

School Address

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*

School Council Chair(s)

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Simon Shaw

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Ward 11 Trustee

Josh Matlow
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Superintendent

Michael Smith
(416) 394-2046

Director of Education

Chris Spence

OUR SCHOOL

J.R. Wilcox Community School is located on the corner of Atlas Avenue and Ava Road, south of the Allen Expressway. The school is 88 years old.

- ✦ The school serves approximately 275 students representing approximately 23 different language groups. Programs are offered from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6. About a third of the students speak English as a second language.
- ✦ We are a candidate school of the **International Baccalaureate Schools (IB)**. We have begun to implement the **Primary Years Program (PYP)** for all students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6. For more information www.ibo.org
- ✦ A day care is housed in the school building. An **Integrated Learning Centre** provides seamless programming in the Kindergarten and Day Care. Child care is also provided by After School and Before School programs. A nutritious breakfast program is open to all.
- ✦ There are 2 Intensive Support Programs for students with Learning Disabilities, a Home School Program and a Kindergarten Intervention Program in the school.

School Focus For This School Year

- ✦ continue the development of a very focused and balanced literacy program
- ✦ continue a structured writing component within the literacy program
- ✦ implement a shared reading program through all grades
- ✦ enhance our reading program by utilizing Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA) in primary grades and CASI in junior grades, in order to direct appropriate planning and implementation
- ✦ continue to focus on problem solving strategies in mathematics
- ✦ continue to provide an enriched Ontario curriculum with a global focus through the implementation of the Primary Years Program (PYP) of the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO)
- ✦ continue to develop 'international mindfulness' in our students
- ✦ continue to develop and implement the the 6 units of inquiry for PYP: *Who we are? Where we are in place and time? How we express ourselves? How the world works? How we organize ourselves? Sharing the planet.*
- ✦ continue to develop the students' understanding of the Learner Profile (PYP): *inquirers, risk-takers, thinkers, communicators, knowledgeable, principled, caring, open-minded, well-balanced, reflective*

OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2008)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	282	
Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3	186	
Grade 4 - Grade 6	96	
✦ Gender:		
Female	127	45%
Male	155	55%
✦ Primary language other than English:	71	25%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	9	3%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	16	6%

* 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:
Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People
- ✦ Music:
Choir, Itinerant Music Teachers
- ✦ Visiting Artists:
In-School Performances By Professional Artists

Intramurals

- ✦ 3 - Pitch
- ✦ Basketball
- ✦ Cross Country Running
- ✦ Dodgeball
- ✦ Floor Hockey
- ✦ House League
- ✦ Indoor soccer
- ✦ Kilometer Club
- ✦ Soccer
- ✦ Track and Field
- ✦ Volleyball

Athletic Teams

- ✦ 3-pitch
- ✦ Basketball
- ✦ Co ed Volleyball
- ✦ Cross Country
- ✦ Floor Hockey
- ✦ Indoor Soccer
- ✦ Soccer
- ✦ Track and Field
- ✦ Volleyball

Clubs

- ✦ Boy's Reading
- ✦ Breakfast Club
- ✦ Recycling

Leadership

- ✦ Student Leadership:
Future Aces Club

Curricular Enhancement

- ✦ Balanced Literacy Program:
Writing - Lucy Calkins, Reading - Read-Aloud, Shared, Group, Independent
- ✦ Book Bags
- ✦ Borrow a Book Program
- ✦ Developmental Reading Assessment
- ✦ Early Years Program
- ✦ Scientists in the School

Community, Culture and Caring

Community - Tutoring

- ✦ School Based:
Literacy & Numeracy Tutoring (Cont. Ed)

Culture/Caring

- ✦ Nutrition Programs:
Breakfast Program, Milk Program
- ✦ Safe & Caring Schools:
Toronto First Duty
- ✦ Social Skills:
Future Aces

Specializations and Other Programs

Other Programs (Not deemed specialized)

- ✦ Early Years Literacy Project (EYLP)
- ✦ OFIP

Special Education Programs

- ✦ Kindergarten Diagnostic Program
- ✦ Kindergarten Intervention Program

Programs and Services

THE SCHOOL BOARD PROVIDES:

✦ LD - Learning Disability



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

To improve student achievement at J. R. Wilcox, the staff will focus on classroom management, direct instruction, and parental involvement/support.

