

School Address

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Vice Principal(s)

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Administrative Office Staff

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Helen Saroglu

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Joann Sochor

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Ward 10 Trustee

Chris Bolton
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Superintendent

Andrea Alimi
(416) 394-2050

Director of Education

Chris Spence

OUR SCHOOL

Palmerston Public School is located in the Seaton Village area of the downtown Toronto Annex community. The school was first built in 1889. In 1897, a third floor was added and in 1915, the Annex building was constructed. The present building opened in 1957.

- ✦ Palmerston Avenue PS offers Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6 with an enrolment of approximately 550 students, with the majority having English as their first language.
- ✦ The school is a dual track school offering both the regular English and French Immersion programs. Palmerston also host a Gifted program for grades 4 to 6. The school serves children from the immediate neighbourhood as well as many children who come from outside the school district to attend the French Immersion and Gifted programs.
- ✦ All Kindergarten classes, a few of our junior classes and a Family Day Care are located in our Annex building.

School Focus For This School Year

The administrative, teaching and support team at Palmerston Avenue Public School continues to focus on:

- ✦ an integrated/interdisciplinary approach to curriculum delivery
- ✦ numeracy initiatives to strengthen the development of understanding mathematical concepts
- ✦ literacy initiatives to strengthen the development of reading and writing skills
- ✦ provide ongoing in-class support for students experiencing difficulties in math and language
- ✦ integrating the arts into classroom programs across the school
- ✦ improving student skills in information technology and using it to support learning throughout the curriculum.
- ✦ programs to promote a safe school environment

OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2008)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	541	
Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3	304	
Grade 4 - Grade 6	237	
✦ Gender:		
Female	272	50%
Male	269	50%
✦ Primary language other than English:	108	20%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	13	2%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	16	3%

* 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

- ✦ Dance:
Dance Workshops
- ✦ Dramatic Arts:
Drama Workshops, Dramatic Arts Festivals, Live Production/Play
- ✦ Integrated Programs:
Learning through the Arts
- ✦ Music:
Band, Choir, Excursions, Music Concerts / Performances, Music Workshops, Recorder, Strings
- ✦ Visiting Artists:
Dance, Drama, Music, Prologue to the Performing Arts
- ✦ Visual Arts:
Computer/Graphic Arts, Excursions, Film/Video Workshops, Photography, Visual Arts Workshops

Intramurals

- ✦ Cooperative Games
- ✦ Soccer

Athletic Teams

- ✦ Badminton
- ✦ Baseball
- ✦ Basketball
- ✦ Cross Country
- ✦ Floor Hockey
- ✦ Ice hockey
- ✦ Slo-Pitch
- ✦ Soccer
- ✦ Swimming

- ✦ Track and Field
- ✦ Volleyball

Clubs

- ✦ Board Games
- ✦ Chess
- ✦ Environmental
- ✦ Math
- ✦ Student Newspaper Club/Yearbook Club

Community, Culture and Caring

Community - Mentoring

- ✦ Community Based:
Prime Mentors

Community - Tutoring

- ✦ School Based:
After Four Program, Tutors in the Classroom (Elementary)

Culture/Caring

- ✦ Fundraisers:
CN Tower Climb, Terry Fox Run
- ✦ Safe & Caring Schools:
Let's Stop the Bullying: Bully Prevention Program, Streetproofing
- ✦ Social Skills:
Character Development Program, Second Step

Equity

- ✦ Assemblies

Specializations and Other Programs

Special Education Programs

- ✦ Gifted
- ✦ LD - Learning Disability

Programs and Services

THE SCHOOL BOARD PROVIDES:



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

Palmerston Avenue Public School is committed to enabling all students to reach their highest levels of achievement by providing the best possible learning environment for our children. We will continue to:

- ✦ provide staff with professional development opportunities related to curriculum implementation, assessment and evaluation
- ✦ engage in grade-team planning to ensure the delivery of a consistent curriculum across grade levels
- ✦ acquire and update resources to aid in the implementation of the curriculum
- ✦ inform parents/guardians of expectations and encourage their participation in the education of their children.

We recognize that language is the key to all learning and we are going to focus on the following:

- ✦ delivering a balance literacy program in all grades
- ✦ we will continue to use First Steps as a guide to developing a well-rounded program in Reading, Writing, Oral and Visual Communication.
- ✦ guided reading materials for primary grades, and novel sets for junior classes
- ✦ continue with student involvement initiatives such as reading buddies and borrow-a-book
- ✦ provide resource help for students experiencing difficulty in Language and Mathematics
- ✦ implement the new language strand of Media Literacy.

