



Photo Courtesy of HAFTR

HAFTR alumna Leor Barell came to speak with HAFTR High School seniors about her experiences in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF). Despite receiving a full scholarship to attend a prestigious university in the United States, Leor made aliya and volunteered to join the IDF. She serves as a commander in the elite "Search and Rescue" unit of the IDF. She took time out of her busy schedule on her three week furlough from the army to visit her high school, and inspired the seniors with her dedication and service to the Jewish State. She said that she has no regrets and feels that she is doing something very positive and meaningful for her people and the Jewish homeland. Her service as a religious Jewish female is important, because it illustrates the importance of following one's Zionist convictions. She reminded the seniors that we can travel, study, and live at peace in Israel because young boys and girls give the best years of their lives, and sometimes even their very lives, to keep the Zionist dream alive.