Literacy

In response to our students' results in reading and writing, to improve our students' performance we will:

- ♦ continue a very rigorous phonemic awareness and reading program starting in Kindergarten
- ♦ use developmental assessments to assist planning and programming - Observation Survey, DRA, CASI
- ♦ continue to use a structured writing program based on the work of Lucy Calkins
- ♦ continue program modifications for all transferred students
- ♦ use Reading and Buddies to improve the skills of Primary and Junior Division students
- ♦ develop higher order thinking skills through methods such as retell, relate, reflect
- ♦ implement and display rubrics in classrooms
- ♦ develop a school-wide understanding of EQAO assessment and expectations
- ♦ continue to expand the use of parents and volunteers, college and university students, and co-op students to increase our students' contact with adults
- ♦ continue the partnerships which have been developed with community agencies/services

Mathematics

To improve our students' achievement in mathematics, the school will:

- ♦ analyze the EQAO and Grade 3 and 6 math tests to determine growth areas and programming needs
- ♦ continue to implement the Ministry's curriculum expectations and achievement levels
- ♦ use exemplars to support mathematics assessment
- ♦ use problem-solving strategies across the curriculum
- ♦ formally teach and model the language and vocabulary of mathematics - students will be able to explain, describe and justify their mathematical answers

Primary Years Program (PYP) - International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO)

- ♦ continue the development and implementation of a Primary Years Program (PYP) program of inquiry based upon the Ontario curriculum
- ♦ continue to develop students who are internationally mindful
- ♦ expand the understanding of the attributes of the Learner Profile

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Parent And Community Involvement

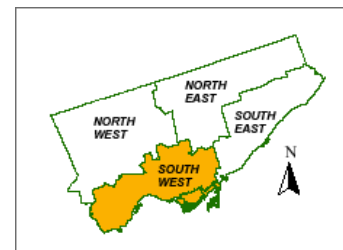
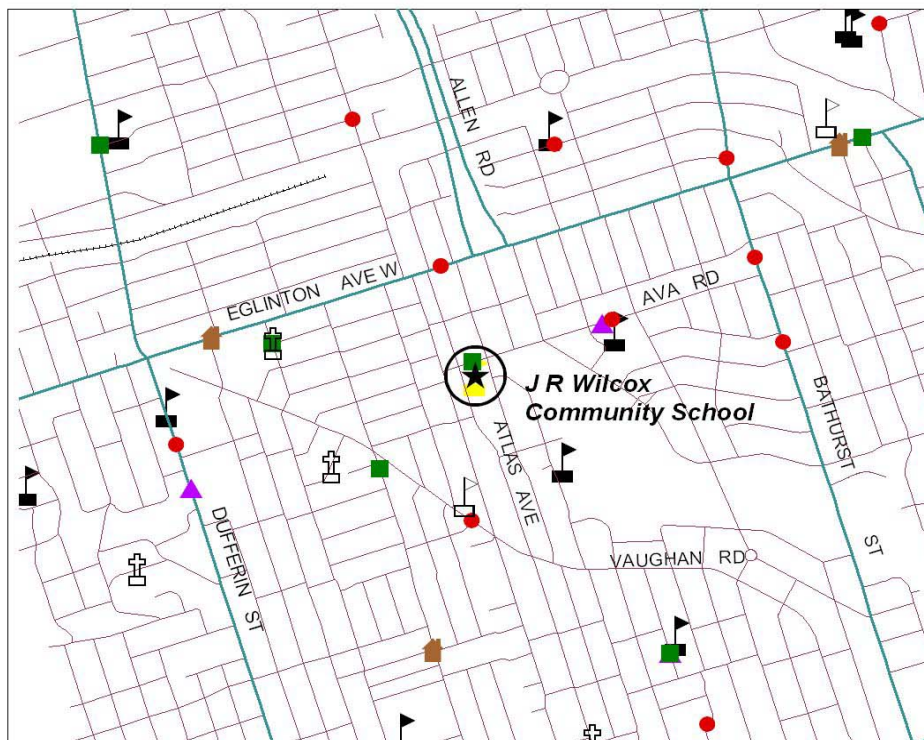
Parent Involvement:

- ✦ School Council
- ✦ School and Community Organization - fundraising and special event planning
- ✦ Parent volunteers - supporting classroom programs, school activities, and fundraising

Community Links:

- ✦ Wilcox - Early Learning Centre (W-ELC) for students 0 to 6 years. This is based upon the Toronto First Duty Project and Best Starts. We are part of the Toronto Best Start Network. W-ELC is a group of organizations, residents and parents working together to provide seamless early years programming to parents/caregivers and young children (0 to 6 years) in the J.R.Wilcox Community Area. The primary services are the school, day care and parenting and family literacy centre.
- ✦ Public library visits
- ✦ Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People, Roseneath Theatre
- ✦ Safety programs sponsored by Toronto Police Services - Division 13
- ✦ OISE student teacher placements Secondary school co-op ed placements
- ✦ Safety programs sponsored by Toronto Police Services - Division 13

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.