Regent Park/Duke of York Junior Public School

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WEBSITE: http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/regentpark
GRADE RANGE: JK to 6

Interesting Feature

Model Schools for inner cities: Cluster School

Our school is a cluster school for a model school. As a result, our students benefit from additional learning opportunities and services. As part of a model school, our school is comprised of 5 essential components:

1. Innovation in teaching/learning practise in the school structure
2. Support Services to meet the social, emotional and physical well being of students
3. School as the heart of the community
4. Research, review and evaluation of students and programs
5. Commitment to share successful practises

Our School Motto is: Respect. Respect yourself, respect others.

Regent Park/Duke of York Public School is an inner-city school serving from East of River Street to Bay Street, including families in Regent Park South, Moss Park and currently the students from Nelson Mandela Park Public School while it is temporarily closed for a rebuild. Regent Park Public School was built in 1958; an addition (a south tower on Shuter Street) was built in 1967. The original Duke of York Public School was housed in an older building on Pembroke Street. Due to declining enrolment and a community demand for a Public French School, the Duke of York School was transferred to the Regent Park School building. In the early 1980s, the two schools were formally amalgamated into one.

Community Use Priority School

In 2008, the Ministry of Health Promotion developed a Child and Youth Health and Wellness After-School Strategy. This strategy is focused on supporting after-school programming in priority neighbourhoods where school-age residents can benefit from programs focused on three themes: physical activity, healthy eating and nutrition, wellness and personal health education.Our school is one of the schools identified to benefit from this initiative. Everyday after school, our students have the opportunity to participate in sports clubs, a homework club, a girls' group and an art club. The students also receive a healthy snack.

Special Education Programs

Our School has a Kindergarten Diagnostic Program, a Junior Learning Disibilities class and three morning home school programs that support students with literacy and numeracy. We also have resource help for students in the afternoon.

Parent and Family Literacy Centre

Our Parenting and Family Literacy Centre helps to prepare children for starting school and encourages families to be a part of their children's learning by helping children build essential literacy and numeracy skills through stories, music, reading and playing.

Breakfast and Snack Program

Our school offers both a daily breakfast program and a daily snack program for each and every child that attends our school.

Additional Features

- Welcome to Kindergarten Night
- Student Council
- Sports Programs and Clubs
- Student Leadership Program
- Art and Play Therapy Programs
- Community Partnerships
- Field Trips

For a list of all programs that are also offered visit http://www.tdsb.on.ca/schools/index.asp?schno=5280&schoolId=1391

Student Life - Where You Belong

Community Service Projects, as well as responsible citizenship are the basis of the core value system for our students. The Student Council is comprised of two student representative from each classroom. The student council meet on a regular basis to organize a variety of events for the school for each month. The events centre around school spirit and involve a fund raising component. We also have a school wide focus for each classroom that involves a "give back" initiative. The purpose if this initiative is to teach students to graciously give as well as receive, while learning to recognize that it is a rewarding feeling to give back to others. Some examples of what classes have done so far include food drives, working with individuals that have disabilities and planning for a community garden. In addition, we also have a student leadership program for our grade 5 and 6 students. This staff nominated group of students participate in morning announcements, act as student ambassadors and are problems solvers at recess and give out equipment at recess times to promote cooperative play.

What Sets Us Apart

What sets us apart is the amount of programs in place to support our students. Our staff meet regularly in professional learning communities to improve their professional practise to ensure that students are supported in the best way possible using relevant teaching strategies that address individual student needs. We also have an art therapy and play therapy program on site, as well as special education classes and resource support.

Parent and Community Engagement

Public Library visits, George Brown College CYW students, University of Toronto Faculty of Medicine students, Seneca College E.C.E. students, Community Support Worker, Cabbage Town Youth Centre, John Innes Community Centre, Greenwood College, Camp Kilcoo, Regent Park Community Health Centre, Partnerships with Toronto Police, One On One Mentoring, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Frontier College Homework Club, Greenwood Reading Buddies and morning program; Running and Reading Program; Hockey Heros, Student teacher programmes, VAST Volunteer Program with Ryerson University, After School Programs, Kiwanas Boys and Girls Club, School Council, Parent volunteers, Breakfast Program, Parenting and Family Literacy Centre, Parenting Centre, Duke of York Childcare Centre, Family Literacy and Numeracy Nights, SEPT Worker (School Settlement Worker)

TDSB - Better Schools. Brighter Futures

Imagine a TDSB where all schools share a common core set of characteristics. They are community-driven and focused on teaching and learning. Students and parents have a wide variety of opportunities and there are enough students in every school to increase program choices.

Imagine there is a clear focus on achieving student success and every student is engaged, has a voice, access to a caring adult and the opportunity to develop their full potential.

The Director of Education, Chris Spence has developed a Vision of Hope to help guide the TDSB to an education system like this one. Three priority areas will help guide this vision:
-student achievement
-parent and community engagement
-financial stability

Among our first steps that we are taking is re-creating our schools and that's where Better Schools Brighter Futures comes in. To learn more visit http://www.tdsb.on.ca/brighterfutures

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