

School Address

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West Hill, M1E3G1
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Administrative Office Staff

Eileen Mason

*

School Council Chair(s)

Maria Alkis (chair)

*

Ward 22 Trustee

Nadia Bello
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Superintendent

Don McLean
(416) 396-9190

Director of Education

Chris Spence

OUR SCHOOL

West Hill Public School is located in the eastern section of Toronto. The school's history reaches back over 120 years as one of the first schools in the area. In 1994, the old building was demolished and a new one opened. West Hill P.S. serves a community that honours the spirit of the past and supports the realities of the present and future.

West Hill serves approximately 250 students, more than 30% from countries other than Canada. Many families are temporarily housed in our area as they await more permanent settlement in the Greater Toronto area. Throughout the year, as many as 400 students will pass through our doors.

West Hill is a Kindergarten to Grade 8 school, offering diversified and enriching classroom programs and an active co-curricular program. We offer opportunities for after-school academic remediation in addition to a wide variety of clubs, sports, groups and activities. West Hill P.S. also operates a Snack Program, offering a daily nutritious snack at no cost to our students or families.

West Hill P.S. continues to make academic excellence our first priority within an atmosphere which recognizes and celebrates diversity and fosters a safe and caring environment.

School Focus For This School Year

- ✦ improving literacy outcomes for all grades
- ✦ implementing challenging and enriched mathematics programs from K-8
- ✦ integrating initiatives aimed at caring for self and others, boosting self-esteem and encouraging self-responsibility throughout all aspects of the school program
- ✦ improving delivery of information technology programs for all grades and professional development for staff
- ✦ implementing Safe School initiatives which ensure a safe and caring learning environment for all students, at all times
- ✦ implementing a strong program of Health & Physical Education and the Arts to support the wider needs of all students

OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2008)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	275	
Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3	124	
Grade 4 - Grade 6	88	
Grade 7 - Grade 8	63	
✦ Gender:		
Female	127	46%
Male	148	54%
✦ Primary language other than English:	112	41%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	53	19%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	21	8%

* 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

- ♦ Dance:
Modern
- ♦ Integrated Programs:
DARE Arts
- ♦ Music:
Band, Choir, Music Camp, Music Concerts / Performances
- ♦ Visiting Artists:
Prologue to the Performing Arts
- ♦ Visual Arts:
Ceramics

Athletic Teams

- ♦ 3-pitch
- ♦ Basketball
- ♦ Cross Country
- ♦ Soccer
- ♦ Track and Field
- ♦ Volleyball

Clubs

- ♦ Environmental

Community, Culture and Caring

Community - Tutoring

- ♦ School Based:
Tutors in the Classroom (Elementary)

Culture/Caring

- ♦ Caring:
Settlement Education Partnership Toronto (SEPT)

Student Success

Pathways Programs

- ♦ Schools to Future:
TDSB Student GuluWalk

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

Our School Improvement plan is focused has developed the following plans for this year based on feedback from our assessments as well as goals identified by staff and community.

Literacy

Our goals and plans for literacy programs are in response to the EQAO results for our Grade 3 and Grade 6 students and reflect school objectives for improving literacy outcomes at all grade levels. Strategies will include:

- ♦ use student mentoring programs (e.g., book buddies) for primary students
- ♦ READ 180 Program for students in Grades 4-8
- ♦ continue use of "Book Bags" in support of daily reading at home
- ♦ implement school-wide small-group guided reading sessions for Grades 1 to 8
- ♦ involve parents as "literacy boosters" with primary children
- ♦ support school-wide use of portfolios in the writing program
- ♦ encourage students to regularly make use of the Learning Resource Centre for personal reading as well as for research
- ♦ encourage staff to attend literacy-related staff development sessions throughout the school year
- ♦ set up Literacy Resource Centre with student-centred literacy materials and professional development resources for staff
- ♦ hold two school-wide book fairs to raise funds for additional supplementary reading materials
- ♦ implement DRA assessment strategy (K-Gr.3) and CASI assessment strategies in Grades 4-8
- ♦ also implement OFIP Expansion strategies in all classrooms

Mathematics

West Hill staff are implementing a number of initiatives to continue steady growth in numeracy outcomes:

