

School Address
10 Elkhorn Drive
Toronto, M2K 1J3
Tel: (416) 395-9500
Fax: (416) 395-9501

Principal
Patricia Broderick

**Administrative Office
Staff**
Carolyn Fitzsimons

*

School Council Chair(s)
Maureen Gold
Anne Hancock

*

Ward 12 Trustee
Mari Rutka
(416) 395-8411

Superintendent
Michael Smith
(416) 396-9182

Director of Education
Gerry Connelly

OUR SCHOOL

Elkhorn Public School is located in the Bayview Village community at Bayview and Sheppard Avenues. The school first opened in 1958 but was closed for a period of eleven years between 1985 and 1996 at which time students attend Bayview Elementary and Middle School. Since our reopening in 1996 we maintain our relationship with Bayview Middle School.

We are a school where the partnership of home, community and school is thriving and helping our students to flourish. The academic program is balanced in all areas of the Ontario Curriculum: English (literacy), mathematics, science and technology, social studies, visual art, music, health and physical education and - for students in grades four and 5 - French as a second language.

Elkhorn services approximately 310 students representing almost 20 different language groups. Prevalent languages spoken by students in the school, other than English, include Cantonese, Romanian, Korean and Farsi.

The YMCA Childcare offers before and afterschool programs, half and full-day programs and a lunchtime program for children of kindergarten age to grade five. The school and the day care work in partnership to ensure the needs of students are addressed.

School's Mission:

At Elkhorn, every child is encouraged to achieve the highest standards, to grow emotionally, intellectually and socially, as well as to become successful within a global community.

School Focus For This School Year

- ✦ to continue and expand upon programs that support our commitment to improved student achievement in all curriculum areas, focussing most specifically on Reading and Writing
- ✦ to maintain programming in the Arts by focusing on staff development in the area of Music
- ✦ to continue and enhance a community partnership with Bayview Middle School, leading to smooth transitions for students and their parents /guardians moving on from grade 5 to grade 6
- ✦ to maintain a variety of extracurricular opportunities for students

OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2006)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	330	
Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3	198	
Grade 4 - Grade 5	132	
✦ Gender:		
Female	148	45%
Male	182	55%
✦ Primary language other than English:	218	68%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	53	17%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	52	16%

* 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

- ✦ Adopt a Young Reader (adults/parents reading with children)
- ✦ Adult volunteers: Reading, reading program
- ✦ Balanced Literacy Program (includes all necessary language components)
- ✦ Book bags: Kindergarten
- ✦ Book Fair(s)
- ✦ Borrow-a-book Program
- ✦ Buddy system
- ✦ Collections: reading program
- ✦ Daily independent reading
- ✦ Developmental Reading Assessment
- ✦ Drop Everything And Read Program (D.E.A.R.)
- ✦ Enrichment programs
- ✦ First Steps: Reading, Writing
- ✦ Guest Author Program (guests from all walks of life read to learners)
- ✦ Guided Reading
- ✦ Home Reading Program
- ✦ Letterland Program
- ✦ Literacy resource (remedial support from Resource Teachers)
- ✦ Newsletters
- ✦ Parent Information Nights
- ✦ Reading Buddies (with students from other grades)
- ✦ Reading Club
- ✦ Reading Resource (remedial support from Resource Teacher)
- ✦ School Booster Reading Program (with community volunteers)
- ✦ School wide theme
- ✦ Storytelling workshops (adult storytellers interacting with students)
- ✦ Visiting authors
- ✦ Class visits/field trips: library
- ✦ Library Partners in Action
- ✦ Accelerated Reader

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

- ✦ Buddy system
- ✦ ESL classes
- ✦ ESL/ELD buddy team
- ✦ Reading Buddies (with students from other grades)

Other Languages and Cultural Studies

- ✦ Contests: French
- ✦ International Language classes: Cantonese, Korean, Mandarin

