

NORTH COUNTRY ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

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March 2023

Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

The **beginning of March** brings thoughts of springtime and warmer weather, but as we have seen in the past, the month of March can be unpredictable. Although this winter has been mild, we remain prepared for the possibility of a late storm that could have an impact on our community. We look forward to moving into Spring with the return of outdoor athletics, the homestretch in reference to preparation for spring concerts, and completing curricular responsibilities that will be measured with culminating assessments.

This year's **New York State Assessments in ELA and Mathematics** are right around the corner during the months of April and early May. The dates for test administration are later in the school year than they were during the 2021-22 school year. Additional information about NYS Assessments and *Things every parent should know about student participation in state wide assessments under the Every Student Succeeds Act* can be found by referencing the following NYSED link: <http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/state-assessment/2020-things-every-parent-should-know-assessment.pdf>.

The **2022-23 scheduling process** continues to progress for both our grade eight students moving on to the Miller Place high school, as well as the student body that will continue their experience at the middle school and the class of 2030 coming in from the Laddie A Decker school. Our grade 6 students will meet with members of the MPHS world language national honor society this month to discuss their **choice of study in language (Spanish or Italian)** on Friday, March 3rd. Parents of our community's grade 5 students are invited to our **incoming grade 6 parent orientation** on Tuesday, March 21st, at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria. The purpose of this meeting is to provide a general overview of our middle school experience, and the expectations that we have for incoming students.

The **National Education Association's Read Across America** initiative has been a concept that our community has embraced for decades. We continue to promote reading every day of the year, whether it be for one's studies in school or for enjoyment. Our Reading teacher Ms. Cavaliere and a number of our reading students will participate in our annual visit the Andrew Muller Primary School to read to a number of classes and share their love for reading on Wednesday, March 8th.

We are excited to share information in conjunction with our **PTO** to announce our **2nd Read-a-Thon fundraiser**. Each student will receive a Read-a-Thon registration flyer providing directions on how to activate their personal page. Please login and begin inviting friends and family to support our reading fundraiser. We are hoping each reader will complete at least 10 reading sessions over our 2-week event. Our event begins Monday, March 6th and will run until Monday, March 17th. Your involvement in the Read-a-thon will help your child develop a lasting love of reading while supporting our school!

The middle school **spring sports season** for grades 7 & 8 students will begin on Monday, March 27th. In order to participate, you must register using the Family ID link that can be found on our district website in the Athletics department. Sports offerings include boy's and girl's lacrosse, boy's and girl's track and field, baseball, softball, and boy's tennis.

We are happy to inform that year's **MATHCON will take place on Wednesday, March 1st!** The event includes an online challenge where the questions provided require ingenuity and insight that is predominantly on grade level. The exam includes problems of varying degrees of difficulty that enables all students to be challenged at their level. Finalists from our middle school will receive an invitation to the MATHCON finals at the University of Illinois at Chicago in April for a paper-based examination. We have had a number of students invited to the National event in the past few years. Special thank you to **Ms. Radday** for her coordination of the annual event.

We continue to prepare for the 2022-23 **8th grade Washington D.C. trip**, focusing on room and bus lists with student input. The dates for the trip are April 26th – 28th. We will follow up with some additional information in reference to student medication on the trip, tips to prepare your child for the trip, and departure protocols in a few weeks time.

The **2022-23 NCRMS yearbook pre order sale** is now open! The cost of the yearbook will be \$38, and the ordering process will allow you to purchase the book through the My School Bucks site. This pre order sale reserves a book for individuals to obtain when they are distributed in June.

Our middle school has been working with the **Vanderbilt museum and planetarium** to provide an opportunity for our grade 6 students. We will visit the Vanderbilt Mummy exhibit and investigate ways that artistic work is defined by social, cultural and historical context. The second portion of the experience includes the “full dome” show titled, “To Space and Back”, followed by a live star-talk provided by an astronomy educator.

This trip will take place on 4 separate dates as follows:

1. March 16th (Mrs. Ortiz & Mrs. Boscarino – 8:15 am to 1:30 pm)
2. March 20th (Mrs. Luchsinger, Mrs. Brocking & Mrs. Healy – 8:30 am to 2:00 pm)
3. March 21st (Mrs. Hibbard & Mr. Puglisi – 8:30 am to 2:00 pm)
4. March 27th (Mrs. Cuba & Mrs. Spaccaforno – 8:15 to 1:30 pm)

- The cost of this trip is \$18.00 per student.
- Payments must be received by March 1, 2023.
- Students must bring a brown-bag lunch from home to eat on the bus.

Please use the following link to provide payment using your MY School Bucks account:

https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/prdembd?ref=ZZIC2BY06904Z30_ZZ5UU28DBN2Q53E

With spring fast approaching we all need to maintain our cooperative efforts surrounding the policies set forth in the **District Code of Conduct**, specifically those relating to school dress. Please be sure to remind your child about appropriate school dress and be aware of what he or she is wearing to school each day.

Important March Dates:

Friday, March 10 th	Progress Reports Posted
Tuesday, March 21 st	Incoming 6 th Grade Parent Orientation 7pm NCR Café
Monday, March 27 th	NCR Spring Sports Begin
Wednesday, March 29 th	BOE Meeting @ 8:00 pm

Listed below are some of our Middle School events and achievements:

Character coupon winners for the month of February were: (8th Grade) Phayme Nelson, (7th Grade) Tanner Dimsuyu, and (6th Grade) Alaina Skala. Students were giving some tangible rewards for their acts of kindness and compassion from local vendors and merchants.

In order to prevent some potential traffic issues in our parking lots, children that are to be dropped-off and picked-up before and after school hours should be using the back parking lot that is accessible by the Laddie A. Decker Sound Beach School Driveway. **The NCRMS “north roadway” is closed to all traffic except buses from 7:00 a.m. to 7:40 a.m. and from 2:15 p.m. until 2:30 p.m.** Your cooperation and interest in the safety of our students is appreciated. Please be sure to leave our handicapped parking spaces vacant for those that the spots are intended for.

Schools across the nation are taking measures to enhance safety standards in their communities. It is very important that you **remember to bring proper identification with you when signing your child out** of our school for any reason. Please ensure that family members/friends listed on the Census Verification Card are able to provide identification as well.

We have posted a number of informational items for your review. Please take a look at the **FYI NCRMS Page**, a link can be found on the NCRMS homepage. The goal of this website is to help inform students and parents about all of the great things that are planned for the North Country Road Middle School. Please visit the District's homepage (<http://www.millerplace.k12.ny.us/>) to find a **Miller Place School District Facebook link** that has been created to create more awareness in reference to Miller Place School District happenings. Scroll through the page to see news stories and photos as we celebrate our District's hardworking students and dedicated staff. The website for middle school interscholastic athletics information is <http://www.sectionxi.org>. Please check this website for dates of games, directions, etc.

From time to time the guidance office receives information on **enrichment programs**. If you are interested in learning more about these programs contact your child's guidance counselor.

Feel free to contact your child's teachers, guidance counselor, or any member of the administration at any time to answer your questions or address your concerns. Remember, no concern is too small. Working together, we can help your child reach his or her maximum potential in order to experience success.

Sincerely,

Matthew C. Clark

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Sincerely,

Christine Mangiamele

Christine Mangiamele

Sincerely,

Matthew Nicoletti

Matthew Nicoletti

MCC:jlf

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