- ♦ increase the use of manipulative math materials at all grade levels
- ♦ update mathematics texts as needed
- ♦ provide staff development opportunities on integration of mathematics with other related subject areas
- ♦ establish student math portfolios as a tool for assessment of mathematics across the grades
- ♦ ensure that instruction integrates the math strands as much as possible
- ♦ provide timetables which allow for instruction in mathematics to occur at a consistent time each day

Community Needs

West Hill Public School serves a community that is increasingly diverse, both economically and culturally. Many families are temporary residents as well as newly arrived in Canada. To meet the needs of our community, we provide the following plans for this year:

- ♦ continue the ESL program to provide language foundation for newly-arrived ESL students
- ♦ continue the LEAP program in Grades 4-8 for students who need language support
- ♦ continue the early morning nutrition program
- ♦ expand the homework club emphasizing timely completion of assignments and remediation as needed
- ♦ continue implementing a federally-funded Settlement Worker Project to assist newcomer families with cultural adjustment needs

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Parent And Community Involvement

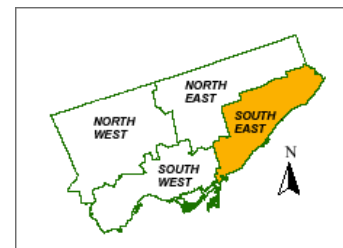
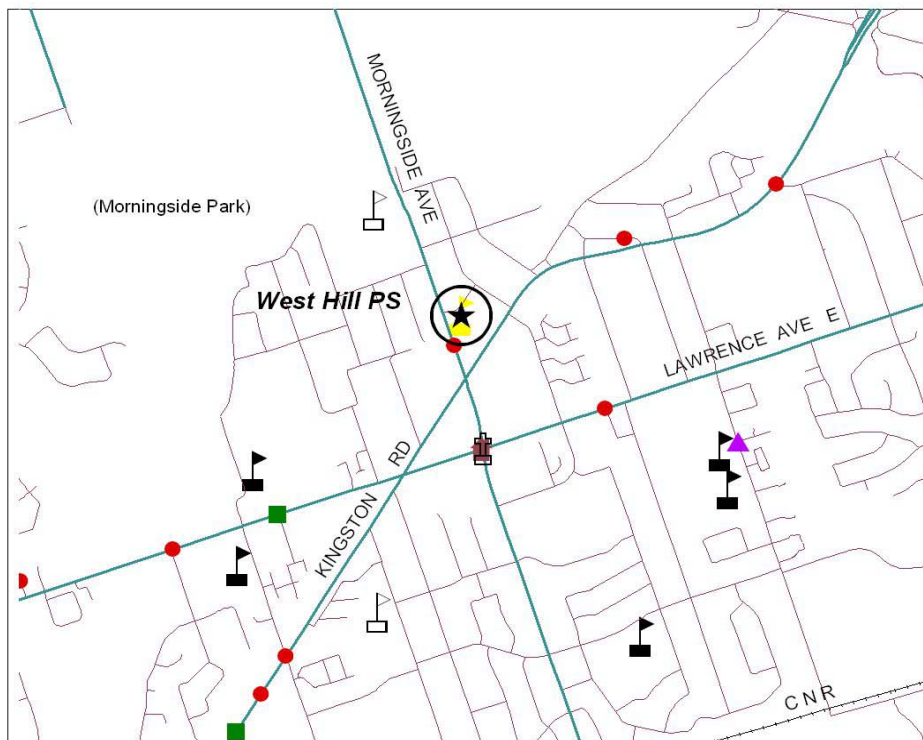
Parent Involvement:

- ✦ Encourage parents to visit classrooms and assist with the students who require a one-to-one program delivery.
- ✦ Support the collaboration between staff, students and parents through our School Council, meeting regularly throughout the year.
- ✦ Encourage parents to collaborate with staff in special program areas such as library, computer lab and music.
- ✦ Foster parent involvement with our morning nutrition program.

Community Links:

- ✦ Encourage use of the school gymnasium by various community groups for sports, music and meeting purposes.
- ✦ Support and encourage family-involved fundraising events such as Fun Fairs, Book Fairs and other projects that contribute to a sense of community.
- ✦ Encourage parents to participate in Family Math Night.
- ✦ Community Starbucks and Wal-Mart have adopted West Hill Public School. Assisting the school with school wide events, such as Fun Fairs, and other fundraising initiatives

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.