

NORTH COUNTRY ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

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

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

Matthew C. Clark, Principal
Nicholas Grande, Assistant Principal
Matthew Nicoletti, Dean of Students

December 2023

Dear Parents and/or Guardians,

It is hard to believe that the month of December is already here! The holiday season adds to the hustle and bustle of our busy lifestyles. It is especially important at this time that your child maintains an academic focus and takes time to remain as a well-balanced individual.

We are very excited about the middle school **Winter Concert Series** that begins in early December! All of our concerts will take place in the high school auditorium in traditional fashion. The concert dates will consist of ONE concert with two groups performing with one exception. **The grade 6 & 7 Chorus concert includes two separate presentations on the same evening** due to the number of students in each group and the projected audience for the evening. Please see the following schedule of middle school performances.

- **Grade 6 Chorus Concert** - Wednesday, December 6th @MPHS auditorium **7:00pm**
- **Grade 7 Chorus Concert** - Wednesday, December 6th @MPHS auditorium **7:30pm**
- **Grade 8 Chorus & Vocal Jazz**: Monday, December 11th @ MPHS auditorium **7:30pm**
- **Grade 7 & 8 Orchestra Concert**: Tuesday, December 12th @MPHS auditorium **7:30pm**
- **Grade 6 Band & Orchestra Concert**: Thursday, December 14th @MPHS auditorium **7:30pm**
- **Grade 7 & 8 Band Concert**: Monday, December 18th @ MPHS auditorium **7:30pm**

All of our grade seven students have been invited to attend a performance of “**A Christmas Carol**”, which will take place at Theatre Three in the Port Jefferson Village on Friday, December 8th. Parents have been asked to register their child using our My School Bucks account system (myschoolbucks.com). We look forward to this field trip that represents a holiday classic students read as part of our grade 7 English curriculum.

The NCRMS **student government** is working with **Reespecht Life and Project Toy (Family Service League)** for this year’s annual **toy drive**. Students will be made aware via postings and our school web page. We will place the toy drive box in our café during the school day where students can drop off donations so we can help local families in need. **Items will be accepted until Wednesday, December 15th.**

Officer Karl Allison (SCPD COPE) will visit with all of our grades in assembly format to address the dangers of drugs as part of our district wellness initiative on Wednesday, December 13th. The points of emphasis for each grade will be as follows:

- Grade 6 – Dangers of Vaping
- Grade 7 - Dangers of Alcohol
- Grade 8 - Dangers of Opioids

Officer Allison has visited our classrooms during the year, and continues to be an excellent resource for the school community.

Important December Dates:

Wednesday, December 13th:	Board of Education Meeting 8PM MPHS
Friday, December 15th:	Progress Reports Posted
Monday, December 25th – Monday, January 1st:	Winter Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED
Tuesday, January 2nd:	Return to School “A” Day

Listed below are some of our NCRMS student accomplishments:

Our first **grade 6 dance** of the year took place on **Friday, November 17th**. 75% of the grade attended and enjoyed an evening of dancing and socializing in our middle school cafeteria. Special thank you to our student government for organizing this event.

Congratulations to our **NCRMS grade six engineers** who were able to successfully build and **launch their rockets** this year! After the rocket was fabricated, students went outside to launch on our fields behind the building. It is always so much fun to watch the student reaction. 7th and 8th grade students at recess also enjoyed watching the process. Special thank you to **Ms. Brocking, Ms. Cuba, and Ms. Luchsinger** for their efforts during the process.

Our **student government** continued our annual tradition to honor our **bus drivers** and **the operations staff** every year with a breakfast and luncheon respectively as part of our **appreciation days** to say thank you for all the support throughout the year. We provided a “drive thru” breakfast to our bus drivers on **Thursday, November 16th**, where drivers stopped in our bus circle and were given a bagged breakfast and coffee or tea. Our operations unit was given an individually packaged lunch and beverage on **Friday, November 17th**. Students prepared the meals and greeted our members of both units with holiday wishes and a hearty thank you! A very special thank you to advisors **Mrs. Ferro and Ms. Meyer**, as well as clerical assistant **Mrs. Carbonette** for all their efforts to keep a tradition alive!!

Congratulations to November’s character coupon winners, (grade 6) **Morgan Cuomo**, (grade 7) **Haley Miodynia**, and (grade 8) **Giovanni Gonzalez**. Students were given some tangible rewards for their acts of kindness and compassion from local vendors and merchants.

Congratulations to the **2023 National Junior Honor Society members** that were inducted on Thursday, November 2nd. Congratulations to this year's Teacher inductee, **Mr. Fran Sullivan**, who was selected by our candidates prior to the ceremony. Special thank you to **Ms. Sanatore and Ms. Farrell**, our junior honor society advisors. The members will move forward to satisfy service hours that will include endeavors to help those in need both locally and on a national level.

2023 National Junior Honor Society Members		
Seraphina Adams	Sonia Harris McMahon	Chloe Novissimo
Kaliya Alexander	Cole Homis	Madison O'Brien
Ella Behrens	Alexis Horan	Gabrielle O'Connor
Adriana Branchinelli	Finn Horner	James O'Neill
Gracyn Braun	Shanum Hussain	Steven Palmer Jr.
Logan Brown	Dylan Iannello	Kate Polak
Paul Bunyan II	Amelia Johnson	Katherine Reduto
Alexa Caillat	Addison Kittredge	Brea Ress
Ava Cama	Kaitlyn Krieg	Lukas Ryan
Anthony Carbone	Jenna Kurian	Jennifer Salvia
Alana Conti	Aldo Kutnowsky	Jonathan Savino
Alexa Daleo	Samuel Kutnowsky	Evan Seppe
Reagan Damato	Kellan Lane	Anna Sfoggia
Mary Diemer	Joseph Leek III	Fei Shi Zhong
Sara Djiofack	Ryan Lin	Francesco Sigismondi
Preston Doepp	Carter Lupo	Mathilde Snijders
Madelyn Dunkin	Lily McGrath	Mia Soler
Joanna Durkin	Caleb McLaughlin	Joseph Sottilo
Stella Efstathiou	Drew Meyer	Lucas Tarsia
Megan Estelle	Christopher Michalski	Keira Vogt
Carly Farina	Amelia Moeller	Jacob Wanlass
Annabella Filomeno	Islam Mohammad	Natalie Ward
Cameron Fisher	William Moy	Catherine Worcester
Brendan Grassi	Christopher Mylett	Clarence Yue
Skye Greenberg	Aidan Neri	Michael Zicchinelli

Standard Information:

In order to prevent **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 2:40 p.m.** Your cooperation and interest in the safety of our students is appreciated.

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.

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 can 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.

Our weekly schedule of events can be found on our new webpage under “**NCR Building & Club Information**”. This link will provide weekly reminders that support our calendar and club google classrooms, and will provide special announcements about cancellations and/or changes to the schedule. 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.

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.

Best wishes for a peaceful holiday season.

Sincerely,

Matthew C. Clark
Principal

Sincerely,

Nicholas Grande
Assistant Principal

Sincerely,

Matthew Nicoletti
Dean Of Students

MCC:jlf
Enc.