

Guidelines for Having a Holocaust Survivor Speak to Your Class

- Contact Linda Medvin by email or CAB at linda.medvin@browardschools.com if you are interested in having a Holocaust Survivor speak to your **middle** or **high** school students. Include the **date** and approximate **time** for the Survivor to come to your school.
- **Do not** make arrangements directly with a Holocaust Survivor. Linda Medvin must authorize the survivors that are sent to schools to speak.
- **Do not** make arrangements directly with the Holocaust Documentation & Education Center or with FAU Center for Holocaust and Human Rights Education or any other agency or group. Linda Medvin must approve the requests for survivors that re sent to the schools to speak. You will then be contacted to finalize arrangements for the visit.
- Holocaust Survivors will **not** be sent to speak to elementary school students. The Survivors of the Holocaust are getting old and frail and will no longer be going to speak elementary school students. They will limit their visits to speak to middle and high school students only.
- There is no fee for having a Holocaust Survivor speak to your class. Survivors should not request donations to any individual or organization. Holocaust Survivors may not sell their books to the students or teachers.
- Holocaust Survivors are to be treated as guests in your school. They **must** be met by an adult (teacher, aide, administrator) and escorted to the room. When they are through, please have an adult escort him/her back to the front office.
- Holocaust Survivors will only speak once. They do not speak multiple times in a day. Combine classes to maximize the use of the Survivor's talk.
- A speaker should be invited to your **middle** and **high school** class **after the class has studied its unit on the Holocaust.**
- You may wish to have your students prepare questions for the Survivor ahead of time.
- Caution your students that they will be listening to an individual who has had an emotional experience; and that s/he might react with tears, anger, etc.; and that s/he may speak English with an accent. Remind students to treat the speaker with courtesy and respect.
- Be prepared to refocus the speaker if s/he becomes sidetracked.
- Allow enough time for the class to ask questions.
- It would be most thoughtful for students to write brief notes thanking the speaker for the presentation.
- Consider taping the speaker and building up classroom testimonials. Check with the Holocaust Survivor to make sure that s/he is willing to be taped.
- Teachers should remain in the room for the **entire presentation** in order to help maintain student behavior.
- The teacher might consider inviting an administrator to introduce the Holocaust Survivor since this sends students a message about the importance of the speaker.