

NORTH COUNTRY ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

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June 2019

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 2018-19 school year will look a lot like the changes that were made last year in reference to having full days of school for a longer portion of June. The North Country Road Middle School will operate on a full day schedule (7:40 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.) through Monday, June 24th. This year's final exam protocol includes a "zero" period that will consist of a 90 minute block in the morning dedicated to final exams, followed by a nine period day where each period of instruction will be 32 minutes long.

0	FINAL EXAM PERIOD (7:40 a.m. – 9:10 a.m.) 90 minutes
1	9:13 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.
2	9:48 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.
3	10:23 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.
4	10:58 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
5	11:33 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.
6	12:08 p.m. – 12:40 p.m.
7	12:43 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.
8	1:18 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.
9	1:53 p.m. – 2:25 p.m.

Students will be assigned a classroom to take each final exam during the zero period, and will be notified by their teacher as well as the informational postings in our hallways.

Note: There are some final exams that take place outside of the zero period. They will take place either prior to the implementation of the schedule, or during the 32 minute periods that exist after the zero period. Both the abbreviated schedule and the dates for each final exam are posted on our web page for your review.

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 **Monday, June 24th** 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%)

The **pathway to Algebra from grade 7 is twofold**. Students that are in **Math 7** shall be considered for **Algebra I** in grade 8 if they have a Math 7 final average of 95%, and a 90% on the final exam. Students that are successful in **Math 7 Honors** will be placed in **Algebra I**. Individuals will be notified of the possibilities during the last week of June after graduation.

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.

June 11 th :	North Country Road MS	3:00-6:00pm	Current 6-8
June 13 th :	North Country Road MS	3:00-6:00pm	Current 6-8
August 20 th :	Miller Place High School	10am-12pm	All Grades 6-12

Planning for the **8th Grade Moving-Up Ceremony and Dance** are underway! This year's theme is a "A Night at the Oscars". The dance will take place on **Friday, June 14th, from 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.** in the NCRMS Cafeteria and the ceremony will be on Monday, **June 24th, at 7 p.m.** in the NCRMS Gymnasium. 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:

Monday, June 3 rd :	Grade 8 Science Written
Tuesday, June 11 th :	Earth Science Practical
Wednesday, June 19 th :	Algebra I Regents (12:00 p.m.)
Thursday, June 20 th :	Earth Science Regents (12:00 p.m.)

Important Dates:

Wednesday, June 12 th :	BOE Meeting 8:00 pm @ NCRMS
Friday, June 14 th :	Grade 8 Moving Up Dance 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. @ NCRMS Cafe
Monday, June 24 th :	NCRMS Grade 8 Moving Up Ceremony 7:00 pm Last Day of School for NCRMS NOTE CHANGE ON DISTRICT CALENDAR
Wednesday, June 26 th :	Miller Place High School Graduation

Listed below are some of our Middle School achievements:

On Friday, May 10th, the **North Country Road Middle School Mock Trial Club** competed in a tournament at **Suffolk County Community College** against neighboring 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 the students participating in the **defense won** its case, and our prosecution **won** the presentation portion, but lost the case by one point! A special thank you to all the members and advisor **Ms. Mara Healy** for their hard work, enthusiasm, and commitment to Mock Trial Club.

Our **NCRMS art show** in coordination with the **MPFOTA ice cream social and PTO Farmers Market** was a huge success! The turnout was tremendous and there was some fantastic artwork and sculptures on display from **Ms. Woods, Ms. Stasi's and Ms. Schneider-Famiglietti's** middle school classes. Members of our school community enjoyed the artwork, shopped at the market, and listened to some music while enjoying ice cream. What a great day!

Our **Family and Consumer Science classes** from grade 8 partnered with students from AMPS to create stuffed Monsters! **Ms. Sommo's 8th grade class** visited Ms. Brenner's 1st grade class and delivered stuffed monsters they sewed in class, and **Mrs. Marcott's 8th grade class** visited Ms. Kootz's 1st grade class and delivered stuffed monsters as well.

The **National Junior Honor Society conducted a successful food drive** to help families in our community and across Long Island. Homeroom classes competed against each other to see which class could donate the most items. Mrs. Hibbard's class was the big winner, collecting 104 items! All items collected were donated to Long Island Cares, Inc. /The Harry Chapin Food Bank. Please visit www.licares.org to find out more about this wonderful organization.

On Sunday, April 28th, 2019, 14 members of the North Country Road Middle School's **National Junior Honor Society** visited the **Long Island State Veteran's Home in Stony Brook**. Students played cards, Monopoly, Jenga, Checkers and other board games with Veterans while everyone chatted and got to know each other. The Veterans enjoyed seeing the students and the students had fun hearing the stories that the Veterans were eager to tell. This event was a wonderful way for students to "give back" to our Veterans who sacrificed so much for our freedom.

Members of the **NCRMS Science Club** attended the **first annual Stem competition** at South Ocean Middle School in Patchogue on May 17, 2019. Sixteen teams from across Long Island competed in this event. The students were challenged to complete a Breakout EDU activity and a Crime Scene investigation. The members who attended were:

7th Grade

Thomas Como
Ryan Ebert
Adam Messaoudi
Andrew Turner
Alan Yue

8th Grade

Lilah Lindemann
Brandy Moeller
Jordan Morales
Kyle Sadler
Ryan Southworth

A special congratulations to the **8th Grade Team for taking first place in the CSI Challenge!** Thank you to Ms. Belanich and Ms. Opitz for all of their hard work!

Under the direction of Mr. Matura and Mrs. Matura our Jr. Panther Players (grades 6 -8) performed Beauty and the Beast on May 31st and June 1st. It was a fantastic show with 3 Sold Out performances!

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.

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
Matthew C. Clark

Sincerely,
Christopher Herrschaft
Christopher Herrschaft

Sincerely,
Christopher Cherouvis
Christopher Cherouvis

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