Registration underway at Sinclair Laird Elementary for next school year

Last English-language school in Park Ex offers a bilingual education



MARTIN C. BARRY

Attention all moms and dads in Park Extension. Have you been looking for a school for your kids that's nearby, has a friendly and open ambience, and can provide a bilingual education?

If so, then look no further than Sinclair Laird Elementary, a public school steeped in history with a fondness for traditions, where your children will be able to broaden their knowledge, skills and experience in a neighbourhood that is close to where they live.

School's historic roots

Located on Wiseman Ave., Sinclair Laird Elementary School was built in 1956 and first opened its doors on January 30 1957. Located in the heart of Park Extension, the school was named after a former Dean at the School for Teachers at McDonald College and McGill University.

"We're the last English-language school in Park Extension," said Derrek Cauchi, Sinclair Laird Elementary's principal, noting that the school is currently accepting applications for up to a hundred new students for the next school year which begins next September.

Sinclair Laird Elementary reflects the multi-cultural flavour of its neighbourhood, providing to all of the students the opportunity to acquire important skills and knowledge in order to succeed co-operatively in a modern world.

A dedicated staff

A dedicated and experienced team of teachers and support staff work collaboratively with parents to help each child reach his or her greatest potential. One of the fundamental principles of the Sinclair Laird Elementary philosophy is that all children can learn.

Students, teachers and parents bring with them a diverse range of abilities and cultures. The school aims to create a bilingual literacy-rich experience, while encouraging parental involvement in an open public-school environment.

Sinclair Laird Elementary is equipped to provide qualifying students with a Special Needs education. Principal Cauchi pointed out in an interview with Nouvelles Parc Extension News that some students currently receiving Special Needs education at Centre de services scolaire de Montréal schools may qualify to receive those services at Sinclair Laird Elementary.

Special Needs services

While many CSSM schools have become overcrowded, Cauchi said parents in Park Extension with Special Needs kids should be aware they have an option to send them to Sinclair Laird Elementary, where the student population is smaller and there is less stress from crowded

"We want to make sure that everybody who may



Photo: Students at Sinclair Laird Elementary reflect the multi-cultural flavour of the neighbourhood, Park Extension.

be interested in coming to our school or sending their children is able to so," he continued, while pointing out that Sinclair Laird has an exceptionally large and beautiful outdoor play area and park-like campus that is shared with the City of Montreal outside of school hours.

Programs offered

The Sinclair Laird Elementary curriculum includes programs for Bilingual Elementary Education, Robotics and STEAM (science,

technology, engineering and arts). The school also offers daily physical activities, extra-curricular activities, a hot lunch program, a breakfast program and a BASE daycare program.

Registration for the new school year starting in early September begins during the last week of January and continues into the first week of February. For more information about the programs and services, or to book a visit, please contact the school at (514) 279-9026, or by e-mail at sinclairlaird@emsb.qc.ca.

