

Division Social Worker

Turtle Mountain School Division has a full-time Social Worker who is available to help support students, families, and schools. The Social Worker is able to provide counselling services to students on a multitude of levels that vary from informal conversation to more in-depth counselling on a variety of issues. The Social Worker will also support students beyond one-on-one situations, including small group and classroom interventions. Schools are supported by professional development activities to support and empower student success and achievement. The model used is “strength-based” and “solution-focused” and relies on existing student strengths to support social, emotional, academic and physical well-being.

Goals of a School Social Work Clinician

- Understand student behavior from a holistic perspective
- Build on strengths to improve the social, emotional, and academic functioning of a student
- Build relationships with students, families, schools and communities
- Ensure that programs are accessible to students and families
- Build upon the strengths of a student and family within their home community

Possible Reasons for a Referral to the Division Social Worker

- Student experiencing loss, family illness, or changes to family structure (separation and divorce)
- Parent-teen conflict
- Anxiety, depression, self-harming behavior
- Difficulty with adjusting to the school environment
- Low self-esteem and self-worth
- Poor school attendance
- Poor connection with school, community, and peers
- Substance abuse
- School-age pregnancy
- Family violence
- Students at-risk of dropping out of school

Cross Reference:

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Review Date:

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Duties and Responsibilities of the Social Worker:

The Social Worker shall:

- Work with students and families to assist them in resolving the problems a student is experiencing which are interfering with his/her success in school.
- Advocate on behalf of the student, the family group and the school.
- Assist students with behavioral, social and emotional issues by providing support and intervention.
- Consult and collaborate with the parents, the school team and other professionals by sharing information to establish a plan for each one's role in working with the student.
- Provide workshops for parents/guardians.
- Work with groups of students who possess common social, emotional, or behavioral concerns.
- Act as a liaison between school and parents/guardians.
- Support the school with attendance concerns by developing a positive and supportive relationship between parents/guardians and the school.
- Assist parents in the referral of their children to outside agencies.
- Write diagnostic reports and treatment summaries.
- Be available for Individual Education Plan development and review.

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