

NORTH COUNTRY ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

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November 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am pleased to state that we have had a remarkable beginning to another year, maintaining a very busy schedule and working to fine tune the organizational skills that will serve as a foundation to a strong academic career.

The first quarter concludes on Friday, November 9th. I want to remind you that we will continue with our “go green” initiative; therefore, report cards will not be mailed home. Families will be notified via our Ed Connect system when report cards are posted on School Tool. This checkpoint is an appropriate time to seek out help if your child is in need of academic support. Your child’s guidance counselor will contact you if additional support is needed. Our support plan includes the addition of teaching assistants in grade 7 & 8 English and Math classes. The assistants will support the delivery of instruction by our teachers and provide the opportunity for contact time for individual students in the classroom. This is an additional intervention to assist your child so they have the skills necessary to meet the New York State Standards. Please call your child’s guidance counselor to discuss your concerns or answer any questions that you may have.

After a sturdy foundation was established for the school year, it was a perfect time to celebrate our Miller Place community pride during **Spirit Week (Oct 9th – 12th)**. The week that lead to our Homecoming weekend was filled with excitement and many displays of unity in the middle school. The week was wrapped up with Spirit Day on Friday, where members of grade six wore red, grade seven wore white, and our eighth grade students wore blue. All of our school colors were represented with some choosing to wear their Miller Place athletic jerseys as well. Spirit week was a great way to add onto the beginning of the school year and build up to Homecoming weekend, which is shared by the entire community! This year’s weather challenged the parade’s resolve, but we were equal to the task. Members of the NCRMS student government marched with pride, representing our middle school in positive fashion.

Our middle school’s recognition of **Red Ribbon Week** is underway! The concept was established to honor Enrique Camarana, a drug enforcement officer who gave his life in the fight against drugs. The Red Ribbon became the symbol to reduce the use of illegal drugs and violence. This drug prevention campaign is the oldest and largest in the country and serves as a vehicle for communities and individuals to take a stand for the hopes and dreams of our children through a commitment to drug prevention and education. At the North Country Road Middle School, we will celebrate the choice of living a healthy life free of drugs and violence through several events. Students who take a drug free pledge and make a small donation during lunch periods throughout the week, will be issued bracelets promoting a lifestyle free from drugs and alcohol. We encourage you to talk with your child about the week and the following activities:

Red Ribbon Week

DATE	SHOW	GRADE	ASSEMBLY PERIODS
MONDAY – October 29, 2018	WNCR Kick-Off Video Officer Lynagh (6 th Graders: Dangers of Marijuana 7 th Graders: OTC/Prescription Drugs 8 th Graders: Heroin Epidemic)	6, 7, 8	6 th Grade – Per 1 8 th Grade – Per 2 7 th Grade – Per 3
TUESDAY – October 30, 2018	WNCR Video (NaturalHigh.org) Student Pledge (individual lunch periods)	6, 7, 8	
WEDNESDAY – October 31, 2018	WNCR Video (NaturalHigh.org) Student Pledge (individual lunch periods)	6, 7, 8	
THURSDAY – November 1, 2018	WNCR Video (NaturalHigh.org) Stephanie Sloan (Department of Health) All Health Classes Dangers of Vaping	6, 7, 8	
FRIDAY – November 2, 2018	WNCR Video (NaturalHigh.org) Wear Red Day! (Students and staff encouraged to wear red to promote a healthy lifestyle)	6, 7, 8	

In addition, students are encouraged to enter in our **school-wide poster contest**, where one student from each grade level will win a prize for the most creative, informative poster that promotes the message of Red Ribbon Week! Posters may be submitted to the Main Office through Friday, November 2nd. Winners will be announced at the end of the day on Monday, November 5th. **Thank you for all your support! We are looking forward to a great week!**

Important November Dates:

Monday, November 5 th	NCRMS Early Winter Sports Begin
Tuesday, November 6 th	Election Day SCHOOLS CLOSED
Friday, November 9 th	1 st Marking Period Ends for NCRMS & MPHS
Monday, November 12 th	Veterans Day Observed SCHOOLS CLOSED
Wednesday, November 14 th	BOE Meeting 8:00 @ MPHS
Friday, November 16 th	Report Cards Posted for NCRMS & MPHS
Wednesday, November 21 st	Early Dismissal Drill, All Buildings Release 15 minutes early
November 22 nd & 23 rd	Thanksgiving SCHOOLS CLOSED
Tuesday, November 27 th	NCRMS Picture Day Makeup
Friday, November 30 th	Grade 6 Dance 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., NCRMS Cafe

Listed below are some of our NCRMS student accomplishments:

