

**Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board  
Learning Services: Specialized Services**

**1.0 FTE School Social Worker  
(3 Temporary Positions)**

**Reporting to the Manager and Assistant Manager of Social Work Services, the School Social Worker will provide therapeutic interventions, guided by evidence-informed practices, to enhance the social-emotional well-being and mental health of HWDSB students. The School Social Worker meets these expectations by intervening within a continuum of service, and is responsible to provide the following:**

- Brief Services to children and youth between 4-18 years old presenting with social-emotional concerns who are in need of timely, effective early intervention. Brief Service includes:
  - Focusing on client strengths, are culturally inclusive and safe, and promote shared decision-making with the client.
  - Provision of “quick access” therapeutic encounters to address the immediate or presenting needs of a child or youth.
  - Provision of a timely response to requests for service, maximizing the child or youth and family’s readiness for change and diverting children, youth and families from waitlists whenever possible.
  - Facilitating referrals to appropriate alternate or additional services, both within the Board as well as the larger community.
- Treatment Services to children and youth between 4-18 years of age, focused on reducing the severity of, and/or remedying, the emotional, social and behavioural problems of children and youth. Treatment Services include:
  - A series of planned, interrelated interventions based on an assessment of the child, youth and family’s multiple risks, needs and strengths.
  - A range of modalities such as individual, group and family
  - Using an evidence-informed approach that is strength-based, and culturally responsive to diverse populations, centered on the individual, considering the individual child/youth within their whole context, respecting their needs and preferences.
  - The intervention/treatment process involves clients and uses shared decision-making so that all parties understand the goals and desired outcomes.

- The intervention/treatment plan is reviewed and recorded on a regular basis, and results are used to modify the intervention/treatment plan, if necessary.
- Crisis Support Services to children and youth between 4-18 years of age who are experiencing an urgent mental health crisis that places the child/youth and others at risk. Crisis Support Services include:
  - Implementing a triage protocol inclusive of prioritization criteria, type of contact and corresponding response time targets.
  - Referral to appropriate community agencies and services to support the student in developing and implementing a safety plan.
- Consultation and Support to school personnel regarding children and youth between the ages of 4-18 years who experience difficulty in school functioning, such as social and emotional difficulties, behavioural challenges, mental health concerns, family challenges, economic barriers and poor attendance at school.
- Supporting system wide initiatives that enhance or establish universal conditions for student wellbeing and inclusion

**The ideal candidate will have the following qualifications:**

- A Masters in Social Work and be eligible for registration in the Ontario College of Social Work and Social Service Work.
- Strong commitment to social work values, anti-oppressive/anti-racist practice, culturally safe and inclusive approaches to service delivery.
- Knowledge and awareness of the issues that impact upon children and youth and their school experience.
- Knowledge and experience in the application of evidence informed therapeutic interventions with children and families, and how to apply this within a school setting.
- Experience in the provision of therapeutic treatment groups and an understanding of group modalities, dynamics and techniques.
- Thorough knowledge of child development, social, environmental and structural influences, cultural diversity, family systems and age-appropriate change strategies.
- Demonstrated ability in working both within a multi-disciplinary team and/or a singular discipline team, and the ability to promote the transference knowledge across the team.
- Experience and comfort in working independently in a fast paced environment.
- Knowledge and experience in working with community agencies and partners to ensure seamless and integrated service delivery for children, youth and their families.
- Strong documentation skills in accordance with OCSWSSW standards, coupled with solid organizational, administrative and computer skills.

# HWDSB

Human Resources  
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Please apply to:

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Accommodation for Candidates is available upon request.

Applicants are thanked in advance for their interest; however, only those who have been short-listed for an interview will be contacted. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**Deadline for submission is 4:00 p.m. on June 29, 2018.**

curiosity • creativity • possibility