



Mental Health Specialist in the Johnsonburg School District

The Johnsonburg District has partnered with Dickinson Center, Inc. to provide an on-site mental health professional to provide support to students in the Johnsonburg School District.

The Mental Health Specialist can provide both clinical, school-based outpatient treatment, and supportive counseling or debriefing.

Clinical treatment includes individual, family and group therapy. Students who experience symptoms related to depression, anxiety, impulse control, anger etc. may be referred to the mental health specialist for outpatient therapy in the school.

Supportive counseling can include assisting students who are struggling with relationships, peers, bullying, worry about academics etc.

The Mental Health Specialist providing this service in the Johnsonburg School District is Racquel Brechtel, MSW. If you have any questions or concerns about this service, please feel free call Tonya Wolfe, LCSW, Program Supervisor at 389-4515, option 2.

Attention Parents and Guardians:

The Johnsonburg Area School District is happy to announce that we have partnered with Dickinson Center, Inc. to have a part time Mental Health Specialist available to further help meet the needs of our students, families, and staff. This partnership will allow students to have additional supports at school for on-the-spot intervention, counseling, and connections to other mental health services.

These new services are being offered in addition to the services provided by our school counselors as well as our Student Assistance Program and the HOPE Program. It is our goal to meet the individual needs of each of our students and to ensure their health, safety, and welfare. This partnership will help by enhancing the relationship between the school, parents, and community agencies as well as by ensuring students in need are able to have their concerns addressed as quickly as possible so that they can return to receiving an uninterrupted education.

Any student in the district is eligible to receive these services, should they be in need. While written parent permission will be requested and obtained prior to a student receiving extended services through other available mental health programs, on-the-spot intervention can be provided by the Mental Health Specialist with passive parental permission. On-the-spot intervention will include limited, direct, one-on-one counseling and debriefing in regards to situations that cause students distress and interfere with their ability to attend classes.

By receiving this letter and providing **no response**, you are providing JASD with passive permission for your child to be eligible to receive these services, should the need arise. As the parent or legal guardian of a child in our district, if you do not wish for your child to be eligible to receive these services, and wish for your child to be seen only by JASD employees, please sign and return the attached slip at the bottom of this letter.

If you are worried about your child and believe they are struggling, or have questions about this new collaboration, please contact Mr. Brock Benson (Principal) or Mrs. Becky Pistner (School Counselor) at the high school (965-2536).

By signing and returning below, you are indicating that you **DO NOT** wish to have your student be eligible for the services offered by the Mental Health Specialist.

I DO NOT wish to have my student by eligible for these services.

Student name

Parent signature and date