**WELCOME BACK PARENTS, GUARDIANS, AND STUDENTS!!!**

Hello Highlander Family,

My name is Tara Coleman, and I am the School Social Worker at Dunedin Highland Middle School. This is my 4th year at DHMS and 5th year with the school district. I was born and raised in California and I obtained my Master of Social Work degree from the University of New Hampshire. I am a veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard and absolutely love working with our middle school students.

As your School Social Worker, I am a trained mental health professional who is here to provide services related to your student’s social and emotional needs that relate to life adjustment in school and/or society.  School Social Workers are the link between the home, school and community. School Social Workers provide direct as well as indirect services to students, families and school personnel to promote and support students' academic and social success.

**Some specific services I provide as the School Social Worker are as follows:**

* Crisis counseling, intervention, and support for students as needed.
* Assisting with conflict resolution and anger management
* Assisting the child in understanding and accepting self and others
* Counseling (group, individual and/or family) to assist in the student’s educational success.
* Facilitating and/or serving on problem-solving teams working with teachers, parents, and students to improve academic, attendance and behavioral performance.
* Alleviating family stress to enable the child to function more effectively in school and community.
* Helping parents to access programs available to students with special needs.
* Assisting parents in accessing and utilizing school and community resources.

I am here Monday-Friday and am happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact me about anything at all and hopefully I can be of assistance to you and your family!

Tara Coleman, MSW Registered Clinical Social Work Intern School Social Worker 727-469-4112 ex. 2070 colemanta@pcsb.org