

NORTH COUNTRY ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

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April 2025

I hope this month's newsletter finds you enjoying the arrival of spring and the homestretch of our 2024-2025 school year. Middle school interscholastic athletics have begun, and our performance-based music groups are preparing for our Spring concert series. April is a very busy month, blending state testing, Spring interscholastic athletics, and this year's grade 8 Washington D.C. trip. The springtime weather brings an opportunity to enjoy the outdoors more, and thoughts of summer begin as we move into the fourth and final quarter of the school year.

The month of April brings with it the first administration of the New York State Assessments. Students will take the **Mathematics Assessments on Tuesday, April 22nd, and Wednesday, April 23rd**. They will take the **English Language Arts (ELA) Assessment on Tuesday, April 29th, and Wednesday, April 30th**.

For the NYS assessment in Mathematics, the problems focus on fluency (speed and accuracy with simple calculations) and the ability to answer multi-step questions rooted in the real world. There's more information about the assessments on the New York State website www.nysed.gov. Please take a moment to check out what's posted there. As in the past, the schedule in grade 8 is different from grades 6 and 7. Only those enrolled in Math 8 will take the NYS assessment, while those taking Algebra I will have the opportunity to take the Regents exams. In the area of Science, 8th-grade students will take the NYS Science Assessment or the NYS Regents in Earth Science. These assessments are one factor used to determine levels of achievement and identify students who may need Academic Intervention Services (other factors include final grades, final exam grades, and teacher recommendations) as mandated by the New York State Education Department.

The scheduling process for the 2024-2025 school year is already underway! 8th-grade students participated in a high school scheduling orientation with MPHS and NCRMS guidance counselors, who provided information about the scheduling process for next year and strategies for their high school experience. Please contact the Miller Place High School Guidance Office with specific questions about the MPHS schedule. Our sixth-grade students have selected a World Language course of study from the offerings in our middle school: Spanish or Italian. We are also "rolling over" the music course selection your child is currently enrolled in. The parents of current 5th-grade students visited the middle school for an orientation that served as a springboard to the middle school experience on March 18th. Members of our administration will also visit the students at LADSBS, and a tour will be provided during the month of June. If you have any questions about scheduling for the 2025-2026 school year, please call our guidance department at (631) 474-2710.

The third marking period will end on Friday, April 11. Parents are reminded to check the Parent Portal of our student management system to keep up with your child's academic progress and attendance record. The Parent Portal is available via the internet. If you need assistance with logging onto the Parent Portal, please call Ms. Elizabeth Cascione at the district office at (631) 474-2700, extension 728.

This year's grade 8 Washington D.C. trip will take place from Wednesday, April 9 to Friday, April 11. Students have selected their roommates, and the bus assignments have been delivered. Please be sure to address the medication policy that has been sent home so we can support your child during the trip. All student luggage must be dropped off on Tuesday, April 8, between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. Students may bring one suitcase or duffel bag and one carry-on item. To ensure the safety of our students and faculty and to comply with Miller Place School District Policy, all luggage will be searched by an administrator of the school district. We look

forward to another amazing experience in our nation's capital! As a reminder, all students participating in the upcoming overnight field trip to Washington, D.C., are expected to adhere to the **Miller Place School District's Code of Conduct** at all times. This includes maintaining respectful behavior, following school rules, and demonstrating responsibility throughout the trip

Our Student Government members are working hard to raise awareness for **Disability Awareness Month** during April. Disability Awareness Month is a time to educate and promote understanding about the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities. It is crucial to foster an inclusive and accepting environment where everyone is recognized for their unique strengths and contributions. By participating in events like our school-wide poster contest, bracelet sales and pin sales, we not only raise awareness but also help to break down barriers, encourage empathy, and celebrate the diversity of our community. Every effort, no matter how small, can have a lasting impact on making our school a more inclusive place for all.

Important April dates and events:

Friday April 11 th	3 rd Making Period Ends
Wednesday, April 14 th – Friday, April 18 th	Spring Recess
Friday, April 25 ^h	3 rd Qtr. Report Cards Posted
Wednesday, April 23 rd	BOE Meeting MPHS @ 8:00 PM
Tuesday, April 22 nd – Wednesday, April 23 rd	Grade 6-8 Math Assessment
Friday, April 25 th	6 th & 7 th Grade Dance 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM \$5 Admission \$1 Drinks & Snacks
Tuesday, April 29 nd – Wednesday, April 30 th	Grade 6-8 English Language Arts Assessment

Listed below are some of our NCRMS student accomplishments/events:

From March 17th to March 21st, our school celebrated its third Spirit Week, led by our **NCR Student Government** members. Each day featured a fun theme, encouraging students and staff to dress up and participate. Spirit Week promoted unity, creativity, and school pride, helping build connections across all grades. Thank you to everyone who took part in making this event a success!

A big congratulations to Ms. Sanatore's **Mock Trial Club** for their excellent performance during this year's competition! Both defense teams won their cases, the plaintiff team received recognition for their presentation, and the defense team won the case verdict. It was a fantastic day for the program, and we are incredibly proud of all the students involved!

Members of the **National Junior Honor Society and NCR student representatives** volunteered at this year's "**Andrew's Top Run**", a road race in Calverton that is dedicated to support the efforts of the Andrew McMorris Foundation. Students helped prepare for the event which registered over 1,000 participants. Special thank you to advisors Ms. Farrell and Ms. Luchsinger for their service as advisors to the junior honor society.

Congratulations to our March character coupon winners, **Milania Ciullo (grade 6), Trinity Theodore (grade 7), and Liam Travers (grade 8)** were given some 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.

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 link is to help inform students and parents about all 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.

Sincerely,

Christine M. Mangiamele

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