

School Address

490 York Mills Road
North York, M3B1W6
Tel: (416) 395-3340
Fax: (416) 395-9000

Principal

Clara Williams

Vice Principal(s)

Alexandra Noack
Todd Bushell

Administrative Office Staff

Jackie Couch
Stephanie Cai
Leslee Waterston

*

School Council Chair(s)

Joanne Bleier
Stephen Wong
Mercy Yan

*

Ward 13 Trustee

Gerri Gershon
(416) 397-2428

Superintendent

Johanne Messner
(416) 396-9182

Director of Education

Chris Spence

OUR SCHOOL

At York Mills Collegiate, there is a strong emphasis on academic achievement and preparation for post-secondary education. The school offers a wide range of curricular programs which include English, mathematics, the sciences, social science, business studies, physical and health education, as well as the performing and visual arts. Our language program includes French Immersion, French as a Second Language, and Spanish. An extensive English as a Second Language program is also available for students not born in Canada.

Students at York Mills represent culturally and ethnically diverse backgrounds. All students are encouraged to participate and develop their leadership skills through the co-curricular program. There is a high level of student involvement in the arts, athletics, clubs and community service. Staff and students take great pride in the school and work together to create a learning environment that is safe, nurturing, positive and respectful.

Students are encouraged to take advantage of support programs which are available. These include Guidance Programs and Services, Special Education, and Peer Tutoring. Our Information Centre (library) is a vibrant setting where students can study, read, meet with others or conduct research using online technology.

Parents are recognized as important partners in the education of their children. Parents are encouraged to join the School Advisory Council, attend school functions and contact the school with concerns, questions or suggestions.

At York Mills, the teaching staff, parents and community partners work together to support the growth and achievement of all students.

Special Features

- ✦ an Information Centre with access to scientific, literary and scholarly online data bases
- ✦ support programs, including Special Education, which has a language lab; Guidance, Peer Tutoring
- ✦ a diverse language program which includes French, Spanish, and French Immersion
- ✦ opportunities for all students to develop leadership skills through participation in a wide variety of co-curricular activities in athletics, the arts, and a variety of clubs
- ✦ YMReads, a school wide literacy initiative promoting positive reading habits

OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2008)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	1187	
✦ Gender:		
Female	588	50%
Male	599	50%
✦ Primary language other than English:	661	56%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	63	5%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	144	12%

* Calculation does not include students for whom language information is missing.

THE SCHOOL BOARD PROVIDES:

The Toronto District School Board (TDSB), in partnership with students, parents, teachers and all our communities, is committed to taking responsibility for continuous improvement of schools. This is achieved through:

- ✦ **Relevant Curriculum**
- ✦ **Equity**
- ✦ **Accountability**

Regular Instructional Programs

In addition to the regular instructional program mandated by *The Ontario Curriculum*, our school offers optional programs. Details of these programs can be found in the Choices document available on the TDSB web (TDSB.on.ca). A hardcopy is provided to students and parents in January of each year to assist them in choosing courses for the following school year.

Special Education Programs

A variety of special education programs and services are offered to meet the needs of all students, including students with exceptionalities, such as behavioural, communication, intellectual, physical and multiple learning disabilities. Students' exceptionalities are identified through a formal review process undertaken by an Identification, Placement and Review Committee (IPRC).

OUR SCHOOL ALSO OFFERS:

Co-Curricular

Arts Programs

- ✦ Dramatic Arts:
Drama Club, Dramatic Arts Festivals
- ✦ Integrated Programs:
Talent Show
- ✦ Music:
Band, Excursions, Guitar, Jazz Band, Keyboard, Music Concerts / Performances, Music Festivals, Orchestra, Piano, Stageband, Strings
- ✦ Visual Arts:
Computer/Graphic Arts, Excursions, Photography

Intramurals

- ✦ Dodgeball
- ✦ Floor Hockey
- ✦ Volleyball

Athletic Teams

- ✦ Archery
- ✦ Badminton
- ✦ Baseball
- ✦ Basketball
- ✦ Co ed Volleyball
- ✦ Cross Country
- ✦ Curling
- ✦ Field Hockey
- ✦ Floor Hockey
- ✦ Golf
- ✦ Ice hockey
- ✦ Rugby
- ✦ Soccer

- ✦ Softball
- ✦ Swimming
- ✦ Tennis
- ✦ Track and Field
- ✦ Ultimate Frisbee
- ✦ Volleyball
- ✦ Water Polo