Mathematics, Science and Technology

- ✦ Chess club
- ✦ Internet access: keyboarding
- ✦ Math resource (remedial support from Resource Teachers)
- ✦ Quest 2000
- ✦ Outdoor Education program: gardening
- ✦ Scientists in School
- ✦ Computer classes: library
- ✦ Computers in classrooms
- ✦ Computers in the library
- ✦ Networked school
- ✦ School website
- ✦ Class visits/field trips: Outdoor Education Centre, the Royal Ontario Museum
- ✦ Interest groups/clubs: gardening
- ✦ Peer tutors
- ✦ Audio/visual resources
- ✦ Overnight trips

Arts Programs/Activities

- ✦ Art program(s)
- ✦ Artists in School
- ✦ Integrated arts
- ✦ Dance and movement
- ✦ Drama: Prologue to the Performing Arts
- ✦ Concerts and Performances: music
- ✦ Music: Junior choir, Kiwanis Festival, primary choir
- ✦ School concerts
- ✦ Specialist teacher(s): vocal
- ✦ Art studio

Social Skills and Leadership Programs/Activities

- ✦ Peer Helpers program
- ✦ Recognition Awards program

Equity Initiatives

- ✦ Community Service Opportunities
- ✦ Equity in Education

Learning Centre/Library Resources

THE SCHOOL BOARD PROVIDES:

- ✦ Internet access
- ✦ Library Partners in Action
- ✦ Visiting authors

Health and Physical Education Programs

- ✦ Physical Education
- ✦ Sports programs: soccer
- ✦ Healthy Eating

Safe School Programs

- ✦ Buddy system
- ✦ Peer Helpers program
- ✦ Safe Arrival Program
- ✦ School Safety Plan
- ✦ Streetproofing / Street Safety

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

- ✦ Chess club
- ✦ Music: Junior choir, primary choir
- ✦ Interest groups/clubs
- ✦ After-4 Program(s): arts and crafts, basketball, chess, cooking, dance, gardening, homework, science, sports
- ✦ Community activities: Terry Fox Run
- ✦ Community Service Opportunities
- ✦ Fundraising: concerts/performances, pizza days
- ✦ Sports house league(s)
- ✦ Sports team(s): baseball, basketball, cross country running, soccer, track and field, volleyball
- ✦ Team teaching
- ✦ International Language classes

Staff Development

- ✦ Computers in classrooms
- ✦ Balanced Literacy Program (includes all necessary language components)
- ✦ Developmental Reading Assessment
- ✦ Divisional meetings
- ✦ First Steps
- ✦ Guided Reading
- ✦ In-house inservice: assessment, curriculum, literacy
- ✦ Remedial support from Resource Teachers
- ✦ Staff support

Other Programs and Services

- ✦ Agenda/Homework planners
- ✦ Homework bags/kits
- ✦ Overnight trips
- ✦ Playdays
- ✦ Sports programs
- ✦ Field trips/class visits
- ✦ Peer tutors
- ✦ Fundraising
- ✦ International Language classes
- ✦ Lunch program



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

Reading and Writing

Overall, we have been pleased with our students' assessment results in all areas of curriculum. Reading, writing and math are areas where we will continue to focus our energies and resources for greater student improvement. Plans include:

- ♦ continue to use computer-based and specialized early literacy programs in Senior Kindergarten and Grade 1
- ♦ use student mentoring methods such as Reading Buddies
- ♦ continue the Booster Reading program with trained community volunteers
- ♦ ensure that the Information Centre is regularly available to all students for research, writing and reading support (lab area located in library)
- ♦ encourage parents to read to students at home through our Homework Policy and Take a Book Home program
- ♦ continue implementing newly-purchased guided reading materials for all grade levels
- ♦ provide opportunities for teachers to attend staff development workshops in reading and writing related to the curriculum
- ♦ continue with the implementation of the Accelerated Reader software

Pathways to Success

To ensure that students moving from elementary to middle school have a smooth transition:

