

### School Address

245 Fairlawn Ave.  
Toronto, M5M1T2  
Tel: (416) 393-9350  
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### Principal

Michelle Dawson

### Vice Principal(s)

Richard Stein

### Administrative Office Staff

Cathy Vear  
Jackie Ludlow

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### School Council Chair(s)

Linda Colussi

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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

"Our TDSB Mission 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."

- ✦ Strong commitment to student achievement and success
- ✦ Support a safe and caring learning environment
- ✦ Continued commitment to ongoing professional learning for staff
- ✦ Encourage life-long learning
- ✦ Collaborative partnerships with parents and the school community

John Wanless Public School is located between Yonge Street and Avenue Road, north of Lawrence Avenue. Our school was built in 1927 and has had several additions and renovations - the most recent one completed in the early spring of 1997.

- ✦ We have 735 students (Kindergarten to Grade 6)
- ✦ The school houses the John Wanless Child Care Centre which provides year-round care for 130 of our students

Further information about our school is available on the school website: <http://schools.tdsb.on.ca/johnwanless>

## School Focus For This School Year

- ✦ Early Years Numeracy School (EYNP) - Focus on exemplary teaching and learning strategies in Mathematics
- ✦ PRIME (Professional Resources for Mathematics Educators) program throughout grades K-6
- ✦ Literacy (First Steps program/Lucy Calkins)
- ✦ Special Education -- supportive and effective integration of students with special needs into the regular programs
- ✦ Specialist Teachers-Librarian, Vocal Music Teacher, and Gym Teacher
- ✦ House System for sports and other activities
- ✦ Conflict Resolution (Second Step program)
- ✦ Building a strong School Community/Parents as Partners
- ✦ Community and Parent Involvement
- ✦ Collaborative Planning by Grade/Division Teams
- ✦ Implementation of Agenda Organizer books from Grades 2 to 6
- ✦ Fund-raising and liaison with a "Partner" Inner-city School
- ✦ John Wanless P.R.I.D.E. (Character Education)
- ✦ Nut Allergy Awareness School

## OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2008)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	<b>709</b>	
Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3	486	
Grade 4 - Grade 6	223	
✦ Gender:		
Female	335	47%
Male	374	53%
✦ Primary language other than English:	33	5%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	3	0%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	11	2%

\* 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

#### Dance

- ✦ Concert & Performances

#### Music

- ✦ Band
- ✦ Choir
- ✦ Music Concerts / Performances
- ✦ Strings
- ✦ Vocal

#### Visiting Artists

- ✦ Dance
- ✦ Drama
- ✦ Music
- ✦ Prologue to the Performing Arts
- ✦ Visual Arts

#### Athletics

#### Athletic Teams

- ✦ Badminton Team
- ✦ Basketball Team
- ✦ Cross Country Team
- ✦ Slo-Pitch Team
- ✦ Track and Field Team
- ✦ Volleyball Team

#### Clubs

#### Arts and Culture

- ✦ Book Club
- ✦ Craft Club

### Literacy

- ✦ Library Club

### Recreation and Leisure

- ✦ Chess Club

### Social and Global Issues

- ✦ Environmental Club

### Leadership

#### Leadership Development

- ✦ Student Leadership:  
House Captains

### Community, Culture and Caring Culture/Caring

#### Safe & Caring Schools

- ✦ Character Development Program

#### Social Skills

- ✦ Peer Mediation/Helpers
- ✦ ROE (School-based)
- ✦ Second Step
- ✦ Tribes

### Equity

#### School-Wide Strategy

- ✦ Assemblies

### Mentoring

#### School Based

- ✦ Peer Mentoring

### Specializations and Other Programs

#### Other Programs (Not deemed specialized)

#### System Initiative

# Programs and Services

## THE SCHOOL BOARD PROVIDES:

- ✦ Early Years Numeracy Project (EYNP)

### **Special Education Programs**

#### **Intensive Support Program**

- ✦ Learning Disability (LD)

#### **Resource**

- ✦ Home School Program (HSP)
- ✦ Resource (Res)



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

This plan was developed considering data derived from school based assessments and the school's EQAO Primary and Junior results.

### READING AND WRITING

- ♦ emphasis on reading for meaning - specifically making inferences/interpreting texts, analysing texts, and extending understanding by making connections of various kinds
- ♦ devote time at Division meetings to collaborate on exemplary literacy practices
- ♦ Teacher Professional Learning Communities to establish intentional teaching and learning strategies (Family of School Literacy Coach)
- ♦ use of A-Z Reading Software and levelled texts as an early reading strategy
- ♦ continue with the Reading Buddies program
- ♦ use of Literature Circles in the Junior division
- ♦ First Steps Writing
- ♦ use the Library Resource Centre to support students' reading, writing, and research
- ♦ continue with the Partners in Action (library programs)
- ♦ integration of technology (Smart Board, Rotating Laptop Lab, software applications) to enhance curriculum
- ♦ Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA) and Comprehension Attitude Strategies Interests (CASI)
- ♦ development of critical literacy skills

