

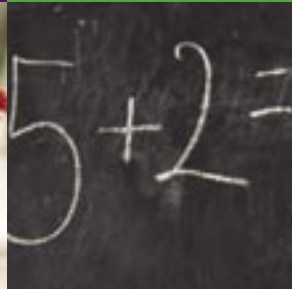
Others see a student. We see...



a global
citizen...



possibilities...



the future...



We see... a global citizen



We understand that the children of Peel are citizens of the global village. We see our role as helping them learn to take their place in our interconnected world.

Award-winning learning events give students leadership opportunities

Each year, the Peel board hosts award-winning learning events that let students take the lead in dealing with key real-world issues.

The board's annual Model UN gives secondary school students the chance to learn first-hand the difficulties associated with international diplomacy. In 2004, students representing 23 UN member states heard from Gilbert Parent, Canada's ambassador for the environment, and broadcaster Ann Medina as they debated the Kyoto Protocol. In 2005, the 10th annual Model UN focused on war-affected children, with keynote speaker Lloyd Axworthy.

The Peel board receives support from the Canadian International Development Agency for innovative global education programs. In 2003-04, *Changing the Global Mindset: Students taking action for environmental change* featured a teacher conference and a student environment fair sponsored by Canon Canada Inc. In 2004-05, the board's CIDA project, Leaders in Action for Education, focuses on impact of war on children and education.

More than 250 students attended the sixth annual Learning about AIDS conference in October, to learn how to take a leadership role in creating awareness events at their schools.

For more information about youth leadership events in the Peel board, go to Student Stuff at www.peelschools.org or call 905-890-1099 (or 1-800-668-1146), ext. 2814.

Students take lead as community citizens

We believe it's important for students to learn about the difference they can make to help others—in their local community and around the world. Here are a few examples:

- The Peel board's Helping Hands fundraising campaign has raised a half million dollars to help victims of the tsunami that ravaged Asia and East Africa.
- In Oct. 2004, students and staff raised \$12,000 to assist hurricane victims in the Caribbean.
- Students and staff in the Peel board and Dufferin-Peel Catholic board worked together to raise more than \$1.1 million for cancer research through a special Terry Fox event. Peel board schools raised \$264,000 for United Way and a half-million dollars for Jump Rope for Heart.

Looking for a student volunteer?

All high school students must complete 40 hours of volunteer service in the community. To post a volunteer job on the Peel board website, go to "Student Stuff" at www.peelschools.org and click on the "Your Time Counts" icon.



It's easy to get information

You can get copies of any of our information materials in the following ways:

- your child's school has copies of most information materials
- visit our website at www.peelschools.org
- call Communications at 905-890-1099 (or 1-800-668-1146) ext. 2809



Facts at a glance

total number of schools	212
elementary	182
secondary	30
total number of students	140,000
elementary	100,000
secondary	40,000
total number of staff	12,000
academic	8,700
business and support	3,300
students in French programs	61,500



Facts at a glance

students served through special education	14,500
students in English as second language programs	20,000
students travelling to school by bus	38,000
number of portables	600
permits for community use of school facilities	4,500



Curriculum available

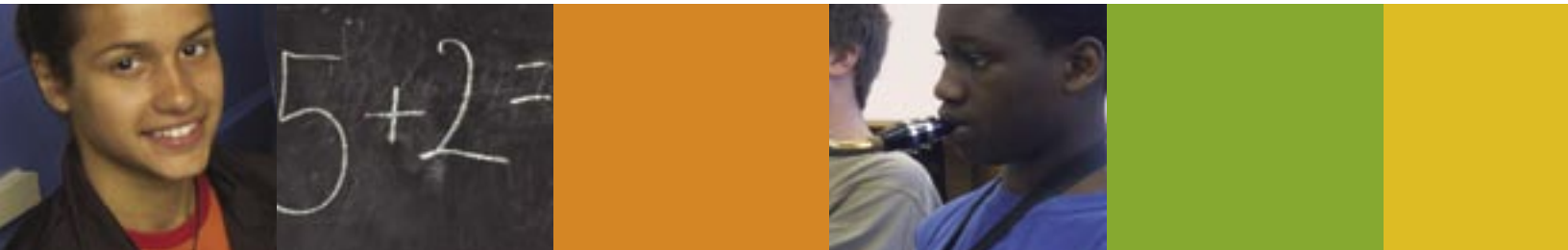
Every Peel school has a complete set of all curriculum in its library for parents and community members. All Peel curriculum is also available at the education centre. Call the library at 905-890-1099 (or 1-800-668-1146) ext. 2601 for hours.



