

**School Address**  
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Paul Farrell

**Administrative Office Staff**  
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**School Council Chair(s)**  
Pankaj Varma

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**Director of Education**  
Gerry Connolly

## OUR SCHOOL

Denlow Public School is located in the York Mills community. It is situated on the grounds of the former IBM Golf and Country Club. The school first opened in 1970. Most recently, we have added a brand new playground and a beautiful memorial garden.

Denlow serves 530 students representing over 20 languages. Approximately 30% of the students speak English as a second language.

Denlow Public School:

- ✦ has a strong partnership among an involved community, excellent teachers, and motivated students.
- ✦ is a host site for the Gifted program for students in Grades 4, 5, and 6.
- ✦ is recognized by the Fraser Institute as one of the top schools in Ontario for the last five years.
- ✦ is also a host for faculty of education students from a variety of universities.
- ✦ is a *Learning Through the Arts* school.
- ✦ Community Childcare Centre is housed in our building and provides before and after school care for our students as well as a nursery program.

## School Focus For This School Year

- ✦ enriching our excellent language and mathematics programs
- ✦ implementing the Ontario Curriculum with a focus on overall enrichment
- ✦ integrating information technology across the curriculum
- ✦ promoting good citizenship through extra-curricular activities, leadership opportunities, and classroom programming
- ✦ ensuring a safe and comfortable environment
- ✦ encouraging and increasing environmental awareness and responsibility
- ✦ improving critical thinking skills
- ✦ improving the fitness level of our students through a well designed physical education program and as an active member of the Public Health's Toronto Schools on the Move program.
- ✦ providing a wide variety of enrichment opportunities through *Learning Through the Arts* and *Scientists in the School*
- ✦ promoting sharing and carrying through a variety of programs such as the Terry Fox Run, Kid Like Me Campaign, Food Drives, Jump Rope for Heart, United Way and Project Love.
- ✦ enhancing physical education program which includes tennis and creative dance.

## OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2006)

	<b>No.</b>	<b>Percent</b>
✦ Total number of students:	<b>502</b>	
Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3	244	
Grade 4 - Grade 6	258	
✦ Gender:		
Female	207	41%
Male	295	59%
✦ Primary language other than English:	213	42%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	21	4%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	35	7%

\* 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:

### Language/Literacy

- ✦ Awards
- ✦ Balanced Literacy Program (includes all necessary language components)
- ✦ Book bags: Kindergarten
- ✦ Book Fair(s)
- ✦ Borrow-a-book Program
- ✦ Chime in Program (phonics program connecting reading with music)
- ✦ Contests
- ✦ Daily independent reading
- ✦ Drop Everything And Read Program (D.E.A.R.)
- ✦ Early Years Literacy Project
- ✦ First Steps: Writing
- ✦ Guest Author Program (guests from all walks of life read to learners)
- ✦ Guided Reading
- ✦ Home Reading Program
- ✦ Jolly Phonics
- ✦ Newsletters
- ✦ Parent Information Nights
- ✦ Reading Buddies (with students from other grades)
- ✦ Remedial support from Resource Teachers
- ✦ Secondary co-op students
- ✦ Silver Birch Reading Program
- ✦ Sing Spell Read Write (specialized reading program)
- ✦ Snuggle-up-and -Read home reading support
- ✦ Storytelling workshops (adult storytellers interacting with students)
- ✦ Visiting authors
- ✦ Class visits/field trips: library

### English as a Second Language (ESL) / English Literacy Development (ELD)

- ✦ ESL classes
- ✦ First language mentors/tutors
- ✦ Team teaching with ESL/ELD staff (in regular classrooms)

### Other Languages and Cultural Studies

- ✦ Contests: French
- ✦ First Steps
- ✦ International Language classes: Chinese
- ✦ Overnight trips
- ✦ Reading Buddies (with students from other grades)
- ✦ Secondary co-op students

### Mathematics, Science and Technology

- ✦ Canadian Mathematics Competition
- ✦ Chess club
- ✦ Math / Science Investigations
- ✦ Earth Day activities
- ✦ Science kits
- ✦ Scientists in School
- ✦ Computer buddies
- ✦ Computer integrated curriculum
- ✦ Computer lab
- ✦ Computer literacy
- ✦ Computers in classrooms
- ✦ Computers in the library
- ✦ School website
- ✦ Class visits/field trips: Outdoor Education Centre, the Ontario Science Centre, the Royal Ontario Museum
- ✦ Contests: Math
- ✦ Partnership with: York University
- ✦ Remedial support from Resource Teachers
- ✦ Science and Technology resource materials
- ✦ Math and Science Contests

