

School Address

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OA)

*

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*

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Cathy Dandy
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Director of Education

Chris Spence

OUR SCHOOL

Roden Public School has been an integral part of the Coxwell and Gerrard neighbourhood since 1907. Over the years, it has undergone many structural changes to accommodate the growing needs of the student population and the community. Roden was completely rebuilt as an open concept school in 1969. All teaching areas open onto a shared space called the "common area". Within the school there is a large music room, an all purpose gymnasium and a fully functional library with a computer lab.

- ✦ At Roden we welcome and celebrate our diversity. Roden is a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic junior school representing about 300 students and parents speaking approximately 17 different languages.
- ✦ We currently share some of our space with the Roden Parenting Literacy Centre, located on the first floor. It is the largest parenting centre space within the Toronto District School Board! The Parenting Centre welcomes all parents and community caregivers and their children to participate in reading, singing and playing activities. The Roden Parenting Literacy Centre is open Mondays to Thursdays from 9am to 1pm.
- ✦ We also share some of our space with the Roden Child Care Centre, located on the second floor. It serves the needs of our working parents and their children by offering daycare services before school begins, during lunchtime and afterschool. This is a school age child care centre for children 4 to 10 years of age.
- ✦ Roden has an active School Council that is involved at the Board level in a number of educational issues and makes a significant contribution to the day-to-day activities at the school.

School Focus For This School Year

- ✦ Participate in the Ontario Ministry of Education's *Turnaround Program* to improve our student success and to inform teaching practices in reading and writing (began in 2005); 2008 - 2009 is our Exit Year
- ✦ Use the *Roden Code of Conduct* to ensure the safety of students, staff and community members in our school
- ✦ Continue with the Future Aces Program and monthly schoolwide assemblies
- ✦ Use the Student Peacemaker program and Office Helpers program to provide leadership opportunities and to allow students to problem solve independently
- ✦ Continue to support the Roden School Council in its work to initiate, plan and implement schoolwide initiatives (Movie Nights, Multicultural Night, various fundraisers, Clothing Drives)

OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2008)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	310	
Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3	173	
Grade 4 - Grade 6	137	
✦ Gender:		
Female	151	49%
Male	159	51%
✦ Primary language other than English:	184	61%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	13	4%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	18	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

- ✦ Dance:
Folk Dancing
- ✦ Dramatic Arts:
Artists in the School, Live Production/Play,
Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People
- ✦ Music:
Band, Choir, Recorder, Steel Pan/Band, Strings
- ✦ Visiting Artists:
Dance, Drama, Music, Prologue to the Performing
Arts, Visual Arts
- ✦ Visual Arts:
Computer/Graphic Arts

Intramurals

- ✦ Floor Hockey

Athletic Teams

- ✦ Badminton
- ✦ Cross Country
- ✦ Floor Hockey
- ✦ Slo-Pitch
- ✦ Swimming
- ✦ Track and Field
- ✦ Volleyball

Clubs

- ✦ Board Games
- ✦ Computer
- ✦ Environmental
- ✦ Library
- ✦ Self Defense

Leadership

- ✦ Student Leadership:
Peace Makers, Office Helpers

Community, Culture and Caring

Community - Mentoring

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

Community - Tutoring

- ✦ School Based:
Tutors in the Classroom (Elementary)

Culture/Caring

- ✦ Caring:
I'm a Great Kid!, I'm a Great Little Kid!, Parenting
and Family Literacy Centre, School Based
Children's Mental Health Programs

Specializations and Other Programs

Other Programs (Not deemed specialized)

- ✦ ESL
- ✦ Early Reading Intervention Program
- ✦ Turnaround School

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

We will continue to use staff meetings to discuss :

- ♦ School Improvement Planning in the areas of promoting student success in literacy and numeracy
- ♦ Professional development opportunities for staff to continue planning for student success
- ♦ Strategies to evaluate and assess our students while continuing with the Diagnostic Reading Assessment (DRA) and the Junior Literacy programs (CASI)
- ♦ Review the Education Quality and Accountability Office's School Profile as a basis for curriculum planning and areas to target for professional development
- ♦ Review our school Code of Conduct and ensure that our school continues to be a safe learning environment

LANGUAGE:

Involvement with the Ministry of Education Turnaround Project (2005 - 2009) to support literacy initiatives in the primary and literacy grades. Provide a 150 minute uninterrupted primary literacy block. Language activities will be assessed using the Ontario curriculum for Grades 1-8 in Language, DRA and CASI. Students' progress will be charted on our data wall and discussed at our bi-weekly professional development meetings. Organize and welcome parents and guardians to our **Primary Passport to Literacy Night** in January, 2008.

