

Dear Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) Elementary Families,

As your child(ren) return to HWDSB classrooms and learning spaces following winter break, we are excited to start 2025 off with a new opportunity.

We are pleased to share that HWDSB has partnered with Hamilton Public Library (HPL) to simplify the library card registration process for all HWDSB elementary students!

To participate you can visit the Parent Portal and, with a simple 'click', consent to HWDSB sharing information with HPL to get a free public library card for your child(ren). Once you consent, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions to pick up your card and welcome package at your local HPL Branch.

Library cards for students support HWDSB's Reading Strategy by contributing to the development of early literacy skills that set children up for future success. A strong home and school literacy connection contributes to a student's lifelong love of reading, which is linked to overall student achievement and well-being.

An HPL Card unlocks endless opportunities for children to read, watch, listen and explore, providing free travel on HSR transit and entry to Hamilton Civic Museums, Art Gallery of Hamilton, local and Provincial parks and more. Members have access to movies, books, games, music and free educational programs and resources including Makerspaces with high-tech tools for creative projects.

Visit www.hwdsb.on.ca/library-card-opt-in/ to learn more about the free Hamilton Public Library Card Opt-In. You can also find more information on the HPL postcard that was sent home with students today. The deadline to opt-in via Parent Portal is March 3, 2025.

We hope your family takes advantage of this exciting partnership between HWDSB and HPL! If you have any questions about the free Hamilton Public Library Card Opt-In, please contact your school Principal.

Thank you,



Sheryl Robinson Petrazzini
Director of Education
Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board



Paul Takala
CEO and Chief Librarian
Hamilton Public Library