

School Address

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Principal

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Annie Cameron

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Nadine Sookermany

Light House Foundation

Janet Heisey
Nadine Sookermany

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Ward 14 Trustee

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Superintendent

Andrea Alimi
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Director of Education

Chris Spence

OUR SCHOOL

The Island Public/Natural Science School dates back to 1888. It is located a short ferry ride from the city on the Toronto Islands at Hanlan's Point.

- ✦ Two programs are run from the school: a day program that services the Island and Harbourfront community, and a residential science program for 68 students in Grades 5 and 6.
- ✦ Students attending the science program are from city schools and spend one week at the Island School, living in dorms studying natural science and outdoor education.
- ✦ Day students, Grade JK - 6 are transported to the school by ferry and school bus.
- ✦ We have 7 classes including our JK and SK program supported by music/drama/dance, core French and Special Education specialists.
- ✦ Our new building is a state-of-the-art facility with an environmental focus. The building includes a general purpose room, library/resource centre, science labs, and greenhouse. Our school is equipped with a grey water system, solar panels, and photovoltaic panels.

School Focus For This School Year

The Island School emphasizes the student's responsibility to self, family, school, local, and global community. During 2008/09 the school focuses on:

- ✦ Developing a School Improvement Plan with a focus on improving student achievement in the areas of Literacy & Numeracy.
- ✦ Through planned professional development time, review our assessment practices to ensure consistency across the Grades. This year our staff have identified one focus each term in the areas of Reading, Writing and Math.
- ✦ Using our professional learning community model to build time for teachers to share best practices
- ✦ Review our safe schools policies to ensure student safety while travelling by bus and ferry each day.
- ✦ Identify our 15% at risk population (educationally & socio-emotionally) and use a range of teaching strategies to meet their learning needs.
- ✦ Continue to build student leadership opportunities through programs such as Playground Activity Leadership (PALS); Student Peacemakers, Free the Children, Gold Eco School, Toronto Schools on the Move, House Leagues)

OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2008)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	187	
Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3	117	
Grade 4 - Grade 6	70	
✦ Gender:		
Female	87	47%
Male	100	53%
✦ Primary language other than English:	44	24%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	10	5%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	9	5%

* 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

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:
Artists in the School
- ✦ Integrated Programs:
DARE Arts, Talent Show
- ✦ Music:
Choir, Music Concerts / Performances, Toronto Symphony Orchestra
- ✦ Visiting Artists:
In-School Performances By Professional Artists

Athletic Teams

- ✦ Basketball
- ✦ Co ed Volleyball
- ✦ Cross Country
- ✦ Slo-Pitch
- ✦ Soccer

Clubs

- ✦ Announcement Club
- ✦ Library Helpers
- ✦ Red Maple Reading Club
- ✦ Silver Birch Book Club

Curricular Enhancement

- ✦ Daily Independent Reading
- ✦ Early Years Program
- ✦ Toronto Schools on the Move

Community, Culture and Caring

Community - Mentoring

- ✦ Community Based:
One-on-One Mentoring Program, Toronto Police Services - School Liaison Officer

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

We have developed the following plans for this year.

We will be placing a great deal of emphasis on reading, writing and mathematics by implementing the following strategies:

- ♦ Review range of data (DRA/CASI, EQAO assessment and a range of other assessments) to identify and implement strategies to help students succeed
- ♦ Teaching skills and strategies to help students write for a purpose, encourage varied types of writing - interactive, response, modeled for various purposes (e.g., narratives, scripts, lists, instructions, labels, etc.)
- ♦ Integrating language in all subject areas, in particular, English, mathematics, and science and technology to provide additional opportunities for language involvement and improvement
- ♦ Implementating the resource document *Writing in the Elementary Grades*, *Media Literacy* document and *Lucy Calkin & Ralph Fletcher Writing Programs*
- ♦ Provide reading remedial support through the Resource Teacher
- ♦ Use a range of frameworks to help support students in the writing process.
- ♦ Continue with the Second Steps Program which fosters a positive, respectful, caring and compassionate community.
- ♦ Ongoing Review of our Code of Conduct, Safe Schools Procedures/Practices
- ♦ Work with School Council and community to enhance Arts Program through Artist visits etc.
- ♦ Continue to foster Student Leadership through PALS, Toronto Schools on the Move, Peacemakers and many other programs

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Parent And Community Involvement

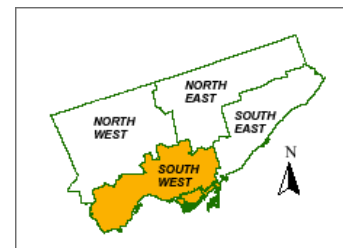
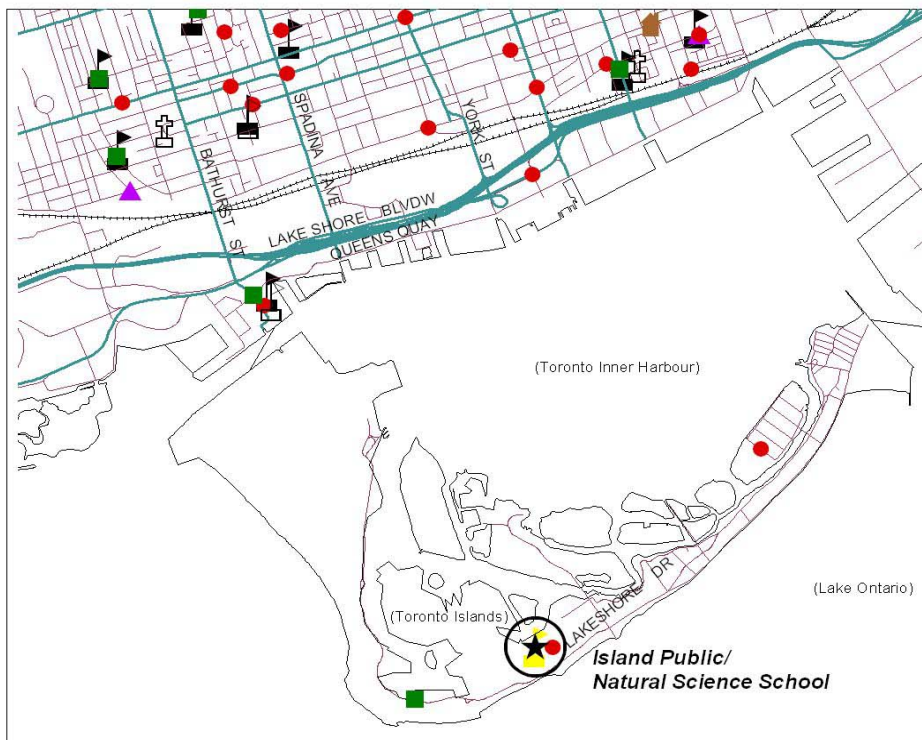
Parent Involvement:

- ✦ School Community Council with many active parent members meet the first Wednesday of each month. Provide enrichment programming through fund raising.
- ✦ Up to 30 regular parent volunteers who assist in classrooms and field trips

Community Links:

- ✦ Collaboration with community/social agencies, including Police, Public Health, Ferry Service, and Filtration Plant
- ✦ Family Literacy Night
- ✦ Landscaping new school grounds
- ✦ Daycare
- ✦ Parenting Centre

OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD



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.