

### School Address

130 Glengrove Ave. W.  
Toronto, M4R1Y2  
Tel: (416) 393-9400  
Fax: (416) 393-9404

### Principal

Lyn Gaetz

### Vice Principal(s)

Lorelei Eccleston

### Administrative Office Staff

Sharon Capotosto  
Julie Marino

\*

### School Council Chair(s)

John Kennedy

### Chair(s) of NPA

Andrea Caskey  
Susan Hughes

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### Ward 8 Trustee

Howard Goodman  
(416) 395-8403

### Superintendent

Gen Ling Chang  
(416) 394-2032

### Director of Education

Chris Spence

## OUR SCHOOL

Since first opening its doors in 1921, **John Ross Robertson Public School** has offered stimulating academic and enrichment programs for elementary students. The school's motto is "*Learning Together*". The word *Learning* reflects the school's focus on high academic standards and helping students reach their full potential. The word *Together* reflects the school's collaborative culture where students, teachers, parents and community members work as a team. And the mission of the school is "*To build the best within ourselves and find the good within each other*".

- ✦ As of September 2008, the school serves approximately 560 students from JK to Grade 6. The primary language of most students is English.
- ✦ JRR is a dual-track school with Mid-Immersion French starting at Grade 4.
- ✦ JRR has been designated as a School on the Move/Lighthouse school by the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat of the Ministry of Education in recognition of our achievement on the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) assessments.
- ✦ The school has a childcare centre to accommodate families with children from Kindergarten to Grade 6. The centre also offers a nursery school for pre-school age children.
- ✦ The school facilities are also used for Basketball, Soccer and other community based programs.
- ✦ Our school offers the International Languages Elementary Program. This program is designed to give students the opportunity to learn additional languages, other than English and French, and to learn about and appreciate other traditions, customs and cultures

The **JRR School Code of Conduct** has two key components:

- ✦ An outline of expectations for student conduct
- ✦ A policy on bullying, harassment and discrimination

We have recently reviewed our Safe Schools policies and programs to ensure compliance with the Ontario Ministry of Education's "Code of Conduct".

## School Focus For This School Year

John Ross Robertson Jr. Public School will give special attention to:

- ✦ Strengthening our Collaborative Learning Culture to support student achievement
- ✦ Maintaining certification as an Eco School
- ✦ Maintaining effective partnerships between home and school
- ✦ Collaborating with other schools through the Schools on the Move/Lighthouse Project
- ✦ Continuing the Parent Safety Program
- ✦ Implementing the TDSB Character Education program

## OUR STUDENTS (As of Spring 2008)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	<b>554</b>	
Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3	339	
Grade 4 - Grade 6	215	
✦ Gender:		
Female	280	51%
Male	274	49%
✦ Primary language other than English:	78	14%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	15	3%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	19	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:  
Folk Dancing
- ✦ Dramatic Arts:  
Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People
- ✦ Integrated Programs:  
Learning through the Arts
- ✦ Music:  
Band, Choir, Choral Project, Excursions, Music Concerts / Performances, Music Festivals, Orff Program, Strings
- ✦ Visiting Artists:  
Prologue to the Performing Arts, Visual Arts
- ✦ Visual Arts:  
Animation, Artists in the School, Ceramics, Computer/Graphic Arts, Excursions, Film/Video Workshops

#### Intramurals

- ✦ Cooperative Games
- ✦ Floor Hockey
- ✦ Skating
- ✦ Soccer

#### Athletic Teams

- ✦ 3-pitch
- ✦ Basketball
- ✦ Cross Country
- ✦ Dance Club
- ✦ Ice hockey
- ✦ Track and Field
- ✦ Volleyball

#### Clubs

- ✦ Blue Spruce Reading Club
- ✦ Boy's Reading

- ✦ Environmental
- ✦ Recycling
- ✦ Silver Birch Book Club

#### Leadership

- ✦ Daily Physical Activity Leaders
- ✦ Kindergarten Assistants
- ✦ Office Helpers
- ✦ P.A.L.S. Playground Activity Leaders in Schools
- ✦ Student Announcers
- ✦ Student Leadership:  
Grade 6 Leadership Students

