

School Address

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Director of Education

Chris Spence

OUR SCHOOL

Blantyre Public School first opened in 1928. Sixty-five years later, the original building was replaced by our state-of-the-art facility serving Kindergarten to Gr. 8 students. The size of the school has stabilized at approximately 250 students.

The building houses Today's Child Tomorrow's Future Children's Centre, providing day care for children from 2-10 years.

The staff members at Blantyre Public School are committed to providing for our pupils a student-centred curriculum that will fulfil the personal, social and intellectual requirements necessary to meet the challenges of today and in the future. We value the traditions of the past, but are continually searching for new and innovative ideas that will put our students first.

Our school motto is "Blantyre, Highway to the Future".

School Focus For This School Year

- ✦ Continuing a school wide focus on improving literacy to prepare students with the skills needed in the 21st Century, expanding our literacy volunteer program, upgrading our resources in literacy
- ✦ improving numeracy skills of all our students using a variety of strategies, including increased use of manipulatives in the junior and intermediate divisions
- ✦ providing increased opportunities for student leadership in both curricular and co-curricular activities
- ✦ teaching information technology skills, including using the Internet as a viable research tool
- ✦ teaching information technology across the curriculum with a focus on numeracy and literacy
- ✦ develop an appreciation of music through vocal and instrumental instruction
- ✦ expanding students' sense of social responsibility to self, school and community with special attention to inclusionary practices
- ✦ help students learn to solve conflicts in a peaceful manner through extensive anti-bullying education

OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2008)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	230	
Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3	103	
Grade 4 - Grade 6	70	
Grade 7 - Grade 8	57	
✦ Gender:		
Female	109	47%
Male	121	53%
✦ Primary language other than English:	20	9%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	2	1%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	3	1%

* 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

- † Languages - English, English as a Second Language, and French
- † Mathematics, Science and Technology
- † Arts - Music, Visual Arts, Drama and Dance
- † Social Studies, Health and Physical Education; in Grades 7-8: History and Geography, Family Studies and Guidance

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

- † Music:
Band

Intramurals

- † Basketball
- † Cooperative Games
- † Indoor soccer

Athletic Teams

- † Baseball
- † Basketball
- † Cross Country
- † Kilometre Club
- † Soccer
- † Track and Field
- † Volleyball

Community, Culture and Caring

Community - Mentoring

- † Community Based:
Go Girls!

Community - Tutoring

- † School Based:
Literacy & Numeracy Tutoring (Cont. Ed)

Culture/Caring

- † Fundraisers:
Terry Fox Run
- † Safe & Caring Schools:
Let's Stop the Bullying: Bully Prevention Program
- † Social Skills:
Character Development Program, Tribes

Specializations and Other Programs

Special Education Programs

- † PD - Physical 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

Blantyre P.S. is implementing the Ontario curriculum in the following areas: Kindergarten, Language, Mathematics, Science and Technology, Social Studies, The Arts, Physical and Health Education and French (Grade 4-8).

Literacy and Numeracy

- ✦ maintain literacy and numeracy as curriculum priorities
- ✦ integrate library and related skills into the curriculum
- ✦ stress the teaching of reading strategies such as: guided reading cloze procedures, shared reading, book clubs and reading buddies
- ✦ continue to enhance training of teachers in assesment and evaluation
- ✦ extend the hours of the library resource centre through the partnership of parent volunteers
- ✦ maximize the role of volunteers in assisting students to read and to write
- ✦ increase the use of manipulatives in the mathematics programs.
- ✦ improve basic computational skills in all grades
- ✦ expand Language Assessment in the Junior/Intermediate Grades (CASI)

Information Technology

- ✦ teach information technology across the curriculum with a focus on numeracy and literacy
- ✦ expand the reading buddies program to reading/computer buddies
- ✦ timetable all classes, Kindergarten to Grade 8 through the computer lab
- ✦ continue and foster partnerships with the community, business and other schools
- ✦ develop a school web site
- ✦ provide additional computers in each classroom
- ✦ continue use of servers to provide individual student and staff files