We see... possibilities



We know every child can learn—it's up to us to give students, and their families, the programs, choices and support to make that happen. It's our job to open the world of possibilities to our students.



One in three children not ready for school, study shows

When children start school, are they ready to learn? Do they have the physical, emotional, social, intellectual and communication skills necessary to succeed? For almost one Peel child in three, the answer is no. That is the finding of a new study by the Peel board.

The research shows that the most important factor in helping young children be ready for school is a healthy, supportive community. These children were significantly less ready for school:

- those who speak a first language other than English
- boys
- children who did not attend organized pre-school programs
- those born later in the year
- children who live in neighbourhoods of high social risk

The Peel board has introduced new programs designed to improve school readiness. As part of the board's Pathways Schools project, the board opened four early years "hubs" and 10 readiness centres in schools located in neighbourhoods of highest social need. The board is strategically investing new funding in communities and programs that will have the most impact to help children and families.

For more information about the school readiness report or Pathways Schools, contact the Assessment and Accountability department. For complete information about the hubs and readiness centres, contact Curriculum and Instruction. Call 905-890-1099 (or 1-800-668-1146) or visit www.peelschools.org.

Mentors help children succeed in school

In just one hour a week, a mentor can make a real and lasting difference for a child, through the *in-school mentoring program*. This partnership between the Peel board and Big Brothers Big Sisters of

Peel matches an adult with an elementary school child who would benefit from the encouragement and assistance of a one-to-one relationship with a caring adult.

More than 100 mentors meet with children in 47 Peel schools. The program receives top ratings from the children and their mentors, as well as teachers and parents. The Peel board has initiated a project to give administrative staff time during work to volunteer as an in-school mentor.

For more information about the program or about how to become a mentor, call 905-457-7288.

Creative learning choices offer students a variety of options

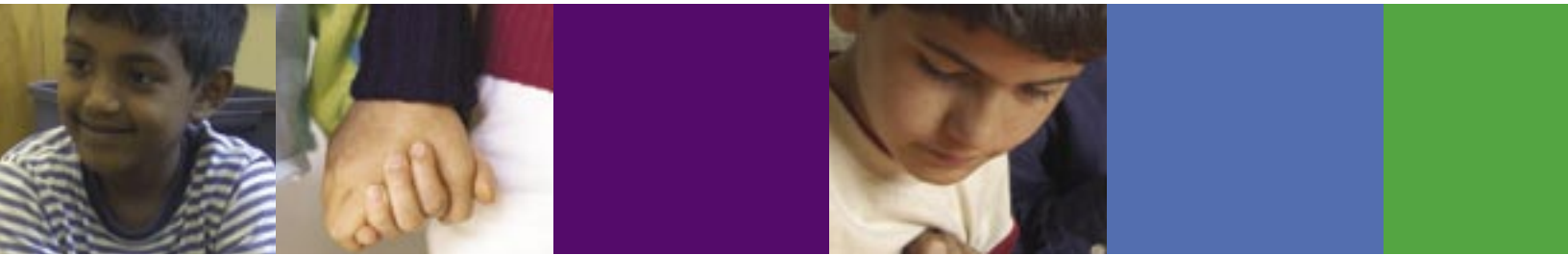
The Peel board's Creative Learning Choices programs expand the variety of learning options within the public school system. They are designed to meet the diverse learning needs of all students. The following choice programs are **open to all students** in Peel:

- arts programs for middle school students at Earncliffe Sr. Public School, 905-793-2903, and Queen Elizabeth Senior Public School, 905-278-7287. For high school students at Cawthra Park Secondary School, 905-274-1271, and Mayfield Secondary School, 905-846-6060
- "balanced calendar" school with shorter, more frequent breaks, rather than a two-month summer vacation, opens August 2005 at Roberta Bondar Public School, 905-457-1799
- Caring for the Future, career education for students interested in health care, 905-451-2860
- Extended French, open to all students starting grade 7, 905-890-1010, ext. 2212 for the nearest school
- French immersion, open to all children starting grade 1, 905-890-1010, ext. 2212 for the nearest school
- Future Builders, construction co-op program, 905-858-3087 or 905-791-6770

- International Baccalaureate for middle school students at William G. Davis Sr. Public School, 905-459-3661, and for high school students at Turner Fenton Secondary School, 905-453-9220, and Glenforest Secondary School, 905-625-7731
- International Business and Technology Program, Allan A. Martin Senior Public School, 905-278-6104 and Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary schools, 905-274-2391
- Recipe for Success chef training program, Turner Fenton Secondary School, 905-453-9220, ext. 307
- School Online, web-based high school courses, www.school-online.ca

- SciTech Inquiry Centre for students in grades 6 to 8 at Tomken Road Middle School, 905-277-0321, and for high school students at Port Credit Secondary School, 905-278-3382
- strings program, Port Credit Secondary School, 905-278-3382
- Teaching Tomorrow, career education for students interested in teaching, 905-791-2400

For more information about choice programs in the Peel board, go to www.peelschools.org.



