

NORTH COUNTRY ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

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December 2019

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.

The holiday season would not be complete without our **winter concert series!** Please refer to the dates of our performances in the *Important Dates* section below if you would like to join us. During the month of December students in performing music groups have special music rehearsal schedules in preparation for the winter concerts. Be sure that your child is aware of special rehearsal schedules for his or her music program. We are looking forward to seeing all of you at our winter concerts.

Special Note: On December 3rd, the 7th Grade Chorus will perform for our school community starting at 7 p.m. Our 8th Grade Chorus will perform on the same evening with their performance beginning at 7:45 p.m. The Chorus 7 audience will exit the auditorium prior to the Grade 8 audience arrival. We ask for your cooperation so that both performances can be enjoyed in a comfortable setting.

Our **Miller Place Parent Teacher Organization** will host the annual **Holiday Shoppe** in the middle school on Monday, December 2nd – Thursday, December 4th. We are happy to have this opportunity for students to shop for their friends and family members.

Congratulations to all of our student athletes in reference to their play during our fall season. The **early winter athletic season** is underway. This season includes Boys' Basketball, Girls' Volleyball, and our Cheerleading program. Girls' Basketball and Wrestling will take place during the second winter season (which begins on January 21st) and cheerleading will continue through the late winter season. You may visit www.sectionxi.org for interscholastic athletics schedules and directions to schools.

On Thursday, December 12th, our grade 6 students will take a **Journey into Egypt** with Mike Harrold from **Jambo Productions**. The day includes a fascinating exploration of the world's most heralded ancient civilization. The program covers geography, religion, the historical sites, and culminates with a glimpse of Egypt today. The assembly promotes multi-cultural awareness and respect for diversity in a dynamic and interactive presentation that is followed by a visit to our library that is converted into a museum for the day where students can learn more about some artifacts that are discussed during the presentation.

Important December Dates:

Monday, December 2 nd :	Grade 6 Chorus 7:30 p.m. @ MPHS
Tuesday, December 3 rd :	Grade 7 Chorus 7 p.m. Grade 8 Chorus 7:45 @ MPHS
Tuesday, December 10 th :	Grade 7 & 8 Orchestra 7:30 p.m. @ MPHS
Wednesday, December 11 th :	Board of Education Mtg. 8 p.m. @ MPHS
Thursday, December 12 th :	Journey into Egypt Assembly / Grade 6
Friday, December 13 th :	NCRMS Progress Reports Posted
Monday, December 16 th :	Grade 6 Orchestra & Band 7:30 p.m. @ MPHS
Tuesday, December 17 th :	Grade 7 & 8 Band 7:30 p.m. @ MPHS
Monday, December 23 rd – Friday, January 3 rd :	Winter Recess

Listed below are some of our NCRMS student accomplishments:

Congratulations to October's character coupon winners, **(grade 6) Erik Flannery, (grade 7) Jason Murray, and (grade 8) William Spagnolo**. Students were given some tangible rewards for their acts of kindness and compassion from local vendors and merchants.

Congratulations to everyone who participated in this year's Red Ribbon Week Poster contest. Winners were: Grade 6: **Amelia Avalos** Grade 7: **Emily Darragh** and 8th grade: **Mary Duffy**.

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://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.

Best wishes for a peaceful holiday season.

Sincerely,
Matthew C. Clark
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Sincerely,
Christine Mangiamele
Christine Mangiamele

Sincerely,
Domenico Lo Re
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Sincerely,
Dr. Elizabeth Bradshaw
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