JIM NORTON SUPERINTENDENT



150 Middle School Road Port St. Joe, FL 32456 850-229-8256 • 850-639-2871 Fax: 850-229-6089

May 22, 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As Gulf District Students close out the 2022-2023 school year, we would like to acknowledge the tremendous loss our community experienced with the passing of students TJ Jenkins and Andrew Sheppard. Children and adolescents experience grief in a variety of ways and often need help navigating those complex feelings. We want you to be aware of the community resources available that extend beyond the school year and the school campus. Please contact your child's school if you have questions or need assistance with the referral process. School offices will be open Monday-Thursday throughout the summer break.

Below, you will find a list of mental health resources available in our community:

- Morning Light Wellness Center—Port St. Joe 850-705-1766
- Community Wellness Counseling and Support Services-Bristol, FL 850-643-1033
- PanCare—Port St. Joe 850-229-1043
- Life Management (behavioral/counseling services located in Panama City with limited services available in PSJ)—850-522-4485 (ext. 2070)

Please contact your child's school if you have questions or need assistance with the referral process.

Additional resources:

- Two Fish Food Market—850-227-1724
- Second Harvest of the Big Bend—visit <u>www.fightinghunger.org</u> for food distribution dates
- Port St. Joe Methodist Care Closet—850-227-6028
- Wewahitchka Methodist Care Closet—850-639-2744

Have a wonderful and well-earned summer break!

Kind regards,

Joni Mock, Assistant Superintendent for Special Services and

Gulf District Schools Mental Health Team 850-229-6940

If you or someone you know needs support now, call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org





PEP22-08-03-001