Peel students perform well on provincial, national tests

Each year, the provincial Education Quality and Accountability Office conducts tests of students in grades 3, 6, 9 and 10. Peel students consistently score at or above the provincial average on all test areas.

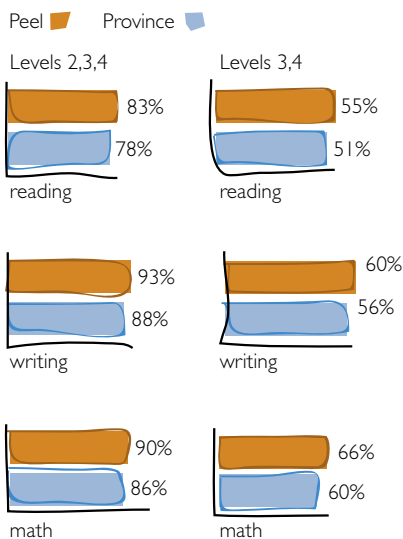
For the tests in grades 3, 6 and 9, EQAO rates student performance on a four-level scale, the same scale used in the Ontario curriculum. Level 1 is below standard and level 4 is above standard.

The Peel board also conducts an annual standardized testing program. All grade 4 students are tested on the Canadian Achievement Test.

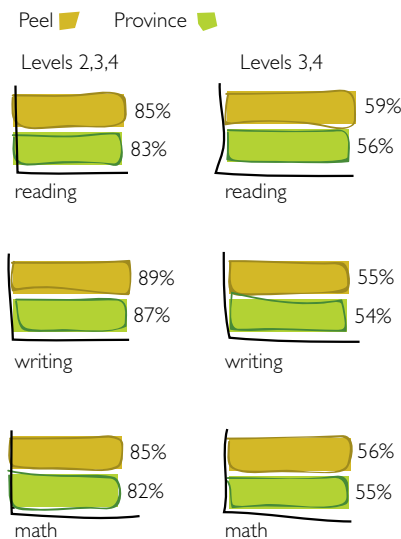
This test measures students' basic skills in reading, spelling and math, and provides a picture of how Peel students compare to others across Canada. For the past five years, Peel students have consistently performed at or above the national average on all parts of the test.

The Peel board website has extensive information about provincial test results—including results for each school. Go to www.peelschools.org and click on "EQAO Test Results." For the complete results of the standardized testing program, call Assessment and Accountability department, 905-890-1099 (or 1-800-668-1146) ext. 2610.

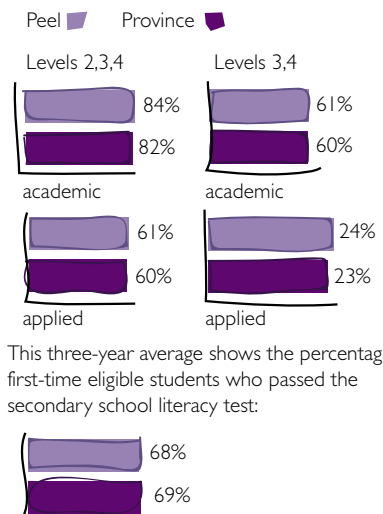
Overall, this is how grade 3 students have performed over the last three years:



Overall, this is how grade 6 students performed over the last three years:



Overall, this is how students performed during the last three years of the grade 9 math test:



This three-year average shows the percentage of first-time eligible students who passed the secondary school literacy test:

About 91 per cent of students due to graduate in 2004 had passed the test or completed the literacy course, which is an alternative to the test.

We see... the future



When we look at the children and teens in our schools, we think about how we're preparing them for a successful future.

Improvement goals focus on success for our students

If we want to make sure all students achieve, we must focus our efforts where the impact will be the greatest. That's what System Planning for Student Success is all about—it's about turning our improvement goals into action and measuring our progress.

