

# NORTH COUNTRY ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

191 North Country Road  
Miller Place, New York 11764  
(631) 474-2710  
Fax (631) 474-5178

Seth A. Lipshie, Superintendent of Schools  
Susan G. Craddock, Assistant Superintendent  
Sandra Wojnowski, Executive Director for Educational Services  
Christopher Herrschaft, Director of Human Resources

Matthew C. Clark, Principal  
Christine Mangiamele, Assistant Principal  
Matthew Nicoletti, Dean of Students

---

February 2023

Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

As you are reading this newsletter we are half-way through the 2022-2023 school year! We are proud to say that the last five months have been filled with many events and achievements that continue to shape our young students. We look forward to building upon the foundation established in quarters one and two.

We began our courses scheduled in semester two (20 weeks) for our grade 8 students, and our quarter three (ten weeks) for grade 7 courses on Monday, January 30th! The new courses will be supported by our Google classroom platform. **Please do not delete your previous classes, as it is necessary to remain in the course for teachers to calculate final grades.**

The **scheduling** process for the 2023 - 2024 school year will begin this month. Our **sixth grade students** will meet with members of our **World Language National Honor Society** to discuss the different languages that are studied in grades seven and eight. Students will be able to choose Spanish or Italian as a course of study. We are also “rolling over” the **music course selection** that your child is currently enrolled in. It is important to note that our general music program does not continue after grade seven. Those that are not enrolled in performance based music will have a study hall in grade eight. If you have any questions about your child’s music course for the 2023 - 2024 school year, please call our guidance department at the middle school.

As we enter the second semester of the academic year, we are headed into the “homestretch” in reference to the preparation for the state assessments. Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 are scheduled to challenge the **New York State assessment in English/Language Arts**, and students in grades 6 & 7 will take the **assessment in Mathematics**. As in the past, only those that are enrolled in Math 8 from our grade 8 population will sit for the New York State assessment, while those enrolled in Algebra I will challenge the Regents exams. In the area of Science, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will take the NYS Science Assessment or the NYS Regents in Earth Science. These assessments are one variable that is used to determine the levels of achievement and those students who will need **Academic Intervention Services** (other variables include final grades, final exam grades and teacher recommendation) as mandated by the New York State Education Department.

## State Assessment Dates:

Grade 6 – 8 English Language Arts	Wednesday, April 19, 2023 & Thursday, April 20, 2023
Grade 6 – 8 Mathematics	Tuesday, May 2, 2023 & Wednesday, May 3, 2023
Grade 8 Science Performance exam	Wednesday, May 31, 2023
Grade 8 Science Written exam	Monday, June 5, 2023

Our **Miller Place Secondary STEAM night** will take place on Wednesday, February 8th! The expo-style event has been reshaped to be provided in a virtual setting, and will include workshops, activities, and challenges for students to experience the disciplines of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math). We have welcomed local science & technology businesses, organizations, community groups, and parents to collaborate with our teachers to provide amazing opportunities for our school community. We welcome you to be a part of an amazing event! Please see our district website for the list of vendors that will be there and use the link below.

[Secondary STEAM Night Flyer \(millerplace.k12.ny.us\)](https://millerplace.k12.ny.us)

The 2022-2023 North Country Road Middle School **pre order yearbook sale** will open on Monday, February 27th. Please order during this timeframe to ensure there is a book for you! Please go to our NCRMS FYI page to find the ordering process on the date provided. This pre order sale reserves a book for individuals to obtain when they are distributed in June.

<https://sites.google.com/millerplace.k12.ny.us/fyipagencrms/home>

**Important February Dates:**

Wednesday, February 8 <sup>th</sup>	Secondary STEAM night 5:45 p.m. @ MPHS Report Cards Posted
Wednesday, February 15 <sup>th</sup>	B.O.E. Meeting
Monday, February 20 <sup>th</sup> – Friday, February 24 <sup>th</sup>	Mid-Winter Recess <b>Schools Closed</b>

**Change to our Calendar:** Our **NJHS Blood Drive** has been postponed due to a shortage of workers on the date we had scheduled. We hope to bring the service back in the Spring.

Our **Lost and Found** boxes contain a number of items that are waiting to be reclaimed. The Lost and Found boxes are located in the cafeteria and in the gymnasium. Every week, there are additional items of clothing, notebooks, and even textbooks. Please discuss this issue with your children and ask them to look in the Lost and Found boxes prior to purchasing a new item. Students are expected to pay for lost textbooks, which can be rather expensive. Please encourage your child to check the Lost and Found (located in the cafeteria and our gymnasium) before the February vacation for clothing and textbooks.

**Please read about our many middle school events and accomplishments below:**

**Ms. Sullivan’s grade 8 Health class** met with **Suffolk County Police Officer Karl Allison** during the month of January to learn about the dangers of Opioids. We are very happy to continue our relationship with Officer Allison who met with all of our students during November’s Red Ribbon Week. He is a most excellent resource for our school community, and a valuable member of our extended network to empower our student body.

On Tuesday, January 17th, **Mrs. Sommo’s grade 8 Family and Consumer Science class** visited with the owners of “**For Goodness Cakes**”, a local food truck that provides dessert to Long Islanders in designated locations. Sydney and Samantha spoke about their experiences with starting this endeavor and learning along the way, both from a business design perspective and the necessary attributes that it takes to achieve success (i.e. courage and determination). They have developed a very successful business, and we thank them for sharing their journey with our middle school!

Congratulations to our January character coupon winners, **Matthew Ryby (grade 6), Alexis Morikis (grade 7), and Jay DiBartolo (grade 8)** were given 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.

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.

A brief reminder in reference to **school closings and delayed openings: *In case of adverse weather and/or road conditions, the district schools may be closed or delayed by two or three hours, depending on the severity of the weather.*** Visit News 12 and our website where school closings, delayed openings, and inclement weather bus stops will be posted. You will also be notified via our communication system Ed Connect, which will send a phone call and/or an email to the numbers/addresses on file. **Please be sure that you discuss your early dismissal plan with your child.**

We have posted a number of informational items for your review. The website for middle school interscholastic athletics information is <http://www.sectionxi.org>. Please check this website for dates of games, directions, etc. Also, take a look at the **FYI NCR 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 the link that will bring you to a site dedicated to promoting 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. This page can also be accessed by visiting <http://millerplaceinthemedia.com/>.

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*

Matthew C. Clark

Sincerely,

*Christine Mangiamele*

Christine Mangiamele

Sincerely,

*Matthew Nicoletti*

Matthew Nicoletti

MCC:jlm  
Enc.