

NORTH COUNTRY ROAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

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March 2022

Dear Parents and/or Guardians:

The **beginning of March** brings thoughts of springtime and warmer weather, but as we have seen in the past, the month of March can be unpredictable. We hope to leave the frigid conditions behind that have impacted our community during this winter. We also look forward to a more traditional approach to our daily practice and protocol, moving cautiously toward a more normal setting.

We are excited to share information in conjunction with our **PTO** to announce our **1st Read-a-Thon fundraiser**. Each student received a Read-a-Thon registration flyer providing directions on how to activate their personal page. Please login and begin inviting friends and family to support our reading fundraiser. We are hoping each reader will complete at least 10 reading sessions over our 2-week event. Our event begins Monday, March 7th and will run until Monday, March 21st. Your involvement in the Read-a-thon will help your child develop a lasting love of reading while supporting our school!

We will be administering the New York State grades 6-8 ELA and Math assessment and Grade 8 Science test in the coming months. See below for the testing dates and formats:

ELA Assessment	March 29 th Session 1: Reading	March 30 th Session 2: Writing	Makeups March 31 st – April 8 th
Math Assessment	April 26 th Session 1: Multiple Choice	April 27 th Session 2: Short Response and extended response	Makeups April 28 th – May 9 th
Science Assessment	June 1 st Performance Test	June 6 th (Written) Part 1: Multiple Choice Part 2: Open Ended Questions	Makeups June 2 nd – 3 rd (performance) June 7 th – 10 th (written)

Additional information about NYS Assessments and *Things every parent should know about student participation in state wide assessments under the Every Student Succeeds Act* can be found by referencing the following NYSED link: <http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/state-assessment/2020-things-every-parent-should-know-assessment.pdf>.

Reminder: Only those that are enrolled in Math 8 will challenge the NYS assessment, while those enrolled in Algebra I will challenge the Regents exams. In the area of Science, 8th grade students will take the NYS Science Assessment or the NYS Regents in Earth Science.

To help us prepare we need your cooperation in completing the *Miller Place NYS Assessment Intent Form* for your child. If you have emailed or provided an "Assessment Refusal Letter," we ask that you also complete the form below. Please complete the Google form (one for each child) by no later than Friday March 11th.

<https://forms.gle/Rpt21gAePP7E47sB6>

We continue to prepare for the 2022-23 **8th grade Washington D.C. trip**, focusing on room and bus lists with student input. The dates for the trip are May 13 – 15. We will follow up with some additional information in reference to student medication, tips to prepare your child for the trip, and departure protocols in a few weeks time.

With spring fast approaching we all need to maintain our cooperative efforts surrounding the policies set forth in the ***District Code of Conduct***, specifically those relating to school dress. Please be sure to remind your child about appropriate school dress and be aware of what he or she is wearing to school each day.

Important March Dates:

Friday, March 11 th	Progress Reports Posted
Tuesday, March 22 nd	Incoming 6 th Grade Parent Orientation 7pm NCR Café
Tuesday, March 29 th – Thursday, March 31 st	NYS English Language Assessment Exam
Wednesday, March 30 th	BOE Meeting @ 8:00 pm

Listed below are some of our Middle School events and achievements:

In honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday, the **National Education Association's *Read Across America*** has grown into a nationwide initiative that promotes reading every day of the year. Our Reading teacher Mrs. Jenn Cavaliere and a number of our reading students visited the Andrew Muller Primary School on Wednesday, March 2nd, to read to a number of classes and share their love for reading.

Congratulations to all of our students that participated in this year's **MATHCON!** The event includes an online challenge where the questions provided require ingenuity and insight that is predominantly on grade level. The exam includes problems of varying degrees of difficulty that enables all students to be equally challenged. Finalists from our middle school will receive an invitation to the MATHCON finals at the University of Illinois at Chicago in April for a paper-based examination. Special thank you to **Ms. Radday** for her coordination of the annual event.

Character coupon winners for the month of February were: (8th Grade) **Jayden DeAngelis**, (7th Grade) **Ryder Litterello**, and (6th Grade) **Dylan Siefert**. Students were giving some tangible rewards for their acts of kindness and compassion from local vendors and merchants.

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.

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.

Sincerely,

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Sincerely,

Matthew C. Clark

Christine Mangiamele

Nicole Farley

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MCC:jlm

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