The Peel board goals for 2005-2008:

- 1 Set high expectations for achievement of students and staff, and measure the outcomes**
- implement First Steps literacy framework (K-8)
 - implement the Stepping Out literacy resources (9-12)
 - implement the Alphakids reading assessment (K-2)
 - expand instructional strategies and develop new programs for grade 7 – 12 at-risk students
 - use a needs index for each school to help determine the allocation of resources

- 3 Use resources effectively**
- effectively deploy the \$100 million initiative to renew school facilities
 - standardize the processes and procedures for new school construction

- 5 Ensure students and staff have safe and appropriate places to learn and work**
- review the design of new schools and identify & implement design efficiencies to address program needs
 - analyze, interpret and respond to school-by-school suspension data

- 7 Use technology effectively with students and staff**
- implement the strategic learning technology plan which includes a new, integrated system for the inter/intranet and electronic communication
 - develop and implement an organization-wide strategy to share effective practices for school electronic communications

- 2 Encourage positive board/staff and school/community relationships**
- develop and implement strategies to support site-based staff wellness using effective practices
 - implement the staff recognition plan
 - conduct and respond to an annual satisfaction survey for internal audiences

- 4 Maximize student achievement through school success planning**
- develop and implement in all schools the School Success Planning website
 - train all school leadership teams in School Success Planning

- 6 Achieve equity for students and staff**
- expand integrated system implementation of The Future We Want and the human rights policy for staff and students
 - provide training to principals, vice-principals and managers in the fundamentals for addressing conflict with a focus on human rights and equity
 - act on the plan to meet the requirements of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act

- 8 Attract, develop, and retain a diverse staff of committed, dedicated and caring people**
- provide additional training and support to specific staff groups based on identified needs
 - develop and implement orientation, induction and mentoring programs for all staff in new assignments

All schools develop school success plans. Keeping in mind the overall board goals, each school develops improvement goals, based on the greatest learning needs of the students in that particular school.

Each school has a copy of its school success plan. For more information about Peel board goals, visit www.peelschools.org.



\$1 billion budget is an investment in our students' future

The Peel board budget is an investment in the future of our students. For 2004-05, the \$1 billion budget is focused on meeting the wide-ranging learning needs of more than 140,000 students in our growing communities. The expenditure budget is \$916 million, with a capital budget of \$85 million.

Although the budget is balanced, there are areas of under-funding:

- shortfall of \$7 million between what the board spends on transportation and actual funding
- \$30 million funding gap for salaries and benefits
- funding for special education is included in our revenue projections and is identified as a risk

For complete financial statements, go to “Get the Facts” on the Peel board website, www.peelschools.org, or call 905-890-1010 (or 1-800-668-1146), ext. 2012.

New schools help Peel board meet needs of future growth

Each year, the Peel board grows by more than 5,000 students. To meet the needs of current and future growth, the board has an ambitious plan of building new schools and permanent additions onto existing schools.

Five new schools added almost 6,000 student places for 2004-05: Artesian Drive, Brisdale, Fletcher's Meadow Secondary, Royal Orchard Middle and Sunny View Middle. Five other schools opened permanent additions, which added 7,600 student places.

Over the next five years, the Peel board's capital plan forecasts the need to build 26 new schools, to keep pace with enrolment growth. Construction is already underway for five new schools and five permanent additions to open in 2005-06. For more information, contact Planning and Accommodation, 905-890-1010 (or 1-800-668-1146), ext. 2212 or visit www.peelschools.org.

Innovative \$100 million plan transforms outdated learning space to meet modern curriculum needs

The Peel board launched a plan to renew older schools. By using the \$8 million ministry renewal grant to finance debenture borrowing, the board can put \$100 million to work—improving outdated learning space.

With \$3 billion in real estate assets and more than 13 million square feet of space in 212 schools, the board needed to find an innovative solution to manage the renewal needs of our schools. As part of the plan, board staff will inspect all 165 schools that are 20 years and older, on a priority basis. Twelve schools received \$3 million in improvements to the instructional space in 2004. In 2005, 47 schools are slated to receive upgrades worth about \$16 million.

This plan to renew outdated learning space is only part of the board's renewal and maintenance program. In addition to the \$100 million renewal plan, the board continues with routine repairs, health and safety improvements and modifications to schools to meet the requirements of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act.

Go to the Spotlight section of www.peelschools.org or call 905-890-1010 (or 1-800-668-1146), ext. 2212 for more information.

Innovative strategies help us attract thousands of new staff

The Peel board hired more than 1,000 new full-time and occasional teachers last year. Teachers interested in working for the Peel board can search and apply for jobs directly on the board's website, using VIP—Virtually in Peel—a free online application centre.