In Mathematics we are focusing on the effective teaching of all 5 strands of the curriculum through problem solving. This year we concentrating on:

- ✦ encouraging students' written explanations in mathematics at each grade level, using pictures, numbers and words
- ✦ improving our use of current resources
- ✦ continue to develop staff understanding and knowledge regarding assessment, evaluation as they relate to instructional practices in math.

At Palmerston PS we continue to enhance the arts by offering our Art Cluster Program in January and Artists in the School through the many community volunteers and our staff at our school. We will also continue to enrich our music program by visiting artists and provide many opportunities in our Physical Education Program. We will continue to provide a safe, welcoming, child-centred environment where staff and parents work in partnership to develop in our children a love of learning.

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Parent And Community Involvement

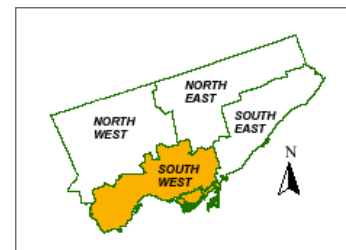
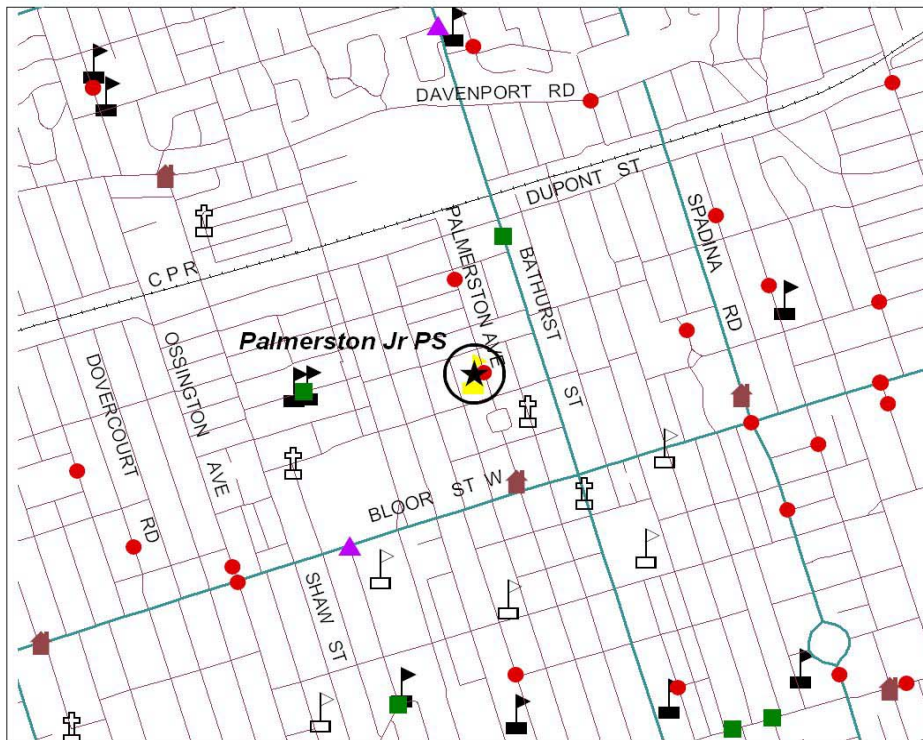
Parent Involvement:

- ✦ School Community Council with up to 20 active parent members
- ✦ 20 parents links who serve as class representatives and act as liaison between Home and School
- ✦ Resident artist program delivered by Palmerston Parent
- ✦ Annual Shakespeare production orchestrated and run by parents.
- ✦ Support in classrooms, field trips, fundraising, pizza days
- ✦ Involvement in committee structures such as School Safety, Arts.
- ✦ Tremendous parental involvement and support through our Clusters program.

Community Links:

- ✦ Public library class visits (JK-Gr.6)
- ✦ 20 community volunteers during enrichment cluster programs
- ✦ Close links with local police - School Watch Program
- ✦ Hockey program at Bill Bolton Arena
- ✦ Close links with St. Alban's Community Centre
- ✦ Close links with Palmerston Community Child Care
- ✦ Kids Help Hotline

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.



The mission of the Toronto District School Board is to enable all students to reach high levels of achievement and to acquire the knowledge, skills and values they need to become responsible members of a democratic society.