

School Address

10 Bellamy Road South
Scarborough, M1M3N8
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Principal

C. Benacem

Vice Principal(s)

R. HollingsworthMoffitt

Administrative Office Staff

Nadine White

*

School Council Chair(s)

Judy Wilkings

*

Ward 18 Trustee

Gary Crawford
(416) 393-8815

Superintendent

Anne Kerr
(416) 396-9194

Director of Education

Chris Spence

OUR SCHOOL

Bliss Carman Senior Public School is dedicated to serving the wide variety of needs exhibited by early adolescent students. We have a strong belief in inclusive education and we support that belief with three "pillars of strength" - academic, athletic and artistic excellence.

The school is named after William Bliss Carman (1861 - 1929), the Poet Laureate of Canada. The building is over 30 years old and in excellent condition, due to the efforts of our caretaking staff, Board maintenance staff, teachers and students. We are located at Kingston Road and Bellamy Road South, and serve a large, multi-ethnic community living in a wide variety of socioeconomic conditions.

Our traditions reflect our three "pillars of strength." We have numerous yearly awards to promote academic excellence and leadership. Our inter-school athletic program is second to none and has in fact, produced several provincial and national athletes. We enter numerous music festivals and competitions yearly and have been received several awards. We are proud of our long tradition of musical excellence.

Bliss Carman policies are clearly outlined for our students and parents in an agenda provided for every student. All school policies reflect and complement Board policies, including those referring to bullying, harassment, discrimination and safe schools.

Our students, a delightful mix of cultures from around the world, participate in a wide variety of academic, athletic, artistic and cultural pursuits. As noted earlier, they often distinguish themselves and their community by the excellence of their efforts.

The Bliss Carman staff is like any successful team whose diverse talents and backgrounds combine for excellent results. It truly takes a team effort - teachers, caretakers, business and operations staff, administrators, support staff, parents - to ensure that our students achieve to the best of their abilities.

OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2008)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	445	
✦ Gender:		
Female	206	46%
Male	239	54%
✦ Primary language other than English:	215	48%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	22	5%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	26	6%

* 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
- ✦ Health and Physical Education, 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

- ✦ Dance:
Hip-Hop Dance
- ✦ Dramatic Arts:
Drama Club
- ✦ Integrated Programs:
DARE Arts
- ✦ Music:
Band, Choir, Music Concerts / Performances,
Music Festivals, Strings

Intramurals

- ✦ Special Event Houseleague Programme

Athletic Teams

- ✦ Basketball
- ✦ Cross Country
- ✦ Flag Football
- ✦ Flag Rugby
- ✦ Ice hockey
- ✦ Soccer
- ✦ Softball
- ✦ Track and Field
- ✦ Volleyball

Clubs

- ✦ Announcement Club
- ✦ Environmental
- ✦ Equity
- ✦ French Club
- ✦ Library
- ✦ Raptors Reading Club

- ✦ Recycling
- ✦ Red Maple Reading Club
- ✦ Robotics
- ✦ Spanish
- ✦ Yearbook

Leadership

- ✦ Athletic Council
- ✦ School Ambassadors
- ✦ Student Activity Council:
leadership
- ✦ Student Leadership:
E.S.P., Character Ed., Future Aces

Competitions

- ✦ FIRST Robotics
- ✦ Great Canadian Geography Challenge
- ✦ Investigate! Invent! Innovate! (I3)
- ✦ Urban Voices

Curricular Enhancement

- ✦ Junior Achievement
- ✦ MI Lead

Community, Culture and Caring

Community - Mentoring

- ✦ Community Based:
Go Girls!
- ✦ School Based:
Peer Mentoring

Culture/Caring

- ✦ Caring:
Food Drives, Settlement Education Partnership
Toronto (SEPT)

Programs and Services

THE SCHOOL BOARD PROVIDES:

- ♦ Fundraisers:
Book Fair, Dance-A-Thon, Entertainment Book, Terry Fox Run, Toy Drives
- ♦ Safe & Caring Schools:
Bully Prevention Program, ECO Schools, ESP: Empowered Student Partnerships, Recognition Assemblies, Recognition Awards Program, Restorative Justice, Safe Arrival Program
- ♦ Social Skills:
Future Aces, Peer Mediation/Helpers

Student Success

Transitions

- ♦ Transitions Team meetings



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

The commitment to excellence in academics, athletics and in the arts is a proud Bliss Carman tradition. Our School Improvement Plan outlines the main priorities for the year:

Literacy

Expectation: To provide all students with the opportunity to acquire literacy skills.

- ♦ promote and reinforce literacy skills across the curriculum
- ♦ dedicate time and funds to staff development and the acquisition of classroom and library resource materials to support literacy
- ♦ use computer lab to support Literacy program in a variety of ways
- ♦ continue implementation of Balanced Literacy programme

Mathematics

Expectation: To strengthen basic computational and problem solving skills for all students.