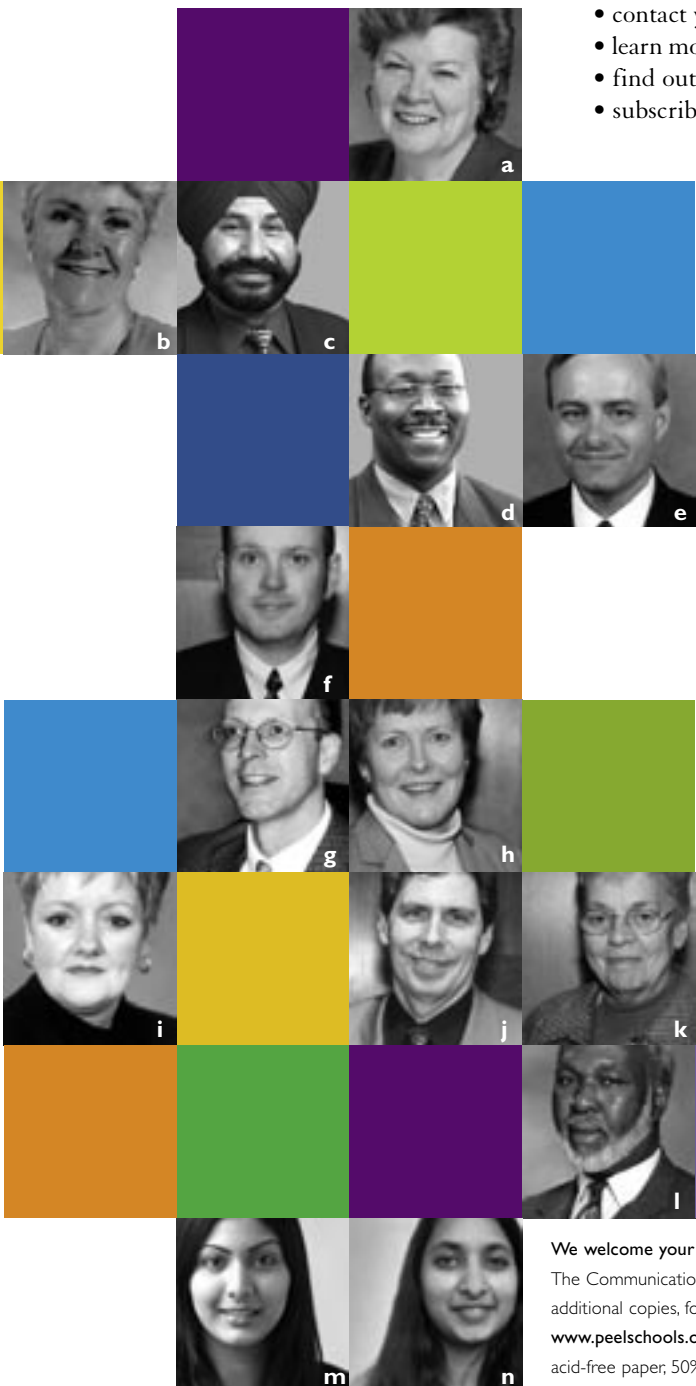
The board has also taken innovative approaches to recruiting the 2,000 non-teaching staff it hires annually. In March 2004, more than 1,500 job seekers attended the board's first recruitment fair for non-teaching staff. The board extended the VIP online application service to include all teaching assistants and secretarial/clerical positions.

For more information about VIP or applying for a job with the Peel board, visit www.peelschools.org and go to the “Work in Peel” section.

Trustees—strong local leadership

Visit the Peel board website at www.peelschools.org and check out the “Meet your Trustee” section to:

- contact your trustee
- learn more about the role of the trustee
- find out about recent decisions of the board of trustees
- subscribe to receive the agenda and meeting highlights electronically



- a. **Valerie Arnold-Judge**
Caledon
905-838-2125
- b. **Beryl Ford**
Brampton Wards 7/8
905-793-0800
- c. **Daljit Gill**
Brampton Wards 2/9/10
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- d. **David Green**
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- e. **Steve Kavanagh**
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- g. **Brad MacDonald**
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- h. **Janet McDougald**
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- i. **Sue McFadden**
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- j. **Don Stephens**
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- k. **Ruth Thompson**
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- l. **Rick Williams**
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- m. **Ameera Haffajee**
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(Central Peel
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Student Trustee
Schools north of highway 401

We welcome your comments

The Communications department, Peel District School Board, produces this annual report. To receive additional copies, for more information about anything in this report, or to comment, visit our website at www.peelschools.org or call 905-890-1099 (or 1-800-668-1146), ext. 2809. This report is printed on acid-free paper; 50% recycled, 20% post-consumer. Printing cost of each report is 24 cents.