### Arts Programs/Activities

- ✦ Artists in School
- ✦ Dance and movement: performing companies/troupes
- ✦ Drama: Prologue to the Performing Arts
- ✦ In-school performances by professional artists
- ✦ Concerts and Performances: dance, drama, music
- ✦ Music: Orff
- ✦ Trips to the Toronto Symphony Orchestra at Roy Thomson Hall
- ✦ Class visits/field trips: art galleries/studios, concerts/performances, music concerts / performances, the Royal Ontario Museum
- ✦ Festival of Lights concert
- ✦ Specialist teacher(s): music
- ✦ Enrichment programs: choir(s), music

### Social Studies, Programs/Activities

- ✦ Contests: Geography

### Social Skills and Leadership Programs/Activities

- ✦ Awards: awards assemblies
- ✦ Peacemakers program
- ✦ Roots of Empathy (empathy and parenting program)

## THE SCHOOL BOARD PROVIDES:

- ✦ Second Step (conflict resolution)
- ✦ Student Ambassadors
- ✦ Values, Influences, and Peers (V.I.P.)

### Equity Initiatives

- ✦ Anti-racist education
- ✦ Equity committee
- ✦ Inclusive curriculum/resources
- ✦ Inclusive resources in classrooms and library
- ✦ Cultural Awareness programs

### Learning Centre/Library Resources

- ✦ Internet access
- ✦ Computers in the library
- ✦ Audio/visual resources
- ✦ Book Fair(s)
- ✦ Library Partners in Action
- ✦ Library Resource Centre
- ✦ Library resources
- ✦ Student helpers: library
- ✦ Visiting authors

### Health and Physical Education Programs

- ✦ Fundraising: Jump Rope for Heart
- ✦ Health classes/programs
- ✦ Physical Education
- ✦ Sports programs: soccer
- ✦ Lunch activities program

### Safe School Programs

- ✦ Buddy system
- ✦ Code of Behaviour
- ✦ Safe Arrival Program
- ✦ Safety Patrollers (students patrol school crosswalk areas)
- ✦ School Safety Plan

### Food and Nutrition Programs /Lunchtime

#### Activities

- ✦ Fundraising: pizza days
- ✦ Hot lunch program
- ✦ Lunch activities program: basketball, chess, soccer
- ✦ Lunch program: pizza days
- ✦ Milk program
- ✦ Nutrition program: Kindergarten
- ✦ Parent volunteers: pizza days
- ✦ Supervised lunch program
- ✦ Interest groups/clubs: arts and crafts, chess, sewing

### Before/After School and Co-/Extra-Curricular

#### Activities

- ✦ Interest groups/clubs: chess
- ✦ After-4 Program(s): French, art, basketball, chess, drama, library, sewing, sports, tennis
- ✦ After-school activities: Jump Rope for Heart, Junior choir, Primary French, Terry Fox Run, choir(s), concerts/performances, library
- ✦ Sports house league(s): baseball, basketball, cross country running, skipping, soccer, track, volleyball
- ✦ Sports team(s): baseball, basketball, cross country running, field, soccer, volleyball

### Staff Development

- ✦ Anti-bullying program
- ✦ Balanced Literacy Program (includes all necessary language components)
- ✦ Divisional meetings
- ✦ Early Years Literacy Project



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

At Denlow, we believe that planning is an essential component in delivering effective educational programs. We have analyzed results from recent student assessments as well as feedback from parents, students, and staff. Our school plan is based on this data. The assessment results for reading, writing and mathematics over the last few years have been consistent and excellent. Denlow will continue to focus on the following strategies:

### LANGUAGE

- ♦ provide direct instruction in phonics, spelling, grammar, and punctuation
- ♦ develop reading and writing skills through the content areas
- ♦ use a variety of approaches to writing including First Steps
- ♦ use of the Developmental Reading Assessment (D.R.A) in the Primary Division
- ♦ Use of the Comprehension/Attitude/Strategies/Interests (CASI) reading assessment tool in the Junior Division
- ♦ continue to provide rich classroom environments that stimulate and enhance language development
- ♦ support language development of students whose first language is not English through modifying programs and collaborating with the ESL teacher
- ♦ use student mentoring methods such as Reading Buddies in the early grades
- ♦ focus on developing research skills in accessing information from a variety of sources: CD ROM, books, video, and the Internet