Clubs

- ✦ Animé
- ✦ Announcement Club
- ✦ Art
- ✦ Badminton
- ✦ Book Club
- ✦ Business
- ✦ Chess
- ✦ Christian Fellowship
- ✦ Computer
- ✦ Cooking Club
- ✦ Environmental
- ✦ Equity
- ✦ French Club
- ✦ Games
- ✦ Green Club
- ✦ Knitting Club
- ✦ Library
- ✦ Library Helpers
- ✦ Math
- ✦ Photography

THE SCHOOL BOARD PROVIDES:



- ✦ Reading
- ✦ Recycling
- ✦ Science
- ✦ Social Justice Club
- ✦ Sound, Light and Stage Crew
- ✦ Student Newspaper Club/Yearbook Club
- ✦ United Nations
- ✦ Website
- ✦ Yearbook

Leadership

- ✦ Arts Council
- ✦ Athletic Council
- ✦ Music Council
- ✦ Office Helpers
- ✦ School Ambassadors
- ✦ Student Activity Council:
SAC
- ✦ Student Announcers
- ✦ Student Conferences:
Forest Valley Leadership Camp
- ✦ Student Leadership:
Leaders for Tomorrow

Competitions

- ✦ Computers:
Waterloo Contest
- ✦ DECA Business Club
- ✦ Gauss Contest
- ✦ Kiwanis Festival:
Music Festival
- ✦ Mathematics Competitions:
Canadian Open, EUCLID, CNML
- ✦ Music Competitions:
Kiwanis
- ✦ Ontario Business Contests:
OBEA
- ✦ Science Competitions:
McMaster Science
- ✦ Sears Drama Festival:
Drama
- ✦ Skills Canada

Curricular Enhancement

- ✦ Daily Independent Reading
- ✦ Junior Achievement
- ✦ MI Lead

Community, Culture and Caring

Community - Mentoring

- ✦ Community Based:
Toronto Police Services - School Liaison Officer
- ✦ School Based:
Peer Mentoring

Community - Tutoring

- ✦ School Based:
Homework Clubs, Peer Tutoring

Culture/Caring

- ✦ Camps:
Leadership, Subject-Based Camps
- ✦ Caring:
Blood Drives, Food Drives, Free The Children,
Reconnecting
- ✦ Fundraisers:
30 Hour Famine, Adopt a Village, Brick by Brick,
CN Tower Climb, Terry Fox Run
- ✦ Safe & Caring Schools:
Amnesty International, Buddy System, ESP:
Empowered Student Partnerships, Recognition
Assemblies, Recognition Awards Program
- ✦ Social Skills:
Character Development Program, Future Aces

Equity

- ✦ African Heritage Month Activities
- ✦ Anti-Racist Education
- ✦ Asian Heritage Month Activities
- ✦ Assemblies
- ✦ Equity Committee
- ✦ Faith-based Clubs:
Jewish Culture Club, Christian Fellowship,
Persian Club
- ✦ Gay Straight Alliance
- ✦ Inclusive Curriculum and Resources
- ✦ Multicultural Club
- ✦ Recognition Awards Program

Student Success

Transitions

- ✦ Parent Information Nights
- ✦ SPIRE

Remedial Activities

- ✦ Credit Rescue

Specializations and Other Programs

Other Programs (Not deemed specialized)

- ✦ Coop Packages:
2 Credit Coop
- ✦ Dual Credit
- ✦ ESL

Programs and Services

THE SCHOOL BOARD PROVIDES:

- ✦ French Immersion

Special Education Programs

- ✦ DD - Developmental Disability



Information about the success of our programs comes from a wide variety of student assessments. These assessments are based on clear expectations for all learners, consistent with those described in *The Ontario Curriculum*.

The primary purpose of student assessment is to improve learning. Assessment has the greatest potential to improve learning when it is an integral part of classroom activities. Teachers assess student progress towards achieving the expectations on an ongoing basis by using strategies such as projects, class presentations, homework assignments, classroom observations, portfolios of student work, and tests.

Schools use assessment information and information from other sources to make informed decisions for school improvement planning. Schools identify areas of strength as well as areas that require improvement. Input is obtained from a variety of sources such as student assessments, teacher feedback, parent feedback, and community surveys. In this way, schools monitor, celebrate and improve their efforts in providing a supportive and challenging learning environment for all their students.

