

**School Address**  
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**Principal**  
Morag Killackey

**Administrative Office Staff**  
Maria Imbrogno  
Roula Massin

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**School Council Chair(s)**  
Anita Kwok  
Marty Cummings

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**Ward 17 Trustee**  
Michael Coteau  
(416) 397-3086

**Superintendent**  
Saryl Jacobson  
(416) 396-9180

**Director of Education**  
Gerry Connelly

## OUR SCHOOL

Seneca Hill Public School was established over thirty years ago. The school is located in the northeast part of the city, south of Finch Avenue, east of Don Mills Road just south of Seneca College. From the beginning, the parents of the students at Seneca Hill have been involved in the life of the school. The tradition continues to the present day. We continue to have an active School Council that supports the school in many ways.

- ✦ The school is responsive and sensitive to the challenges presented by a very diverse population with twenty-five languages represented. We have developed connections to the community to facilitate ongoing communication. As a community-based school, we are committed to principles of excellence, safety, equity, and partnerships.
- ✦ Seneca Hill is a dual program school in that we house the regional gifted program, which draws from the wider community, for students in Grades 4, 5 and 6. We also have a regular Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6 program.
- ✦ Phoenix Daycare Centre, a community based program, works closely with the school. Children from two and one half years old and up are provided with a stimulating, nurturing program. There is a before and after school program for school-age children. The daycare is accommodated in the building.
- ✦ Seneca Hill has established an outstanding reputation for academic excellence. Supportive Parents, a dedicated and professional staff, and students who engage in the learning process are the key ingredients of the success at Seneca Hill Public School.

## School Focus For This School Year

The focus of all that we do at Seneca Hill is directed to ensure that every child is successful and develops the skills necessary for success in school and in life. We provide a well balanced, challenging program that emphasizes high standards and high expectations. Excellence is the norm at Seneca Hill.

## OUR STUDENTS (As of spring 2006)

	<u>No.</u>	<u>Percent</u>
✦ Total number of students:	<b>295</b>	
Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3	141	
Grade 4 - Grade 6	154	
✦ Gender:		
Female	141	48%
Male	154	52%
✦ Primary language other than English:	217	75%*
✦ Students born outside of Canada:		
Students living in Canada for 2 years or less	15	5%
Students living in Canada for 3 - 5 years	24	8%

\* 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

- ✦ Balanced Literacy Program (includes all necessary language components)
- ✦ Book Fair(s)
- ✦ Borrow-a-book Program
- ✦ Buddy system
- ✦ Daily independent reading
- ✦ Developmental Reading Assessment
- ✦ First Steps: Oral language, Reading, Writing
- ✦ Jolly Phonics
- ✦ Newsletters
- ✦ Parent Information Nights
- ✦ Reading Buddies (with students from other grades)
- ✦ Recognition Awards program
- ✦ Remedial support from Resource Teachers
- ✦ Silver Birch Reading Program
- ✦ Speech Arts
- ✦ Storytelling workshops (adult storytellers interacting with students)
- ✦ Visiting authors
- ✦ Class visits/field trips
- ✦ Library Partners in Action

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

- ✦ ESL Resource Program

### Other Languages and Cultural Studies

- ✦ International Language classes: Mandarin

### Mathematics, Science and Technology

- ✦ Chess club
- ✦ Internet access: keyboarding
- ✦ Pythagoras math contest
- ✦ Quest 2000
- ✦ Earth Day activities
- ✦ Invention Convention
- ✦ Mad Science
- ✦ Outdoor Education program
- ✦ School recycling program

- ✦ Science kits
- ✦ Scientists in School
- ✦ Computer integrated curriculum
- ✦ Computers in the library
- ✦ Information Technology
- ✦ School website
- ✦ Class visits/field trips
- ✦ Contests: Math

### Arts Programs/Activities

- ✦ Learning Through the Arts
- ✦ Drama: performing companies/troups
- ✦ Choral music projects
- ✦ Concerts and Performances: Kindergarten, dance, drama, music
- ✦ Music: choir(s), itinerant vocal music, recorder
- ✦ Trips to the Toronto Symphony Orchestra at Roy Thomson Hall
- ✦ Talent show(s)
- ✦ Enrichment programs: choir(s), music

### Social Studies, Programs/Activities

- ✦ Overnight trips
- ✦ Class visits/field trips

### Social Skills and Leadership Programs/Activities

- ✦ Anti-bullying program
- ✦ Awards: awards assemblies
- ✦ Social Skills programs
- ✦ Values, Influences, and Peers (V.I.P.)