### MATHEMATICS

- ♦ provide a school-wide focus on problem solving
- ♦ use a wide variety of resources to support the implementation of the Ontario curriculum
- ♦ update resources by purchasing more manipulatives and software
- ♦ provide meaningful homework to involve parents

and extend their understanding of the mathematics curriculum

- ♦ integrating math and literacy
- ♦ providing rich resources for math and language integration

### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- ♦ ensure balanced programming by supporting staff collaboration on school-wide plans
- ♦ provide school-wide enrichment programs
- ♦ Scientist in the Schools Program
- ♦ provide outdoor education as a component of classroom science programs
- ♦ promote the awareness of managing our environment through community clean ups and walk to school programs

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

We will continue to focus on the integration of information technology in our curriculum. Our plans for this year include the following strategies:

- ♦ work with our well qualified staff to set objectives and provide support in the integration of information technology with a focus on telecommunications
- ♦ maintain and support our student Computer Buddies
- ♦ School Council supports the newly designed resource centre
- ♦ Development of a school web page

## OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

### Parent And Community Involvement

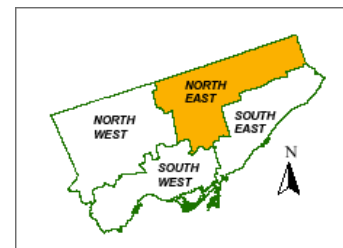
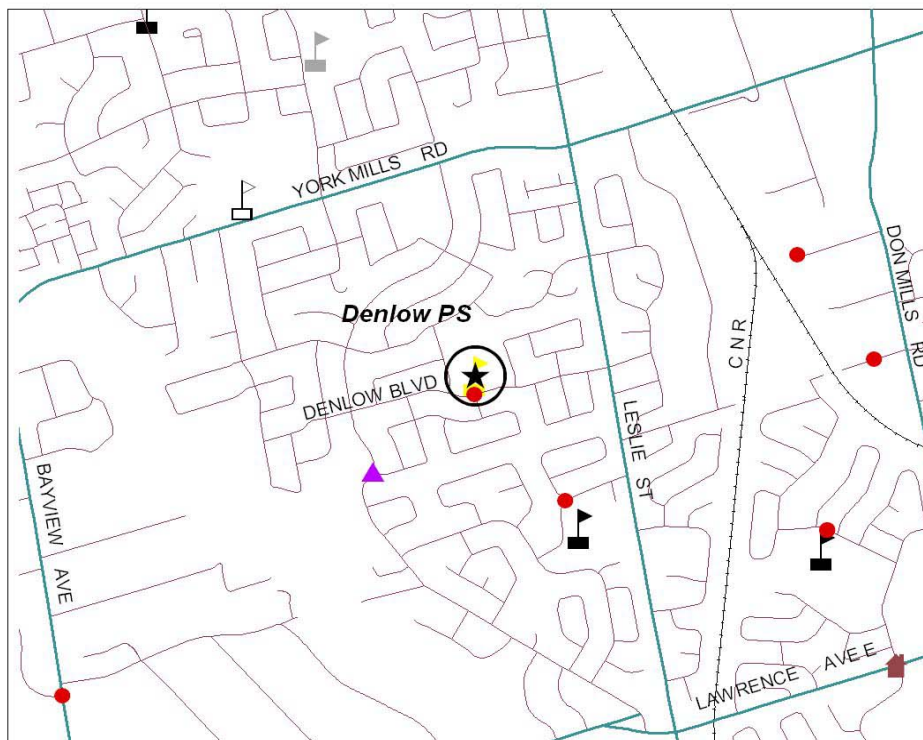
#### Parent Involvement:

- ✦ Regular parent volunteers assist in the school's classrooms library and throughout the school.
- ✦ School Council provides dynamic program support and fundraising activities to enhance the education of our students as well as extend school spirit and citizenship experiences.
- ✦ Parents run an absence reporting service (B.A.R.S) to ensure the safe arrival of students.
- ✦ Parents involve themselves on numerous committees to improve the school.
- ✦ classroom parent volunteer system

#### Community Links:

- ✦ Community volunteers assist in school programs.
- ✦ Metropolitan Toronto Police Department program (V.I.P. program is provided for students in 6).
- ✦ Our school is a field site for Faculties of Education, teachers candidates.
- ✦ Public Health department
- ✦ Risk management program (JK-4)
- ✦ Asthma Society/Heart and Stroke Foundation
- ✦ Police Services

### OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD



- ★ OUR SCHOOL
- ▣ TDSB Elementary School
- ▣ TDSB Junior High 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.



The mission of the Toronto District School Board 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.