### MATHEMATICS

- ♦ Early Years Numeracy School using PRIME resource
- ♦ increase the use of manipulative materials at all Grade levels
- ♦ problem solving approach with a focus on student's explaining their thinking
- ♦ Teacher Professional Learning Communities to establish intentional teaching and learning strategies (Family of School Mathematics Coach)

- ♦ identify and explain the language of mathematics (e.g., word lists, personal math dictionaries, Math/Science Investigations journals)
- ♦ integration of technology (Smart Board, software applications) to enhance mathematics

### INCLUSIONARY EDUCATION

- ♦ celebrate diversity and value all members of the school community
- ♦ focus on the teaching of social skills to all students
- ♦ provide regular opportunities for all students to demonstrate their abilities/skills at Division assemblies, at special assemblies, during announcements and in class-to-class exchanges
- ♦ partner with our "sister school" in the inner-city - e.g., collecting reading books and raising funds to augment their literacy and arts activities
- ♦ Character Education - supporting students to become caring and socially responsible
- ♦ John Wanless PRIDE (Politeness, Responsibility, Inclusiveness, Dedication, Empathy)

## OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

### Parent And Community Involvement

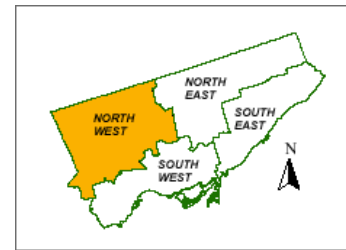
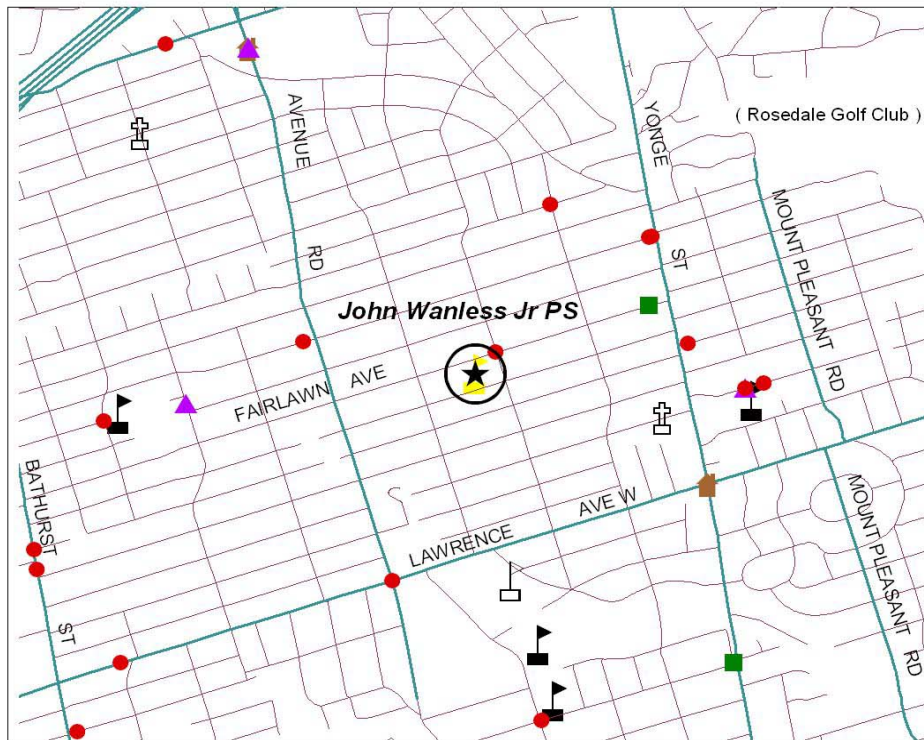
#### Parent Involvement:

- ✦ School Council active involvement in a number of activities such as Education Issues, New Parents' Night, Anti-bullying Issues for Parents, Charitable Outreach Committee
- ✦ Joint Parent/Teacher Committees including enrichment, new educational technologies, graduation, safety, playground, physical education and music
- ✦ Regular parent volunteers who assist in library, field trips, tutoring, class parents, attendance verification
- ✦ Parent volunteers who help run Keyboarding programs and Wiggleworks (early literacy) programs
- ✦ Parents who co-ordinate the Fall Fair, Chess Club, Spring Barbecue and After-Four activities
- ✦ Head-to-Head Pediculosis (Lice) Check
- ✦ Updating of the School Handbook

#### Community Links:

- ✦ Student teachers from various Colleges of Education
- ✦ Bedford Park Community Centre linked to John Wanless
- ✦ Public library class visits
- ✦ Fall Fair; Fairlawn Neighbourhood Centre; Parks, Recreation and Culture; North Toronto Basketball Association
- ✦ Community Field Trips

### OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD



- ★ OUR SCHOOL
- ▲ TDSB Elementary School
- TDSB Secondary School
- ⊕ Separate School
- Daycare/Nursery School
- Family Resource/ Parenting Centre
- ▲ Community/ Recreation Centre
- 🏠 Public Library

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.