- ♦ establish a homework club and tutoring to offer support to students
- ♦ use a variety of strategies to improve achievement

Support Model

Expectation: To maximize the support available for any student requiring extra help.

- ♦ Individual Educational Plan (I.E.P.) and differentiated instruction and M.I. Lead training for staff
- ♦ monthly School Support Team meeting to plan and monitor programs and interventions to help students to be successful
- ♦ emphasis on school / home communication through use of agenda, telephone calls and parent / teacher conferences
- ♦ support of Guidance Counsellor, Social Worker, Psychologist

- ♦ individual student support provided through Behaviour Itinerant Team
- ♦ Social Agency support provided to students and families (ie. Youth Link, YWCA)

Information Technology

Expectation: To enhance the levels of use and understanding of students and staff in the field of information technology.

- ♦ computer lab use through core classes for all students
- ♦ most classrooms with their own computer
- ♦ students and staff use electronic bulletin board and mail services
- ♦ school website
- ♦ SMART board, Moodles

Safe Schools / Personal and Social Responsibility

Expectations: To develop a sense of social responsibility among students; to promote leadership and conflict resolution strategies.

- ♦ provide opportunities for student leadership through Student Council, Athletic Representatives, Future Aces Ambassadors
- ♦ Community Liaison office from 43 Division involved in program development & delivery
- ♦ Character Education and monthly Recognition Assemblies
- ♦ maintain community partnerships

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Parent And Community Involvement

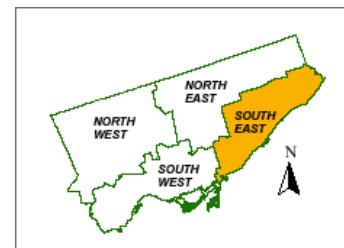
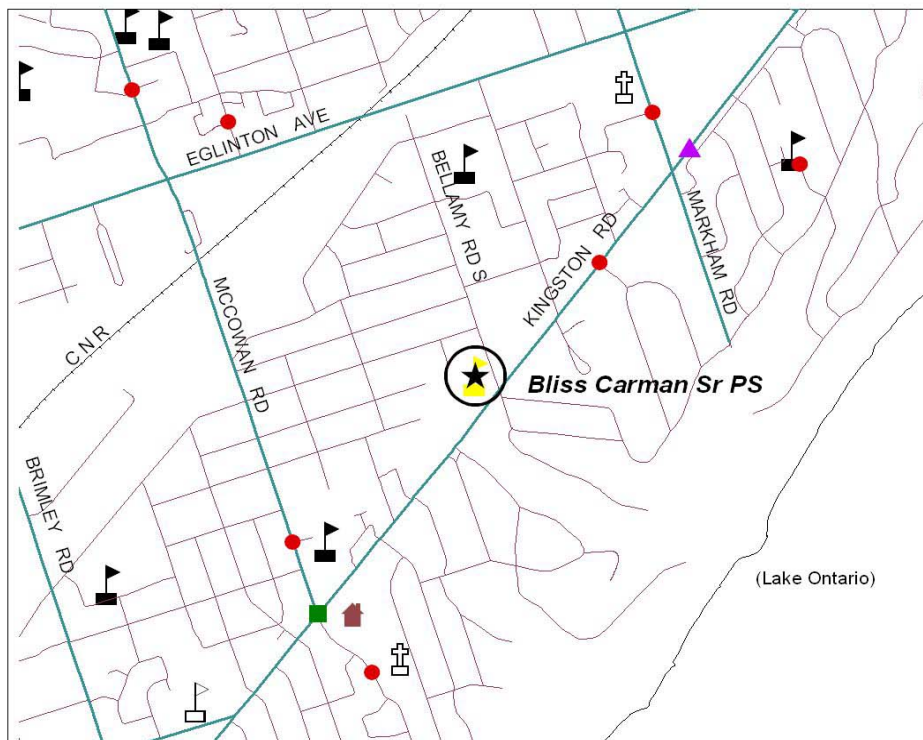
Parent Involvement:

- ✦ monthly newsletter, "The Bliss Carman Scribe", keeps parent / guardians informed
- ✦ Curriculum Night, music nights, information evenings
- ✦ parent/student/teacher conferences
- ✦ School Council: monthly meetings welcome BBQ, parent outreach, fundraising, Book fair, Gr. 7 year end celebration, Gr. 8 graduation, staff appreciation
- ✦ volunteers - trips, library, fund-raising, special events
- ✦ participate in Ward Forums
- ✦ Community meetings

Community Links:

- ✦ 43 Division liaison
- ✦ R.H.King leadership student volunteers
- ✦ Scarborough Village Agency Table
- ✦ YWCA
- ✦ Junior Achievement Program
- ✦ Youth Link
- ✦ S.E.P.T. - Settlement and Education Partnerships in Toronto - SEPT workers provide information about the school and community in many languages to families new to Canada
- ✦ Feeder Schools - Cedar Drive, Fairmount, G. P. Mackie, H. A. Halbert, Mason Road

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.