### Guidance Programs/Activities

- ✦ Monthly assemblies
- ✦ Social Skills programs
- ✦ Leadership program
- ✦ Anti-bullying program
- ✦ Student Ambassadors
- ✦ Student recognition assemblies

### Equity Initiatives

- ✦ Diversity celebrations
- ✦ Equity leadership

## THE SCHOOL BOARD PROVIDES:

- ✦ Guest speakers
- ✦ Inclusive resources in classrooms and library

### Learning Centre/Library Resources

- ✦ Internet access
- ✦ Computers in the library
- ✦ Information Technology
- ✦ School website
- ✦ Book Fair(s)
- ✦ Library Partners in Action
- ✦ Student helpers: library
- ✦ Team teaching
- ✦ Visiting authors

### Health and Physical Education Programs

- ✦ Fundraising: Jump Rope for Heart
- ✦ Physical Education
- ✦ Public Health Nurse support: drugs, nutrition, puberty, smoking, substance abuse
- ✦ Sports programs
- ✦ Streetproofing / Street Safety
- ✦ Healthy Eating

### Safe School Programs

- ✦ Buddy system
- ✦ Code of Behaviour
- ✦ Safe Arrival Program
- ✦ Safety Committee
- ✦ Safety initiatives
- ✦ School Safety Plan

### Food and Nutrition Programs /Lunchtime Activities

- ✦ Fundraising: pizza days
- ✦ Hot lunch program
- ✦ Lunch activities program
- ✦ Lunch program: pizza days
- ✦ Milk program
- ✦ Parent volunteers: pizza days
- ✦ Supervised lunch program

### Community Activities/Supports

- ✦ Adult volunteers: Kindergarten
- ✦ Community partnership
- ✦ Co-op students
- ✦ Faculty of Education students: University of Toronto, York University
- ✦ Fundraising: Jump Rope for Heart, Terry Fox Run, pizza days
- ✦ Parent Information Nights: EQAO, homework
- ✦ Partnership with: York University

### Additional Specialized Supports

- ✦ Special Education Resource Program

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

- ✦ Chess club
- ✦ Music: Junior choir, strings, vocal
- ✦ Interest groups/clubs: Junior choir, chess, gardening, graduation
- ✦ After-school activities: Junior choir, arts and crafts, cartooning, chess, choir(s), cooking, dance, homework, pottery, science
- ✦ Before school program: basketball, cross country running, soccer, track and field, volleyball
- ✦ Community activities: Terry Fox Run
- ✦ Leadership club/team
- ✦ Newsletter
- ✦ Sports house league(s): basketball, floor hockey, volleyball
- ✦ Sports team(s): baseball, basketball, soccer, track and field, volleyball

### Staff Development

- ✦ Computer integrated curriculum
- ✦ Computer literacy
- ✦ Computers in classrooms
- ✦ Learning Through the Arts
- ✦ Anti-bullying program
- ✦ Autistic services
- ✦ Balanced Literacy Program (includes all necessary language components)
- ✦ Code of Behaviour
- ✦ Developmental Reading Assessment
- ✦ Divisional meetings
- ✦ First Steps: Oral language
- ✦ In-house inservice: assessment, literacy
- ✦ Second Step (conflict resolution)

### Other Programs and Services

- ✦ Agenda/Homework planners
- ✦ Playdays
- ✦ International Language classes

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

Our school is very pleased with our students' outstanding assessment results in reading, writing, and mathematics over the last few years, and more recently with our EQAO results for our Grade 3 and Grade 6 students. We have developed the following plans for this school year based on the feedback we have received from assessments as well as in response to Ministry curriculum expectations.

In all areas of the curriculum, we plan to continue to use a variety of tools and strategies to assess student work: teacher observation, pupil portfolios, anecdotal comments, tests, journals, work samples, homework, oral questioning, computer assignments, notebooks, group work, class participation, and formal assessment.

Seneca Hill offers a balanced program in all areas of the curriculum. The current priorities and strategies in providing a supportive challenging learning environment are:

### Language Program

- ♦ provide a comprehensive language program in reading and writing in each grade to ensure all Ministry expectations are met
- ♦ use the Ministry writing exemplars to assess student writing and the reading exemplars to assess student reading
- ♦ use the Developmental Reading Assessment resource as a tool to assess and track student achievement in the Primary and use the CASI in the Junior Division
- ♦ integrate the language program with other subjects to effectively meet curriculum expectations in all subjects
- ♦ use early literacy programs in Junior and Senior Kindergarten and Grade 1
- ♦ encourage reading for enjoyment -resources, author visits, sustained reading
- ♦ encourage parents to read to students at home, and to listen to their reading.