In early October, our 7th grade students visited **Sadderly Landing at Mount Sinai Harbor and Cedar Beach** to evaluate the health of our local ecosystem and to learn about the significance of our local wetlands. Students learned about methods to preserve this valuable natural resource and accrued data to inform their recommendations. Groups of students measure the turbidity levels in the harbor, which provides the clarity of the water or how much sediment is included in the sample. High sediment would affect the dissolved oxygen in the water, which in turn, effects the local wildlife. Students were also able to visit the shellfish hatchery. The hatchery is designed to grow shellfish to seed waterfronts all over Long Island, which cleans the water and helps the commercial shellfish industry. Since the program has started, there have been some improvements

to the water quality in the area. It's great to have our students take part in this hands on approach to learning about their local environment.

Congratulations to our new officers for the **2018-2019 Student Government**

<u>6th Grade</u>	<u>7th Grade</u>	<u>8th Grade</u>
President – Chris Amendola	President – Analynn Bisiani	President – Angelina Mancini
Vice President – Mirabella Altebrando	Vice President – Lindsey Galligan	Vice President – Rhiannon Higgins
Secretary – Kate Fisher	Secretary – Abigail Alvarado	Secretary – Jane Chamberlin
Treasurer – Dane Lagrasta	Treasurer – Olivia Bloom	Treasurer – Emma Balamoti

Congratulations to our **National Junior Honor Society Inductees** in reference to an inspiring presentation on Wednesday, October 17th. Thank you to **Mrs. Farrell** and **Mrs. Ferro** for their leadership during the event. Congratulations to **Mrs. Troyano** who was selected as this year's honorary faculty member. The following individuals were named to the National Junior Honor Society:

National Junior Honor Society Inductees 2018

Landon Agic	Rhiannon Higgins	Christina Oher
Natalia Altebrando	Kylie Hoffmann	Kyle Reynolds
Emma Balamoti	Matthew Ierna Petrie	Gabrielle Russo
Alexia Becker	Hunter Isbitsky	Chloe Sabini
Drew Buscemi	Jack Kiernan	Justin Schafer
Nicholas Casaburro	Zander Klaric	Kai Schiera
Dominic Cassino	Joshua Koppelman	Noah Segal
Jane Chamberlin	Grace Lassiter	Robert Jakob Seidler
Peter Conelli	Leo Lin	Emmy Shattes
Ana Constantis	Lilah Lindemann	Carly Shurbet
Isabella D'Andrea	Cecilia Lockel	Abigail Specht
Salome Davoudiasl	Tyler Lopez	Autumn Stahlmann
Alexandra DeAmaro	Maura Luby	Tristan Stapleton
Isabella DeAngelis	Danielle Lucero	Tess Starr
Alessandra Dimtchev	Jordan Luise	Ryan Suarez
Julianne Donohue	Erin Maloney	Ashley Synan
Eileen Duffy	Gregory Marino	Christian Tarsia
Kyle Fehling	Jackson McCarthy	Kate Walter
Alexandra Feldman	Brooke McCormick	Eva White
Nathaly Garcia	Ryan Michalski	Isabella Zingoni
Onjali Gomez	Brandy Moeller	Brandon Zou
Ty Grebe	Anthony Naples	
Emma Hart	Ella Neyland	

Congratulations to September's character coupon winners, **(grade 6) Hayden Young, (grade 7) James Loughlin, and (grade 8) Nicholas Morabito**. Students were given some tangible rewards for their acts of kindness and compassion from local vendors and merchants.

177 of 204 students participated in our **8th grade Washington D.C. trip** was highlight of the middle school experience that students will remember for years to come. Participants had the opportunity to navigate the Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Museum, as well as the American and Natural History Museums, which are both a part of the Smithsonian Institute. They went on a tour of our national monuments, such as the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and the Lincoln Memorial, as well at the night light monument tour, which includes the World War II Memorial, Dr. Martin Luther King, FDR and Jefferson Memorial to name a few. Students went to the Newseum, a building dedicated to the history of media coverage around the globe, and spent a long time

studying the exhibits at the Holocaust Memorial Museum. The trip was rounded out by a visit and guided tour to the Capitol building, which includes a guided tour hosted by a U.S. Capitol representative. This is something that they will remember for a lifetime. We continued our tradition of laying a wreath on behalf of our district at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The trip continues to be a great experience, providing students with memories to share in the years to come.

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 Thanksgiving holiday.

Sincerely,
Matthew C. Clark
Matthew C. Clark

Sincerely,
Christopher Herrschaft
Christopher Herrschaft

Sincerely,
Christopher Cherouvis
Christopher Cherouvis

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