WHAT OUR SCHOOL IS PLANNING FOR THIS YEAR

Emphasis will be focussed on the following school-wide initiatives:

- ✦ **Safe Schools** - continue to build a school culture where staff and students share responsibility for maintaining a safe and secure environment. The ESP consisting of students and staff advisors involved in addressing issues with the student body regarding safety both at school and outside of school.
 - ✦ **Assessment and Evaluation** - refine Assessment and Evaluation strategies as required in the curriculum.
 - ✦ **Use of Technology in the Delivery of Program** - provide resources and teacher training to increase the use of technology in the delivery of program.
 - ✦ **Literacy** - all staff preparing Grade 10 students for the Literacy test
 - ✦ focus attention on teaching strategies which assist students who are developing their language skills
- ✦ **Communication with Parents** - continue to explore ways of getting information to parents, eg. E-mail distribution list, York Mills Website.
 - ✦ **Pathways to Success** - inform parents of students who may not be university bound of other options eg. College, Apprenticeship Programs - explore ways to provide programs which will result in students experiencing success and earning credits. Introduce students to SKILLS CANADA.
 - ✦ **Transitions** - work closely with our feeder schools to provide a smooth and seamless transition into York Mills, and with post-secondary institutions to provide for a successful transition from York Mills.

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Parent And Community Involvement

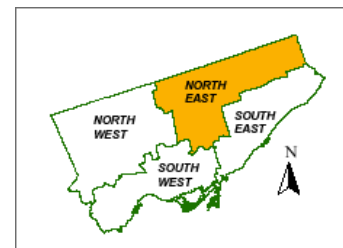
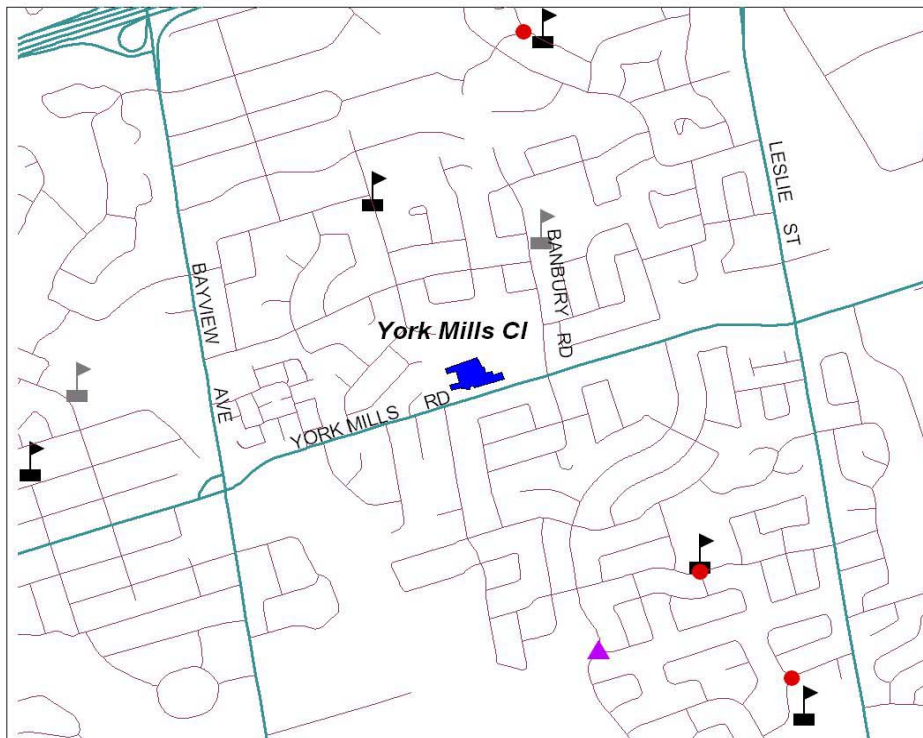
Parent Involvement:

- ✦ School Advisory Council
- ✦ Representatives on various committees, eg. Commencement
- ✦ Attendance at school functions, eg. School Show, Art Show, Music Nights, Parent-Teacher Interviews, Grade 10 Curriculum Night

Community Links:

- ✦ the following community members provide awards for students: - Canadian Parents for French - North Region - Rotary Club of North York - Royal Bank - YMCI School Advisory Council

OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD



- OUR SCHOOL
- ▣ TDSB Elementary School
- ▣ TDSB Junior High School
- ▣ TDSB Secondary School
- ⊕ Separate School
- Daycare/Nursery School
- Family Resource/ Parenting Centre
- ▲ Community/ Recreation Centre
- Public Library

0 0.5 1 Kilometers

Notes: The map shows the locations of local schools, community and social service facilities. For more information about these locations please contact the school. Sources: TDSB - Academic Accountability, Facility Services; City of Toronto - Children's Services, Toronto Land Information Services.