



July 29, 2020

Dear North County High School Families:

I am writing to let you know of the sad news that we have lost a member of our North County High School family Gabriel Holloway, who would have been a junior at our school this year, died on Sunday.

Gabriel was an outgoing and likable young man who made friends easily. He was a member of our school's football program and was a good athlete.

We have been in touch with Gabriel's family to provide any support we can to them. Even though schools are closed, I want to make sure you know that our school counselors and other members of the Student Services team remain available to speak with any students who have a need to talk about their feelings about the impact of Gabriel's death. Should you or your child have that need, please email me at ejefferson@aacps.org. Email links for all of our administrators and our school's pupil personnel worker can also be found at www.aacps.org/northcountyhs. We will make sure someone contacts you.

If the need is more urgent, I encourage you to call the Anne Arundel County Crisis Warmline at 410-768-5522. That service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

I encourage you to talk openly with your child about this sad event, and to help them understand that it's OK not to have answers to every question. Children learn how to deal with grief by watching adults deal with grief. Please do not be afraid to express your emotions in front of your children. Healthy outlets of emotions can be a valuable lesson for them. Additional resources to assist you and your child can be found at www.aacps.org/crisisresources in the "Dealing with Grief" section near the bottom of the page.

I know that you will keep Gabriel's family in your thoughts and prayers in the difficult days and weeks ahead. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Eric Jefferson
Principal

EJ/bm