

NORTH COUNTRY ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

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December 2021

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 for our **Winter Concert Series** to add to the holiday spirit on campus! We have moved our concerts to the North Country Road Middle School Gymnasium to provide appropriate spacing for our musicians, while maintaining some room for an audience to enjoy the performance. We will also continue the transition to having two performances on a given date to provide more space for each event. We are inviting TWO guests for each student that is participating in the concert series. Please see the following schedule of middle school indoor performances. In addition, at this time all attendees are required to wear appropriate masks while in the building regardless of vaccination status.

Grade 6 & 7 Chorus Concert: Tuesday, December 7th @ NCRMS Gymnasium

- Grade 6 Chorus: 7 p.m. start
- Grade 7 Chorus: 7:45 p.m. start

Grade 8 Chorus & Vocal Jazz: Monday, December 13th @ NCRMS Gymnasium

- All students will perform **two presentations** due to the size of the group.
- 7 p.m. start: Invited guests of students with last name beginning with A – L
- 7:45 p.m. start: Invited guests of students with the last name beginning with M-Z

Grade 7 & 8 Orchestra Concert: Tuesday, December 14th @ **MPHS auditorium**

- Grade 7 Orchestra: 7 p.m. start
- Grade 8 Orchestra: 7:45 p.m. start

Grade 6 Band & Orchestra Concert: Wednesday, December 15 @ NCRMS Gymnasium

- Grade 6 Orchestra: 7 p.m. start
- Grade 6 Band: 7:45 p.m. start

Grade 7 & 8 Band Concert: Thursday, December 16th @ NCRMS Gymnasium

- Grade 7 Band: 7 p.m. start
- Grade 8 Band: 7:45 p.m. start

The NCRMS **student government** is working with **Reespecht Life and Project Toy (Family Service League)** for this year's **toy drive**. Students will be made aware via postings and our FYI 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.

The planning and preparation for this year's **grade 8 Washington D.C. trip** will continue during our Winter months. The trip will take place on Wednesday, May 11th – Friday, May 13th this year. We will provide an informational assembly to our students, both those that are going on the trip and those that are remaining on campus, later in the year as we get closer to the Spring.

Important December Dates:

Wednesday, December 8th:	BOE Meeting 8PM MPHS
Wednesday, December 22nd:	Progress Reports Posted
Thursday, December 23rd – Friday, December 31st:	Winter Recess SCHOOLS CLOSED
Monday, January 3rd:	Return to School "B" Day

Listed below are some of our NCRMS student accomplishments:

Congratulations to November's character coupon winners, (grade 6) **Kira Campbell**, (grade 7) **Camryn Renzulli**, and (grade 8) **Alex Marchello**. Students were given some tangible rewards for their acts of kindness and compassion from local vendors and merchants.

Congratulations to our **NCRMS grade six engineers** who were able to successfully build and **launch their rockets** this year! After the rocket was complete, 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. Hay** for their efforts during the process.

As you know, our **student government recognizes our bus drivers and our operations staff** every year with a breakfast and luncheon respectively to say thank you for all of the support throughout the year. With COVID protocols in place, this proved to be difficult this year, but our organization pressed on. We provided a "drive thru" breakfast to our bus drivers on Wednesday, November 17th, where the drivers stopped in our bus circle and were given a bagged breakfast and coffee or tea. Our operations unit were given an individually packaged lunch and beverage on Thursday, November 18th. A very special thank you to advisors **Mrs. Ferro and Ms. Erario**, as well as clerical assistant **Mrs. Carbonette** for all their efforts to keep a tradition alive!!

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 2:30 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. 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://millerplaceinthedia.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.

Best wishes for a peaceful holiday season.

Sincerely, <i>Matthew C. Clark</i> Matthew C. Clark	Sincerely, <i>Christine Mangiamele</i> Christine Mangiamele	Sincerely, <i>Nicole Farley</i> Nicole Farley
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