#### Competitions

- ✦ Concours D'Art Oratoire
- ✦ Urban Voices

#### Curricular Enhancement

- ✦ Book Bags
- ✦ Borrow a Book Program
- ✦ Daily Independent Reading
- ✦ Developmental Reading Assessment
- ✦ First Steps: Reading, Writing, and Oral
- ✦ Metropolitan Toronto Police
- ✦ Risk Watch
- ✦ Science Kits
- ✦ Scientists in the School

#### Community, Culture and Caring

##### Community - Mentoring

- ✦ Community Based:  
Toronto Police Services - School Liaison Officer

##### Community - Tutoring

- ✦ School Based:  
After Four Program

#### Culture/Caring

## THE SCHOOL BOARD PROVIDES:



- ✦ Caring:  
Community Care Access Centres, Earth Day Activities, Food Drives, Free The Children, Hearing Screening Clinic, Hearing/ Vision Screening Service
- ✦ Fundraisers:  
Adopt a Village, Book Fair, Community Barbeque, Pizza Days, Terry Fox Run, Toronto Foundation For Student Success, Unicef, United Way
- ✦ Nutrition Programs:  
Pizza Lunches
- ✦ Safe & Caring Schools:  
Attendance Program, ECO Schools, Let's Stop the Bullying: Bully Prevention Program, Safe Arrival Program
- ✦ Social Skills:  
Girls' Group, Roots of Empathy, Second Step

### **Equity**

- ✦ Assemblies
- ✦ Equity Committee
- ✦ International Heritage/Languages Program

### **Student Success**

#### **Transitions**

- ✦ Parent Information Nights
- ✦ Welcome to Kindergarten

#### **Specializations and Other Programs**

#### **Other Programs (Not deemed specialized)**

- ✦ French Immersion

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

- ◆ Work in collaboration with staff from the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat as part of the Schools on the Move project and as part of our NW3 Family of Schools
  - ◆ Provide regular times for administrators and teachers in Positions of Responsibility to meet and plan for ongoing school improvement
  - ◆ Strengthen the Collaborative Learning Culture within the school by providing opportunities for grade teams and division teams to meet on a regular basis
  - ◆ Provide opportunities for teacher mentors to support newly hired teachers and for new teachers to attend TDSB and Family of Schools sponsored workshops
  - ◆ Use the data from the Developmental Reading Assessment (primary grades 1-3), CASI (grades 4 to 6) and the EQAO assessments in Grade 3 and Grade 6 to help plan strong programs, addressing specific needs in language and mathematics
  - ◆ Increase the integration of computer technology into the regular classroom programs through the use of our computer lab
  - ◆ Provide opportunities for teachers to work in Professional Learning Communities by providing regular opportunities for teams to work with the Family of Schools Literacy Coach.
  - ◆ Maintain the effective use of the JRR Safe Schools Plan/Code of Conduct, the Second Step program and the lessons from the document "Let's Stop the Bullying".
  - ◆ Continue our work with the Learning through the Arts program for all classes from grades 1 to 6 and with Scientists in the Schools
  - ◆ Implement the TDSB Character Education program by reflecting the monthly themes in classroom work, announcements, assemblies and the arts
  - ◆ Continue to foster an effective partnership between home and school including close collaboration with the School Council and
- ◆ Neighbourhood Parent Association
  - ◆ Work to create a learning environment that reflects, affirms and validates the diversity and complexity of our wider society
  - ◆ Continue our work on improved waste minimization practices and energy conservation as part of the Certification Program with the Eco Schools initiative
  - ◆ Continue to build an inclusive school environment
  - ◆ Provide opportunities for students to use new computer and video technology in the library to produce claymation works integrated into the science and social studies curriculum

## OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

### Parent And Community Involvement

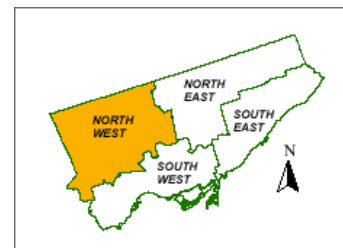
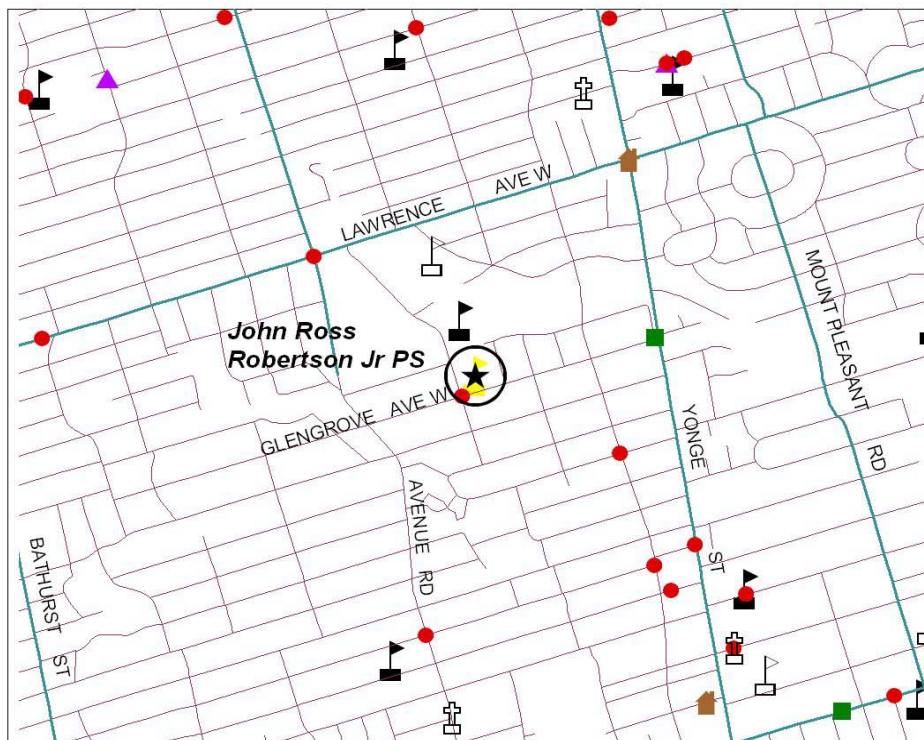
#### Parent Involvement:

- ✦ JRR parents are represented in two parallel organizations.
- ✦ The JRR Neighbourhood Parent Association (NPA) is responsible for some extra-curricular programs, many school events and various fundraising activities. The money is used to fund Learning Through the Arts, Scientists in the Schools, Roots of Empathy and other resources for students.
- ✦ The JRR School Council advises the principal on school programs and is composed of parents, staff and community members.
- ✦ Additionally, there are many parent volunteers who assist in the classroom, library, on field trips and in sports programs.
- ✦ The NPA sends out a weekly electronic newsletter to parents.

#### Community Links:

- ✦ The school builds strong community relationships working with its neighbours:
- ✦ Students, staff and families work collaboratively on various projects over the school year to support various community agencies that provide support and resources for students and families across the city.
- ✦ Local fire and police departments regularly visit the school for safety programs.
- ✦ Visits to the local library are integrated into many classroom programs.
- ✦ The kindergarten to grade 4 classes use the Risk Watch program in collaboration with Toronto Fire Services.
- ✦ Student teachers from the U of T/OISE, several other universities and co-op students from the local high school work in the school.
- ✦ Students and staff will work with the Toronto Green Community on the School Energy Conservation Program.
- ✦ The school community has developed a partnership with the Toronto Foundation for Student Success and contributes money through the foundation to support student nutrition programs in schools across the city.
- ✦ Our leadership students work with staff and parents to raise money for the Adopt-a-Village program with Free the Children.

### 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.