

Bear Paw Times

Volume 15, Issue 7 - March 1, 2024



March

AVID News

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) has proven time and time again that, when given resources and tools for academic rigor and support, virtually all students can be academically



successful. AVID addresses the specific needs of students to help bridge the path from middle school to high school to higher educational completion. As your children look ahead and select classes next year, please consider AVID as a class to be used to guide and prepare them for future challenges. AVID not only provides academic support, but also exposes them to quality curriculum in preparation for college and career readiness. Middle school AVID applications will come home right after Spring Break. Have some discussion with your child about the possibility of selecting AVID at NCMS. High school class selection is also just around the corner. Students who select AVID in high school will

complete financial aid applications, research career paths, and write college essays in preparation for their future. AVID moves with your child and supports their entire road to success! Take the time to discover what AVID can do for you and your child. You won't be disappointed!

8th Grade News

8th Grade End-of-Year Events

SAVE-THE-DATES!

May 3rd - Gradventure Trip

May 17th - 8th Grade Dance 6pm-8pm

May 22nd -8th Grade Awards 5:30-7:30pm (by invitation only)

May 28th - 8th Grade "Donut" forget the memories event (donuts & superlative awards)



8TH GRADE, want to earn a DRESS DOWN DAY?



8TH GRADE FUNDRAISER

Help us say good-bye to our 8th Grade Narcoossee Bears!

Funds needed for 8th Grade End of Year Events:

- Awards Night
- 8th grade Dance
- Donut forget the memories event

DONATE HERE



<http://bit.ly/narcoossee>

\$3000 GOAL

The poster features three circular images on the right: a hand holding a star, silhouettes of people dancing, and a tray of donuts.

If every 8th grader receives a donation of \$7, we will reach our \$3000 goal!

If we reach our goal ALL 8th graders will receive a dress down day!

Donations can be completed on MySchoolBucks.com

OR you can donate cash to Ms. Shashaguay, room 3-212

*Receipts will be provided for cash donations of \$5 or more

Attention Parents



Box Tops for Education

We need your help to get more families to support the Box Tops program here at NARCOOSSEE MIDDLE SCHOOL. The more people that participate, the more our school can earn to help get the supplies it needs! This year, our goal is to earn \$1,000.00 through Box Tops.

PLUS, you can earn a bonus for our school by inviting your friends, family, and other parents at NARCOOSSEE MIDDLE SCHOOL to sign up and participate in Box Tops. To refer friends to sign up, go to the Invite Friends section of the Box Tops app. (You can get there by tapping on the person icon in the upper-right corner of the app home screen.) You'll get a referral code that you can send to a friend. You'll BOTH earn Bonus Box Tops for our school when they scan their first receipt – that's extra cash that counts towards our Box Tops earnings goal of \$1,000.00 this year.

Thanks for your help!

<https://www.boxtops4education.com/s/get-the-app>

Tutoring

Geometry: Tutoring on Thursdays after school 4:40-5:40. We are closing our curriculum with circles, area, and volume. Talk with your student at home about any projects you may be doing: floors (area), bathtub, pool, or juice drinks (volume). Connecting home with school make the learning so much stronger!

THE REVOLUTION IS INCLUSION

Special Olympics

More than 50 years ago, Special Olympics launched a global movement to break down barriers and end discrimination against people with intellectual disabilities.

Since then, this peaceful revolution has been changing lives all around the world. Join "The Revolution Is Inclusion"—and be part of a powerful new generation that celebrates all differences, all abilities! <https://www.jointherevolution.org/>



Narcoossee Middle School will participate in the Special Olympics Unity Campaign. This campaign allows students to understand more about inclusion and supporting students with disabilities. Our students with disabilities will go into our regular education classrooms to educate others and to get students to sign an Inclusion Pledge.

We are asking for everyone to show support of including students with disabilities by wearing a gray shirt on Wednesday, March 6th.

Cafeteria News



School Nutrition Services

School District of Osceola County, Florida

SCAN THE CODE TO VIEW THE FOLLOWING:



- **School Nutrition Homepage**
- **Application for free and reduced meals**
- **View School Menus**
- **MySchoolBucks**
- **Facebook**

Media Center News

Yearbooks this year are for pre-sale only. Please purchase a yearbook from Jostensyearbooks.com for \$26 by March 8th. Once the yearbooks go to print, we will not be selling them, so don't miss out! If you have any questions, please contact Heather Biela.