Personal and Social Responsibility

- ✦ implement TDSB "Let's Stop the Bullying" program - Kto8

- ✦ expand students' sense of social responsibility to self, school and community
- ✦ seize opportunities to engage in Magic Circle and other conflict resolution strategies
- ✦ provide opportunities for students to exercise leadership skills, i.e., student parliament, student announcements, peer tutoring, peer mediation
- ✦ interact with the School Council to review and revise school policies such as homework, code of behaviour, lateness, and lunchroom expectations, volunteer handbook

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Parent And Community Involvement

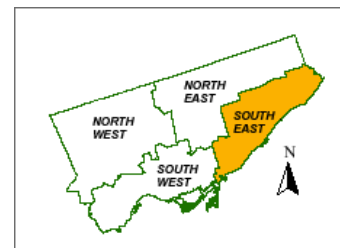
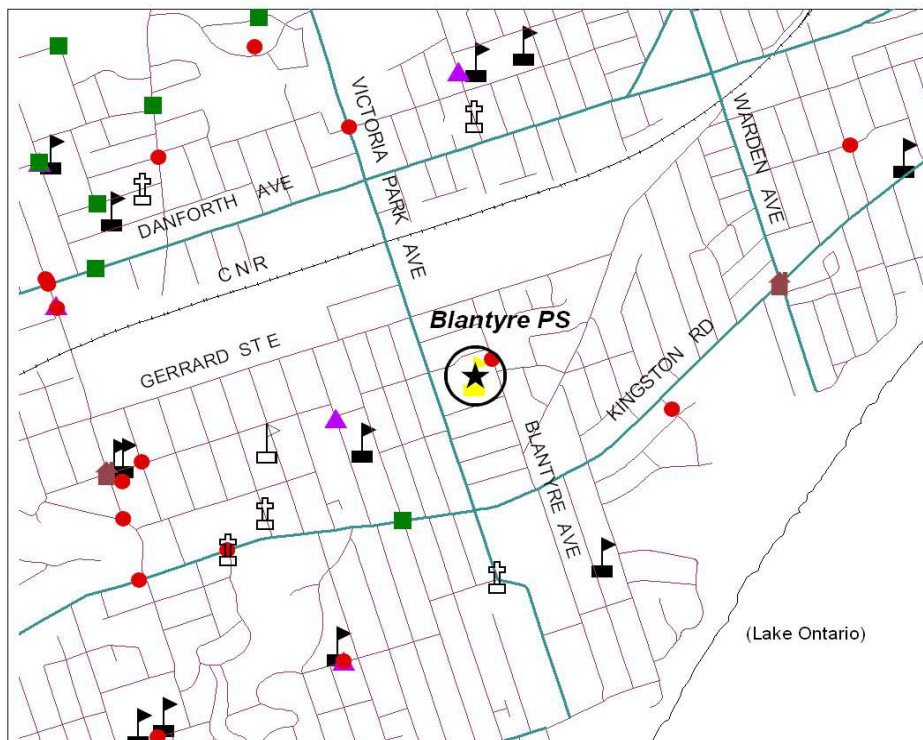
Parent Involvement:

- ✦ We have: A group of many active parent volunteers who: assist with literacy development in the classrooms; work in the Library Resource Centre and as classroom volunteers
- ✦ A Home and School Council which advises the school in many integral areas such as Code of Behaviour, lunchroom procedures and homework policies and sponsors social and fundraising activities
- ✦ Fundraising activities in support of agencies such as: Birchmount Bluffs Community Association, Daily Bread Food Bank, the Terry Fox Foundation and UNICEF, Heart and Stroke Foundation, Student Success Foundation

Community Links:

- ✦ Links to groups such as Sparks, Volleyball

OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD



- OUR SCHOOL
- TDSB Elementary 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.