MATHEMATICS:

Teaching strategies and methodologies will focus on achieving the overall and specific expectations for each grade as outlined in the Ontario curriculum for Grades 1-8 in mathematics. Organize and welcome parents and guardians to our **Junior Math Family Night in April, 2008**.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

The Science program will continue to provide

opportunities for students to investigate and explain the living and physical components of the world. We welcome back the **Scientists in Schools** program to support our teaching and student learning.

Technology will be integrated across the curriculum, in particular **Kidspiration**, a computer program that assists with the development and use of graphic organizers.

ARTS:

The Arts program will allow students to develop skills and acquire appreciation of a wide range of the arts (Music, Visual Arts, Drama, Movement/Dance) and artists. Roden, in its staffing model provides for a half-time primary Physical Education teacher and a half-time primary Music teacher. We also have a comprehensive Itinerant Music Program - Orff music, Steel Pan Band, Strings and Band.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL STUDIES:

Students will acquire skills and values that will enable them to live safe, healthy, active, productive and responsible lives. Field trips are an integral part of our teachers' planning and our student learning. Our students are involved in maintaining our school gardens. We will continue to work with students in the areas of anti-bullying and conflict resolution through our **Future Aces Program** and our **Peacemaker program**. We promote leadership through our **Office Helpers program**.

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Parent And Community Involvement

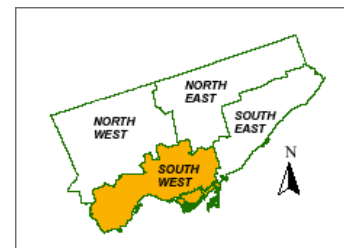
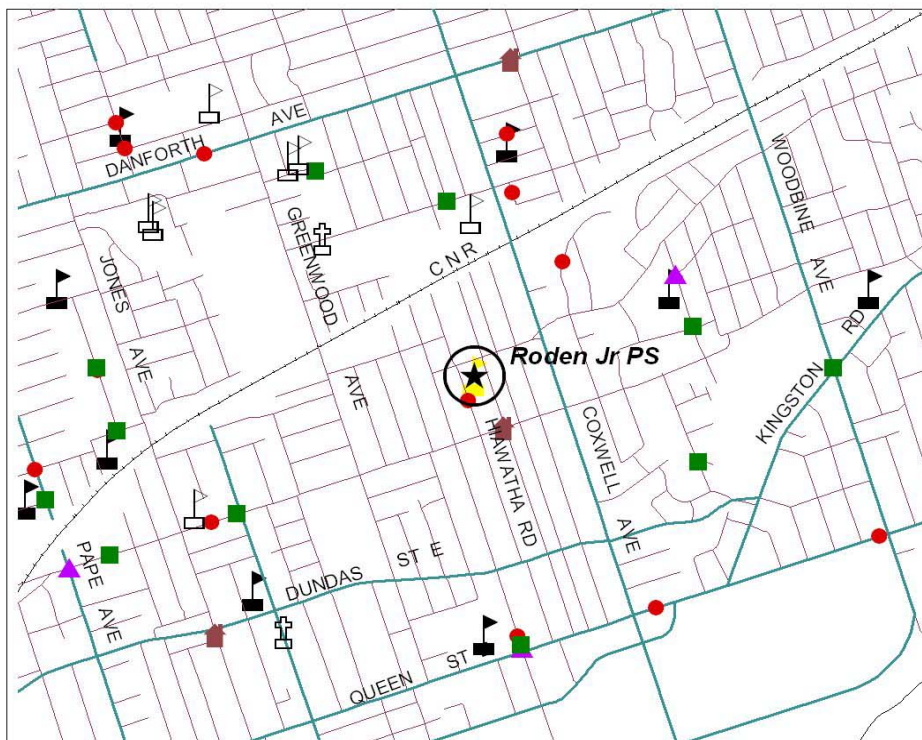
Parent Involvement:

- ✦ School Council with an active and involved group of parents and school staff
- ✦ Parent volunteers who assist in the classroom and snack program and provide support for field trips, concerts and Grade 6 graduation
- ✦ Fundraising in support of school initiatives such as field trips, Scientists in Schools and Borrow-a-Book programs
- ✦ Community strengthening activities like the Roden School Multicultural Night, Movie Night, and the Fun Fair
- ✦ Presentations for parents on issues related to education and health concerns
- ✦ Pro-active support for public education
- ✦ Partipation in our "Welcome to Kindergarten Night" in May

Community Links:

- ✦ Public library class visits
- ✦ Child and Youth student workers from local colleges
- ✦ Community volunteers
- ✦ Student teachers from University of Toronto, York University and some Faculties of Education in the USA
- ✦ Collaboration with Children's Aid, Police, West End Creche, Surrey Place, Gerrard / Coxwell business community, and the East End Community Health Services
- ✦ Visits to local grocery stores, the police station, hospital and other community buildings

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.