students in their car - even to go home – without written permission from both the parent of the student driver and the parent of the student passenger. These written permissions must be on file in our office.

All student drivers must have on file in the office a photocopy of a valid driver's license and proof of insurance.

Please sign the enclosed form indicating that you are aware of and accept the Yeshiva's policy regarding student drivers and student passengers and that you give permission for your son to drive to school and from school, to

transport other students, and/or to be a passenger in a student-driven car. Please return the form along with a copy of your son's license and proof of insurance. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Looking forward to a wonderful and *safe* school year!