June 2018

Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

As we move into the homestretch of our school year, it is always interesting to reflect back to September and our opening few weeks of school. Significant academic, social, and physical growth has taken place since then and the experiences that our school community has shared are now memories that we will cherish and learn a great deal from. Students have worked hard to tackle new challenges and assessment requirements and their experiences this year have prepared them for future assessments.

As we move into the month of June, it is important that your child is reading, reviewing notes, and studying on a daily basis. Our **End of the Year schedule** for the 2017-18 school year will look very different from years past. The North Country Road Middle School will operate on a full day schedule (7:40 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.) through Thursday, June 21st. The District calendar has been amended extending full days of class beyond Friday, June 15th. Final exams will take place during the 42 minute period of instruction, with some exams taking two days (part 1 & part 2). This schedule is posted on our website and will be discussed in classes. **Please read the important information enclosed about the Final Exam Schedule.**

**Fines:** Students are issued textbooks at the beginning of the school year and have the opportunity to sign out library books. Students are responsible for the care of these books and are issued fines for any lost or damaged items. The same applies to school athletic uniforms, equipment, etc. If your child has lost an item mentioned previously, you will be notified and asked to return the item or a fine will be imposed. Please call our main office if you have any questions in reference to this matter.

**Summer School:** At the present time there will be no summer school in the Miller Place School District. Information from the BOCES sponsored grades 7-12 summer school program is forthcoming. We will have more information as the school year comes to a close. Please contact our guidance office for the latest updates.

Another very important announcement from our Health Office: New York State Law requires that **all medications that are not picked up at the end of the year must be disposed of.** No medication will be held over the summer. Therefore, all medications must be picked up by **Wednesday, June 20th** or they will be disposed of. Please call our Health Office if you have any questions in reference to the medications that are currently kept in our office.

At the end of the year, our guidance department will be working to determine which of our grade 7 students will qualify for our **accelerated classes that are offered in grade 8,** and which of our grade 6 students will qualify for our **7 Math Honors class.** Students will be ranked using a rubric for both our Regents Earth Science and Regents Algebra I classes. As you may already know, our district moved away from an open enrollment policy. Our rubric for the classes mentioned is as follows:

For your child to be considered for our **Math 7 Honors** class in grade 7, he/she will be evaluated based upon the following criteria pending final grades:
- Math 6 final grade (50%)
- Math 7 H entrance exam (40%)
- Overall Grade Point Average in grade 6 (10%)
For your child to be considered for **Earth Science** in grade 8, he/she is evaluated based upon the following criteria pending final grades:

- Science 7 midterm score (20%)
- Science 7 final exam score (25%)
- Science grade point average (40%)
- Math 7 final exam score (15%)

For your child to be considered for **Algebra I** in grade 8, he/she is evaluated based upon the following criteria pending final grades:

- Math 7 final exam score (25%)
- Math 7 grade point average (75%)

Please be aware that due to schedule restraints, placement in accelerated courses cannot always be accommodated. If you have any questions about your child’s tentative course listing feel free to contact our main office at the middle school.

Starting in May of 2017 the policy for School Sports Physicals required for athletic participation changed. Sports physicals will no longer be offered during the school day. Instead there will be a select number of days and times where sports physicals will be offered outside of the school day. If your child plans on participating in a school sport, please make every effort for your child to take part in one of the scheduled dates below. Further information can be found on the district website.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>School Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Grades</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/11/18</td>
<td>North Country Road MS</td>
<td>3:00-6:00pm</td>
<td>Current 6-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/13/18</td>
<td>North Country Road MS</td>
<td>3:00-6:00pm</td>
<td>Current 6-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/15/18</td>
<td>Miller Place High School</td>
<td>10am-12pm</td>
<td>All Grades 6-12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Planning for the 8th Grade Moving-Up Ceremony and Dance is underway! Parent volunteers are needed to assist with preparations for the dance. The dance parent volunteer meetings are as follows: June 5th, 6th and 7th from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. and Friday, June 8th at 2:45 p.m. All meeting will take place in the NCRMS Cafeteria and all parents are encouraged to volunteer. The dance will take place on Friday, June 8th, beginning at 7 p.m., and the ceremony will be on Wednesday, June 20th, also beginning at 7 p.m. Students are not expected to rent tuxedos or purchase “prom” type gowns for either event. It is a fun and informal event held to celebrate the completion of middle school.

