When it comes to motivating people, Eugene Itkin is as passionate and successful as they come. He founded Genies Center of Educational Excellence in 2005 and has made it one of the most recognized names in private mathematics education in California today. What he started by himself has evolved from the ground up into a team of leading educators that are meticulously guided by his proven instruction methods for helping students achieve unprecedented results. He has taught thousands of students through his Center and helped many of them get into the schools of their dreams—from Ivy League universities such as Harvard and Yale to esteemed technical institutions such as MIT and CalTech.

As a professional instructor, Eugene understands the importance of helping students succeed in the classroom, but knowing he can be a role model and positively influence others for the rest of their lives is what truly inspires him. This is what prompted him to add on the role of Math Curriculum Director for the San Diego Jewish Academy in 2020. The department has thrived since his arrival thanks to a revamped testing program and a flexibility to accommodate students in distance learning with online and hybrid instruction.

His experience has given him an innate sense of what can motivate a student from any background. And he has used this experience to guide instructors at his Center and teachers in the classroom at the Jewish Academy.

With this leadership experience paired with his relentless work ethic, Eugene is also a highly skilled lecturer and public speaker. He also conducts motivational seminars for young people.

Born in Minsk, Belarus, Eugene immigrated with his family to San Diego, California at age 6. He began tutoring at age 16 when he started an in-home math tutoring service and saw it grow each day through word of mouth thanks to excellent results from his students.

Eugene received a B.S. in Management Science from the University of California-San Diego in 2005.

He has been a competitive golfer for more than 15 years and currently holds a 0 index, and he also earned a first-degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do at age 16 and has achieved a high amateur status in Muay Thai over the last six years.