



# Avondale Elementary Alternative School

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SCHOOL PROFILE

FEBRUARY 2023

# School at a Glance

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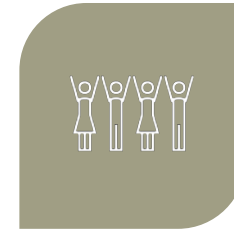
**SMALL SCHOOL  
ENVIRONMENT**



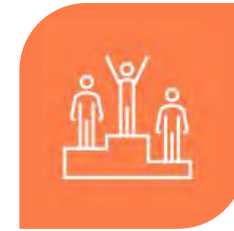
**MULTI-AGE FOCUSED**



**EXPERIENTIAL  
LEARNING**



**ENGAGED SCHOOL  
COMMUNITY**



**PASSIONATE ABOUT  
ACHIEVEMENT**

# Avondale Elementary Alternative School

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Avondale Elementary Alternative School (JK-8) established in 1976. We are a school of about 140 students.

- Collaborative inquiry and learning.
- Multi-age learning- there are many school wide, cooperative learning experiences.
- The development of healthy relationships. Student engagement, enthusiasm and growth occur when students feel included, confident and supported.
- A high level of student independence and personal responsibility at all grade levels.
- Learning and growth through frequent, out-of-classroom experiences and invited guests and programs. (For example: overnight outdoor education and team building trips and ski trips for grades 1-8)
- A high level of parent and community engagement. Parent portal to keep our community up to date with all our activities.  
<https://avondalealternative.wixsite.com/parents>

## School Organization

- FDK (JK/SK) 28 students
- Grade 1/2 - 20 students (as per Provincial Ministry primary class cap)
- Grade 2/3 - 20 students (as per Provincial Ministry primary class cap)
- Grade 4/5
- Grade 5/6
- Grade 7/8
- Special Education
- Rotary instruction in Music, Social Studies/History, French (J/I)

# Groundbreaking 2016

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The school at 171 Avondale was built and designed with the Alternative School's needs in mind. Designs include areas for collaboration and larger multi-age gathering.

Groundbreaking was a big deal for our kids, even preparing speeches for the day!

So as we move, let's focus on making this a positive experience and our destination a permanent home for our community!



# 2022-2023 School Year to date - Whole School Multi-Age Activity Days



Grades JK-8 will gather for art and music activities, plus guest speakers and events.

2022-2023 School Year to date - Council led Pillowcase Art JK-8 and Cedar Glen Overnight Trip Grades 1-8



Accommodation Pressures PART, Meeting #1, February 14, 2023

# 2022-2023 School Year to date - Fundraising Events



**HOT LUNCHES - partnering with neighbourhood restaurants to support our community**



Mark your calendars for the next set of four Pizza Day lunches!  
 Tuesday, February 14  
 Tuesday, February 28  
 Tuesday, March 21  
 Tuesday, April 4

OPTION 1: one slice cheese pizza x 4 days = \$16  
 OPTION 2: two slices cheese pizza x 4 days = \$28  
 Add on  
 OPTION 3: juice box x 4 days = \$6

Please make your payment using School.Cash.Online. Last day to purchase is Wednesday, February 8.

Volunteers are needed to help serve pizza lunch. THANK YOU!! Please sign up at: [https://www.signupgenius.com/cgi-bin/signups2.php?group\\_id=2ba2fd0-avondale](https://www.signupgenius.com/cgi-bin/signups2.php?group_id=2ba2fd0-avondale).



**Feb. 10 2023**

Chicken spring rolls, Vermicelli, veggies

**FRESH MEALS DELIVERED**

LUNCH ALTERNATIVES

FOLLOW AT: @LUNCHBOXALT

**AVA Estehan**

Avondale Alternative Hot Lunch  
 Thursday, February 23

Beef Koobideh \$7 Chicken Kebab \$8



Movie titles chosen by student vote!

AVONDALE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL PRESENTS:

**Holiday Movie Night**  
 Wed. Dec. 21  
 5:30-9pm

Admission: \$5 per person OR \$17 per family (4-)

- Bring your Avondale pillow, blanket and PJs to get cozy in the gym
- Pre-order pizza or sushi, and pre-pay for admission\* (coming soon to School.Cash.Online)
- Bake Sale, popcorn & drinks available to purchase in the gym

\*NOTE: Pizza and sushi must be pre-ordered. Snacks & drinks may be purchased with cash. Proceeds to fund programs and supplies for Avondale Alternative School.

Get Away From Your Kids For

**FEBRUARY 10, 2022**  
 5:30-7:30 pm

**DATE NIGHT!**

Drop off your child(ren) for 2 hours of fun activities with students from [smiley face] class.

Pre-order with Cash Online until Monday, February 6!

**ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE 7/8 GRADUATION TRIP!**

**ADMISSION: \$15.00**

Pizza combos will be available for an additional cost on cash online.