### State Assessment Dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, June 4th:</td>
<td>Grade 8 Science Written</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, June 12th:</td>
<td>Algebra I Regents (12:00 p.m.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, June 14th:</td>
<td>Earth Science Regents (8:00 a.m.)</td>
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</tbody>
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### Important Dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, June 9th:</td>
<td>Grade 8 Moving Up Dance 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. @ NCRMS Cafe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, June 13th:</td>
<td>BOE Meeting 8:00 pm @ NCRMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, June 20th:</td>
<td>NCRMS Grade 8 Moving Up Ceremony 7:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, June 21st:</td>
<td>Last Day of School for NCRMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, June 22nd:</td>
<td>Report Cards Posted All Buildings</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE CHANGE ON DISTRICT CALENDAR**
Listed below are some of our Middle School achievements:

On Friday, April 27th, our NCRMS Mock Trial Club competed in a tournament at Suffolk County Community College against other schools. This year the members of the club worked hard memorizing affidavits, preparing opening and closing statements, and forming questions to secure their side of the case. We are proud to report that our defense won its presentation and received great compliments from the judge. Thank you to the following members for their hard work, enthusiasm, and commitment to the Mock Trail Club: Cadence Masino, Emily McErlean, Tony Hemmerick, Analynn Bisiani, Madison Hall, Kiera Bussewitz, Travis Polak, Jacqueline Reduto, Ryan Maroney, Nini Guo, Kylie Taylor, Nick Nania, Sophia Bloom and Maris Lynch.

On Thursday, May 3rd, a group on students joined the ALS Ride for Life and they traveled westward on 25A from Miller Place’s Stop to Crystal Brook Hollow. We are very proud to be associated with the Ride for Life on an annual basis, and continue to raise funds to fight this horrible disease.

Over 100 of our students challenged MathCON, a nationally acclaimed student math competition open to student in grades 5-12 during the month of February. 51,000 students participated in the online competition and 571 qualifying students were invited to the in-person final round held in Chicago Illinois on May 5. Five of our students, Christopher Barton (grade 6), Jiyun Guo (grade 6), Seth Law (grade 6), Alan Yue (grade 6), and Liam Preston (grade 8) qualified for the finals and traveled to Chicago to participate in the final round, consisting of a 90 minute 50 question, multiple choice test. Of those five students, two received awards. Christopher Barton finished 9th in the nation and received a silver medal. Jiyun Guo received honorable mention for her 33rd place score. A special thank you to Mrs. Maureen Radday for all of her hard work that made this opportunity possible for our students.

Ms. Weingartner and a group of 6th grade Math Olympiads attended the 11th Annual Suffolk County Math Tournament at Stony Brook University on May 8, 2018. The top 5 students as a result of scores accumulated from the MOEMS Math Olympiad contests were chosen to participate on the 6th grade team. The students were: Christopher Barton, Nini Guo, Emily McErlean, Jacqueline Reduto and Alan Yue. Students had a great time participating in both a group and individual competition. The results of the competition were amazing. The 6th graders from NCRMS came in 1st place in the team competition! Nini Guo was the 1st place individual winner for 6th grade and Christopher Barton was the 6th place individual winner.

On Tuesday, May 15th, students participated and displayed their artwork at the NCRMS Art Show. Needless to say, the artwork is always beyond expectations! A very special thank you to Mrs. Nina Wood and Mrs. Elise Stasi for their hard work and dedication that inspires our students to create such wonderful works of art.

On May 29th, the 6th grade field trip took place at The Adventure Park at Long Island. This is an “aerial forest ropes park” consisting of over 140 platforms installed in the trees and connected by various configurations of cable, wood, and rope to form bridges and zip lines. There are ten trails in total, for ages seven to adult, with challenge levels suitable for every age and skill level—from beginner to expert. Each student selected the trail(s) they wanted and then climbed at their own pace. All student’s received a thorough briefing before climbing and wore safety harnesses clipped to safety cables throughout their time in the trees. Students developed team building skills, endurance and confidence during their time in the Park. The field trip was enjoyed by all.

In the month of May, students in the library went on a virtual field trip using Google Expeditions Virtual Reality goggles, borrowed from ESBoces. The trip included exploring the depths of the ocean near the Galapagos Islands with an up close and personal look at sea life, a shipwreck off the coast of Key West, Florida followed by a trek up to the peak of Mount Everest. Students enjoyed their trip and look forward to their next expedition!

Character coupon winners for the month of April were: Brett Reynolds (8th Grade), Sara Mendes (7th Grade), and Casey Gilbert & Sofia Wyllie (6th Grade). 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.

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 www.cancellations.com on the Internet 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. One example that will always accompany the newsletter is the monthly publication titled, Middle Years, which provides information and ideas to help support your adolescent child. 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. Please remind your child that it is not too early to begin studying and preparing for final exams.

Is there a particular teacher or staff member who you feel really made the difference this year in your child’s education? If so, feel free to let me (or that teacher) know either with a note or a call. I am happy to acknowledge such efforts. Thank you for your cooperation and support, which contributed to an environment of teaching and learning for our middle school community. If you should have any questions about the final exam schedule or end of the year events feel free to contact the middle school.

Sincerely,
Matthew C. Clark
Sincerely,
Christopher Herrschaft
Sincerely,
Christopher Cherouvis

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Christopher Herrschaft
Christopher Cherouvis

MCC:mff
Enc.