A Unique Teaching and Learning Environment

Equinox Holistic Alternative School is dedicated to the holistic teaching and learning philosophy, allowing for the child's "head, heart and hands" to be engaged in his/her day to day learning. Storytelling is an important part of our teaching, as well as outdoor education and social justice. Kindergarten children spend most of their day outside, whereas the Grade 1 to 8 students take part in weekly outings to local parks, ravines and woodland areas, observing and interacting with their environment.

Equinox Holistic Alternative School was founded in 2009 and is located on the third floor of Roden Public School. Equinox is an open concept school and all teaching areas open onto a shared space called the "common area". Within the school, there is a large music room, an art room, an all purpose gymnasium and a fully functional library with a computer lab.

Equinox Holistic Alternative School Council

The Equinox Holistic Alternative School Council is involved in many day-to-day activities at the school and is an integral part of our decision-making process. Parents meet on a regular basis throughout the school year to plan fundraising events and to discuss current educational matters that affect our school community.
Child Care Available
The Roden Child Care Centre is located on the second floor of our school. It serves the needs of children from 2 and a half to 12 years of age. The child care staff work closely with the teaching staff in order to ensure communication regarding our students' individual needs. They are an important and valued community partner. For more information call 416-461-3010.

We are an Eco-School!
Equinox is a recognized TDSB Eco-School with Gold standing. We have a very active Eco-Club and we believe in reducing, reusing and recycling. We have put various actions into place to ensure that we are taking care of our school environment and the world we live in.

Itinerant Music Programs
Itinerant Music Programs are available to our students in Grades 5, 6, 7 and 8. Our Itinerant Music Teachers visit the school weekly to instruct the Steel Pan Band, Instrumental Band and Strings Band.

Parent and Family Literacy Centre
Open Monday to Friday from 9am to 12:45pm, the Parenting and Family Literacy Centre is located on the first floor of the building in Area 15. It welcomes all parents, caregivers and their children, up to 6 years of age. Through active play and hands on activities, skills are developed that help to prepare our parents and their child(ren) for school in later years.

Additional Features

For a list of all programs that are also offered visit http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Findyour/Schools.aspx?schno=5903&schoolId=3998
Equinox offers many learning and leadership opportunities for all of our students, such as:
- Student Council
- Playground Activity Leaders in Schools (PALS)
- Student Ambassadors
- Office Helpers
- Eco-Club
- Dance Club
- Drama Club
- Chess Club
- Lego Club
- Lego Robotics Club
- Swim Program (at Bowmore)
- Intramurals
- Cross Country Running
- Track and Field
- Volleyball teams
- Basketball Teams
- Soccer Teams
- Slo-Pitch Teams

Equinox Holistic Alternative School aims to teach all aspects of the child: head, heart and hands - the whole child. Equinox is dedicated to holistic teaching and has developed a holistic approach to education based on Jack Miller's book, "The Holistic Curriculum."

Safety and the well-being of the children is our #1 priority. Equinox and the TDSB value learning environments that are safe, nurturing, positive and respectful.

Equinox and the Toronto District School Board are committed to equitable and inclusive practice, and value the uniqueness and diversity of our students and community.

Our teachers believe that every child can be successful. We believe that all students can reach high levels of academic achievement within the Ontario Curriculum, and encourage collaborative communities and cohesive partnerships with students, staff, parents and the community.
Equinox is a Gold Eco-School and committed to protecting the environment.
Parent and Community Engagement

Parent and community involvement is vital to ensure student success. Research indicates that students do better in school when parents are actively involved.

Our parents are expected to dedicate 20 hours of volunteer time to the school. They can assist our students and school programs by:
- assisting on field trips
- volunteering in our school library and classrooms
- organizing school fundraisers (i.e) Harvest Homecoming and Winter Solstice
- supporting our breakfast and snack programs

We work in partnership with:
- Ashdale Public Library
- Eastdale Community Health Centre
- Gerrard / Ashdale Business Association
- Real Food for Real Kids
- U of T and OISE
- Scientists in Schools
- Various outdoor education programs (i.e.) Evergreen and P.I.N.E.

We invite parents to attend:
- Curriculum Night
- Open House Evening

TDSB - Better Schools. Brighter Futures

Imagine a TDSB where all schools share a common core set of characteristics. They are community-driven and focused on teaching and learning. Students and parents have a wide variety of opportunities and there are enough students in every school to increase program choices.

Imagine there is a clear focus on achieving student success and every student is engaged, has a voice, access to a caring adult and the opportunity to develop their full potential.

Here at the TDSB our focus is on student achievement, parent and community engagement and financial stability.

Contact Information

SCHOOL NAME: Equinox Holistic Alternative School
ADDRESS: 151 Hiawatha Rd, Toronto, ON M4L 2Y1
TELEPHONE: (416) 393-8274

1/24/2013 Equinox Open House
Please visit us at http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Findyour/Schools.aspx?schno=5903&schoolId=3998