

# NORTH COUNTRY ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

191 North Country Road  
Miller Place, New York 11764

(631) 474-2710  
Fax (631) 474-5178

Marianne F. Cartisano, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools  
Seth A. Lipshie, Deputy Superintendent  
Susan G. Hodun, Assistant Superintendent  
Sandra Wojnowski, Executive Director for Educational Services

Matthew C. Clark, Principal  
Christopher Herrschaft, Assistant Principal  
Christopher Cherouvis, Dean of Students

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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.

All eighth grade students are encouraged to attend the **Miller Place High School Incoming 9th Grade Orientation** on **Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. at the Miller Place High School.** Students and parents will have the opportunity to meet some of the members of the MPHS staff and learn more about MPHS programs and expectations.

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 22<sup>nd</sup>) and cheerleading will continue through the late winter season. You may visit [www.sectionxi.org](http://www.sectionxi.org) for interscholastic athletics schedules and directions to schools.

The **Miller Place High School Panther Players** are very excited to announce their musical production of the Disney's "**Newsies**". The uplifting tale of the 1899 New York City Newsies Strike has touched the hearts of viewers for generations. Originally a hit film, Newsies was turned into a Broadway musical where it was met with even more success than in the movie theaters. With an awesome story, acrobatic dances and dynamic characters, Newsies is big fun for the whole family. Tickets will be available for purchase starting in the New Year. Please purchase your tickets early, as we hope to sell out quickly due to the show's popularity. We hope to see you there!

On Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 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/January Dates:**

Thursday, December 6 <sup>th</sup>	NCRMS Grades 7 & 8 Orchestra Concert 8:00 pm @ MPHS Auditorium
Monday, December 10 <sup>th</sup>	NCRMS Grades 7 & 8 Band Concert 8:00 pm @ MPHS Auditorium
Tuesday, December 11 <sup>th</sup>	NCRMS Grade 6 Orchestra & 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus Concert 8:00 pm @ MPHS Auditorium
Wednesday, December 12 <sup>th</sup>	Board of Ed Meeting 8:00 pm @ MPHS
Friday, December 14 <sup>th</sup>	Progress Reports #2 Posted for NCRMS & MPHS
Monday, December 17 <sup>th</sup>	NCRMS Grade 6 Chorus 8:00 pm @ MPHS Auditorium
Tuesday, December 18 <sup>th</sup>	NCRMS Grade 6 Band & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus Concert 8:00 pm @ MPHS Auditorium
December 24 <sup>th</sup> – January 1 <sup>st</sup>	Winter Recess – School Closed
Friday, January 11 <sup>th</sup>	NCRMS Grade 6 Dance 6:30 – 8:30 pm
Monday, January 21 <sup>st</sup>	Martin Luther King Jr Day, School Closed
Tuesday, January 22 <sup>nd</sup>	NCRMS Late Winter Sports Begin
Wednesday, January 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Board of Ed Meeting 8:00 pm @ MPHS
Friday, January 25 <sup>th</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Marking Period Ends NCRMS, MPHS

**Listed below are some of our NCRMS student accomplishments:**

Our **student government** collected **overflowing candy** after Halloween so it could be sent to members of our serving in our Armed Forces as part of a program titled Operation Gratitude. This program helps our school community remove some excess in reference to the holiday, and puts a smile on the faces of those who protect our way of life across the globe.

Congratulations to everyone who participated in this years **Red Ribbon Week Poster contest**. Winners were: Grade 6: **Katelynn Dimaiuta, Erin Felser, and Madison McErlean**, Grade 7: **Mary Duffy, Olivia Bloom, and Nicolas Halley**, and 8th grade: **Scarlett Denton**.

**Character coupon winners** for the month of October were: **Nathaniel Kreuzcher** (8th Grade), **Owen Neyland** (7th Grade), and **Sean Connolly** (6th Grade). Students were giving some tangible rewards for their acts of kindness and compassion from local vendors and merchants.

On November 1<sup>st</sup>, four students from **Mrs. Spaccaforno's class** were asked to write a review for **Kidsday** in reference to the holiday experience at Rockefeller Center. Students skated on the famous ice that is a tourist favorite, and reviewed the dining experience at the Rock Center Café.

Students from grade 7 & 8 participated in the **AMC (American Mathematics Competition) Grade 8 Math contest**. Students were invited to participate after school to challenge the national exam. We look forward to the results!

The Town of Brookhaven hosted its **9<sup>th</sup> annual Polar Plunge at Cedar Beach** on Saturday November 17<sup>th</sup>. Team Extraordinary is at it again, led by **Robert and Mary (NCRMS grade 6) Fitton**, who have been personally inspired. The team started 6 years ago after Robert and Mary's baby brother was born with Down Syndrome. Their efforts are all about raising both awareness and money to support the Special Olympics. They wanted to support an organization that one day their brother could be part of. The team is comprised of 25 Miller Place Students, seventeen being from our middle school. Team Extraordinary raised over \$12,000 this year!!

**Members of Team Extraordinary from NCRMS:**

<b>Mary Fitton</b>	<b>Kyla Petrie</b>	<b>Julia Almodovar</b>
<b>Marina Bielenda</b>	<b>Spencer Bruno</b>	<b>Brooke Callaghan</b>
<b>Mia Amundsen</b>	<b>Jocelyn Cordes</b>	<b>Quinn Doyen</b>
<b>Ava Fedrich</b>	<b>Jesse Hodella</b>	<b>Abby Lonigro</b>
<b>Maris Lynch</b>	<b>Evelyn Paul</b>	<b>Nick Vallary</b>
<b>Adele Vaska</b>	<b>Isabela Zaher</b>	

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 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,  
Matthew C. Clark  
*Matthew C. Clark*

Sincerely,  
Christopher Herrschaft  
*Christopher Herrschaft*

Sincerely,  
Christopher Cherouvis  
*Christopher Cherouvis*

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