### Technology

We plan continue to integrate computers into the curriculum.

- ♦ develop language skills, computer literacy and information technology skills in a comprehensive way while integrating with the classroom program
- ♦ integrate the Learning Resource Centre program with the classroom program to ensure that research, organizational and library skills are developed
- ♦ provide students with access to appropriate websites to support their learning in different subjects
- ♦ expand our school website
- ♦ provide opportunities for students to explore a variety of ways to present information using technology
- ♦ use the interactive whiteboards to expand and enhance technology skills

### Mathematics Program

- ♦ provide information and resources for staff to aid them in the implementation of all strands of the Ministry mathematics expectations
- ♦ provide the necessary resources to support the Quest 2000 math program

### Learning Through The Arts

We are looking forward to the continued partnership with Learning Through The Arts and the vocal programme

- ♦ all grades are involved in Learning Through The Arts.
- ♦ we are working with several artists in a variety of curriculum areas.

## OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

### Parent And Community Involvement

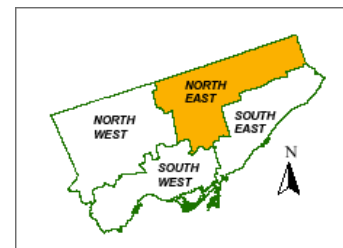
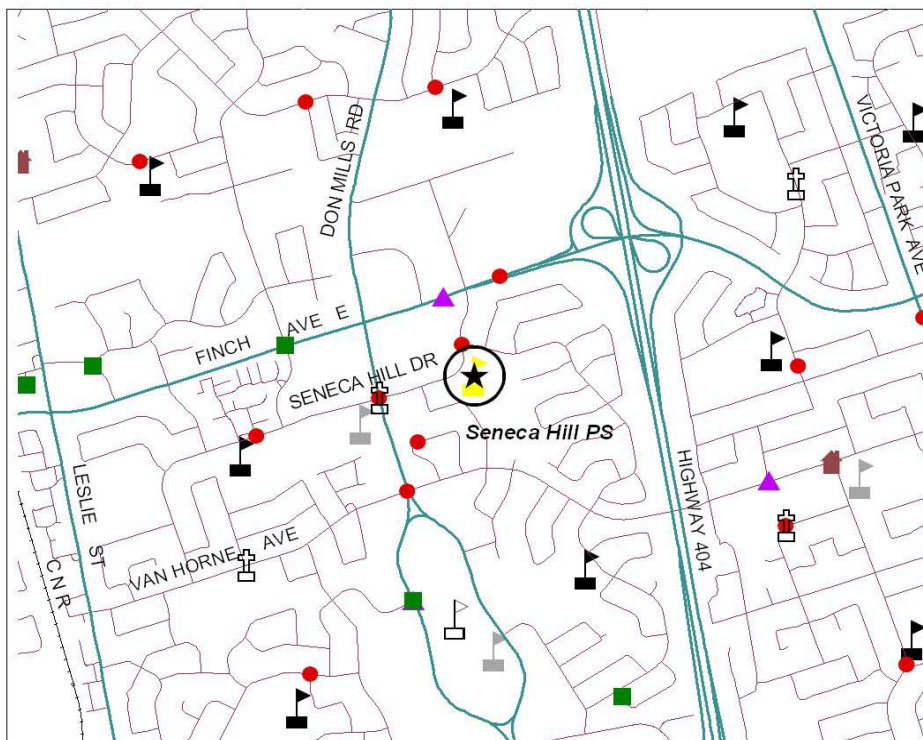
#### Parent Involvement:

- ✦ An active and committed School Council
- ✦ The Fundraising Committee of the School Council is supportive of all school initiatives. Funds are provided for speakers, plays, equipment, scientists in the school etc. A focus for fundraising this year is to continue to support Learning Through The Arts.
- ✦ School Council that arranges for speakers to present topics of interest to our parents
- ✦ Parent volunteers who work in the library, in classrooms, and on trips
- ✦ A Before Absence Reporting Program, an integral part of our Safe Arrival Program, run by parent volunteers
- ✦ The Council sponsors an extensive after school program.

#### Community Links:

- ✦ Consultation with the Public Health nurse -Home Alone Program, workshops, etc.
- ✦ Work with the Police on the Values, Influences and Peers Program
- ✦ Collaboration with community / social agencies
- ✦ Learning Through the Arts Program
- ✦ Teacher training and involvement with the faculties at York University, Seneca College, and O.I.S.E.
- ✦ Our M.P.P., David Caplan actively support the school.
- ✦ Our trustee, David Coteau actively supports the school

### 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

0 0.5 1 Kilometers

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.