

back-to-school



Levi Gourarie, 15, of Oak Park gets a peek at his new dorm room.

Photos by Jerry Zelynsky

Start The Year Right

Chabad school students in Oak Park will step into new school and dorms.

Come Tuesday, Aug. 21, classrooms in the new Lubavitch Yeshivah-International School for Chabad Leadership in Oak Park will be bustling with students on the first day of class.

But this week, finishing touches are being put on the new building that will be home to about 100 male students from the school's upper divisions.

"It is a dream come true," said Rabbi Mendel Stein, the school's development director. "The students will be shocked when they get here. It will surely help strengthen their education and pride toward becoming the shlichim [emissaries] of tomorrow."

Students begin arriving from 17

states and 10 countries on Aug. 17 and move in this weekend.

Levi Gourarie, 15, of Oak Park had an advance look at his dorm room.

"This is really neat," he said. "I can't believe this is actually for us!"

The new Harry and Wanda Zekelman Campus, named for parents of major donor Alan Zekelman of Bloomfield Hills, features a 25,000-square-foot education building and a 20,000-square-foot dormitory for 120 boarders. And there's room on the 4-acre campus — on West 10 Mile Road between Coolidge and Greenfield — for expansion. □

— Story Development Editor Keri Guten



Rabbi Mendel Stein adjusts an instructor's desk in one of the classrooms.



Rabbi Bentzion Stein shows off the state-of-the-art kitchen that will be used to make kosher meals for the students.

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