If you have questions, email [smiley face]@tdsb.on.ca

AVONDALE ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL

**SPRING FAIR**  
 \$7.00 to \$9.00

**SATURDAY May 13**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

The Spring Fair is our biggest fundraising opportunity of the year, with all proceeds benefiting the Alternative Program. But without you, it won't happen! Help us make this event a success by signing up to lead a specific activity:

**SignUpGenius**

Committee Kick-Off Meeting FEB. 9 (Tues)

# 2022-2023 School Year to date - Avondale EA School Sports (Huge thanks to our wonderful teachers!!)

- Girls Borden Ball Gr 7/8 D1 City Champions
- Cross Country Gr 1-8 including 6 City Finalists
- Girls Gr 5/6 Soccer
- Boys Gr 4/5 Soccer
- Girls Gr 4/5 Basketball D2 Conference Champions
- Boys Gr 4/5 Volleyball Conference Finalists
- Boys Gr 7/8 Volleyball
- Girls Gr 6/7/8 Basketball
- Co-ed Ball Hockey Gr 4/5 D2 Champions

## Still to come...

- Girls Volleyball Gr 5/6
- Boys Basketball Gr 4/5
- Boys Basketball Gr 7/8
- Co-ed Ball Hockey Gr 7/8
- Swim
- Ultimate
- Track & Field
- and more!



Submitted to TDESAA Avondale Accommodation Pressures PART, Meeting #4, February 14, 2023



# Avondale Elementary Alternative School Assessment

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## What We Need

- Permanent marked area of the building for Avondale EA to call Home
- 1 kindergarten class, 5 regular classrooms, French room, library, multipurpose common space for 150 persons, staff room, office, storage space
- Access to Bayview MS gym, sports fields, stage, D&T. (Please note: we run many sports and whole school activities!!)
- Age appropriate outdoor play area and structures, outfitted kindergarten pen, inquiry garden
- Dedicated entrance and pick up/drop off area and parking
- Staggered entry and exit times
- Own scheduling and PA system
- Dedicated Staff including 0.5 VP and 1.0 office assistant
- Resource staff to support all learning types and needs
- A fully equipped age-appropriate library including a librarian
- Built-in projector system and Smartboards in every room, as currently available at 171 Avondale
- Tech Tub, full class set of iPads for JK/SK
- Full class set of chromebooks for primary grades
- Autonomy to run our alternative school program
- Improved ventilation and working A/C
- EDP
- Bussing
- Involvement in the design and renovation of our new home

# Mountview Alternative (JK-8)

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- Mountview Alternative, small school of 100-120 students in five classes from JK-8. Small community fosters deep, meaningful relationships, students share their unique abilities and perspectives, learning through creative, responsive collaboration with all students, staff, parents and wider community members.
- Shared a home for 20 years with Keele St Public School near Bloor and Keele.
- Due to accommodation pressures at Keele St Public, relocated to Runnymede Collegiate in 2018.
- Relocation largely disturbed their community. The program lost 50% of its students and all but 2 teachers.
- RCI did not welcome the idea of sharing the space with young children. One parent voiced it would be unsafe for the young children and secondary students may cause physical harm to them.
- The difference in ages, developmental stage, logistics in providing for younger children and provision of safe learning spaces led to the requirement to renovate a distinct portion of the building for MV only.
- MV would have its own separate entrance, staggered entry and exit mitigate issues of flow and traffic, 5 classrooms, French room, office, staff room, library, before and after care, kindergarten fenced area, playscape, primary, intermediate and junior outdoor play spaces, and outdoor inquiry garden.
- Shares small and large gym, pool and auditorium with RCI.
- Office includes dedicated 0.5 VP and 1.0 office assistant.

# Mountview Alternative (JK-8)



# Mountview Alternative (JK-8)

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Please see Mountview Alternative website for more information including a video tour of their school.

<https://sites.google.com/tdsb.on.ca/mountview-alternative/home>

## Learnings from Mountview Relocation

- Loss of 50% of the student population
- Loss of all but 2 teaching staff
- It has taken the last 4 years to redefine the core values of their alternative program and to rebuild their community within their new Home.
- Highlighting the differences between the two schools for better planning.
- Recognizing the needs of a young student population is very different and more frequent than older students. Having a separate office assistant is essential.
- Differentiating timetables was key to mitigate issues of flow and traffic. More traffic and parking needs for a young student population.
- Having a dedicated section of the building provided a Home for the alternative program.
- One of the highlights of this relocation process for the students was designing their outdoor play and learning space.
- TDSB created a focus group from all age groups of MV students to understand what they wanted out of the green space and incorporate principles of OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) in alignment with the vision of their alternative school.
- Renovations started in May of 2018, still multiple deficiencies when they moved in September 2018.
- Sharing of gym space is at a disadvantage to MV due to Runnymede running many sports and tournaments.

Please help us keep our  
school the amazing place it is  
for our kids.

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YOUR DEDICATED AVONDALE ELEMENTARY ALTERNATIVE PARENT COUNCIL