- ♦ continue a learning partners program with the middle school
- ♦ continue to enhance student opportunities for leadership roles in the school

Other Plans

- ♦ extend opportunities for all students, across the grades, to participate in performance activities (school play)
- ♦ in cooperation with School Council, introduce a year-long theme of "kindness" and implement activities to celebrate "kind" behaviours
- ♦ continue providing opportunities for students to see professional actors and musicians through a series of performances
- ♦ attendance at Toronto Symphony Concert by all grades from one to five
- ♦ Holiday Concert (December)

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Parent And Community Involvement

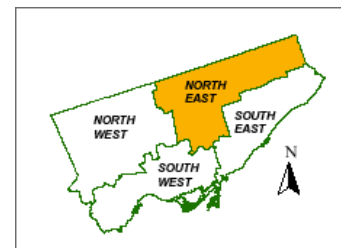
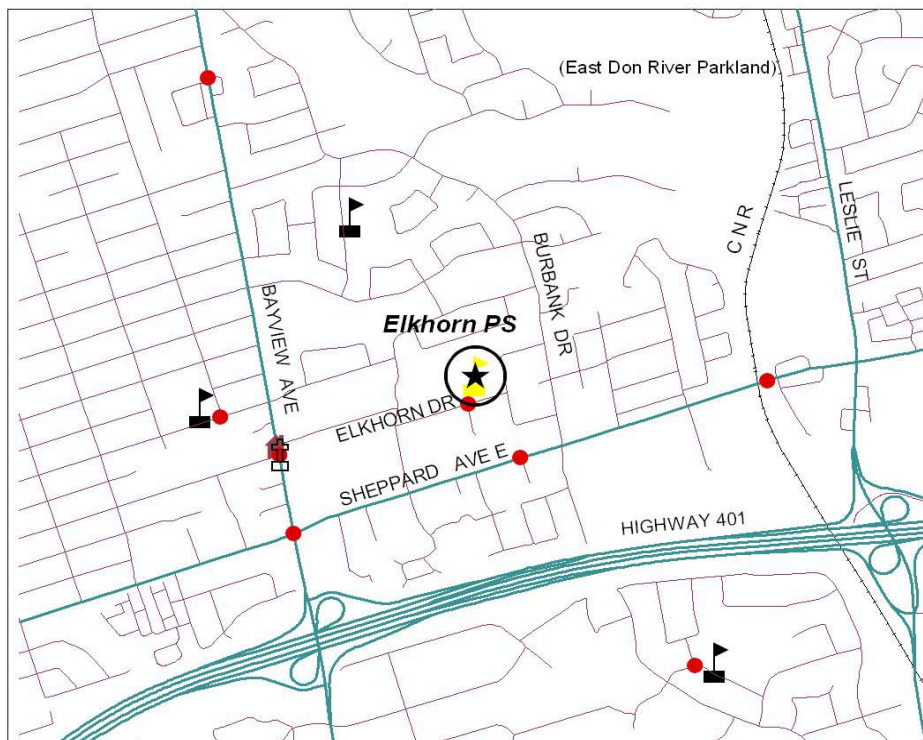
Parent Involvement:

- ✦ School Council with over 30 active and supportive parent members
- ✦ Parent volunteers who assist regularly in the school's library, classrooms, extra curricular activities and with fundraising
- ✦ Booster Reading program offered by parent volunteers
- ✦ Parent and community volunteers run most of the fundraiser in our school
- ✦ Grade Parents for every classroom

Community Links:

- ✦ School Choir performances
- ✦ Host school for placement of student teachers from York University
- ✦ Partnership between grade 1 class and Harmony House
- ✦ Partnership with Bayview Middle School (Learning Buddies)
- ✦ Collaboration with community and social agencies
- ✦ Holiday concert for students and their families/friends; Choir consists of 150 students
- ✦ Curriculum support for teachers and students from Toronto Public Health and Toronto 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.