Please return your overdue library books before spring break. We have over 1200 books overdue! Please see Mrs. Biela if you have any questions.

Spring Break Beanstack Challenge. Please log into your beanstack account and log at least 20 minutes of reading during Spring Break. The school with the most participation will take the trophy from Denn John! Individual top readers from each grade level will be rewarded by Mrs. Biela. Participation is what counts so the more people we get to log in their minutes we can beat those Dragons!!!! To access Beanstack please go to Classlink and then Beanstack, then look at the top left hand corner next to Chief Osceola and click on log reading.



Mark Your Calendar

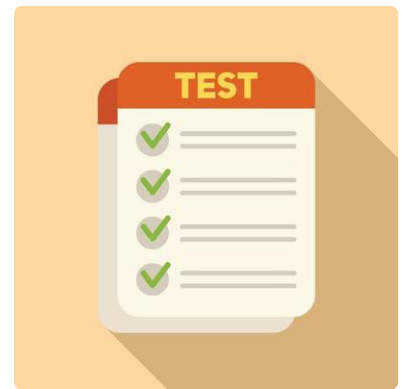
3/3 - Sunday Cheer Practice 10 AM at TOHO
3/6 - Special Olympics Unity Day (support by wearing gray)
3/6 - Music Performance Assessment 4:45 PM at Osceola HS
3/7 - End of 3rd Grading Period
3/7 - PTO & SAC Meeting 5 PM
3/7 - Cheer Championship 6 PM at Harmony HS
3/7 - Jeremiah Ice Spirit Night (all day-mention NCMS)
3/8 - Teacher Workday/Student Holiday
3/11-3/15: Spring Break - Teacher/Student Holiday
3/18 - Classes Resume/First Day of 4th Grading Period

Calendar News

Testing Information

Assessments for March:

FAA (Florida Alternative Assessment)-Performance Task: All students on ACCESS points with Ms. Chacon will be testing 3/1-4/5. Ms. Chacon will be in contact with you for when your student will be testing.



STAR Reading (all grades): March 1 to March 7

Testing will be administered during class periods- no modified schedule.

Mock Civics EOC (7th & 8th) : March 5

Testing will be administered using a modified bell schedule ONLY for those testing.

Biology Mock EOC: March 20 to March 27

Testing will be administered during class periods- no modified schedule.

STAR MATH (all grades): March 25 to April 5

Testing will be administered during class periods- no modified schedule.



Cheer Information

Cheer Practice :

Sunday 3/3 at TOHO 10-4 PM

District Competitions:

Championships: Thursday, March 7 at Harmony HS @ 6:00 PM

Band Information

Advanced Band will be performing at their annual Music Performance Assessment on Wednesday, March 6th at Osceola High School at 4:45pm.

Students will be attending periods 1 - 4 and excused periods 5 - 8.
The bus departs at 2:30pm and we will return by 8pm.

Go Band!



Clubs

Book Club: Meets on Mondays 9:00-9:20 AM

Battle of the Books: Meets on Wednesdays 9:00-9:20 AM

Yearbook Club: Meets on Fridays 9:00-9:20 AM

For more information about these clubs, such as how to join and more, please contact:
Ms. Biela at 407-891-6600, ext. 32400 or <mailto:heather.biela@osceolaschools.net>



STEM Clubs

Sphero: Meets one Mondays from 4:30-5:30 PM

Odyssey of the Mind: Meets on Tuesdays from 4:30-6:00 PM

VEX Robotics: Meets on Thursdays from 4:30-6:00 PM

For more information,

<mailto:Stephani.Mckeown@osceolaschools.net>

Shout-Outs

CONGRATULATIONS to our NCMS Odyssey of the Mind team!
They are headed to the State competition, and we wish them the best of luck!



CONGRATULATIONS to our NCMS Advanced Choir!
They just finished their choral Music Performance Assessment at Liberty High School with a Superior sight-singing rating!!

PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Support) Expectations

Our mission at NCMS is to build environments in which positive behavior is more effective and more appealing to students than problem behavior. Students are recognized and praised for positive behaviors (i.e. Bear Bucks, Golden Tickets, Positive Referrals, etc.). Students can spend their Bear Bucks at our PBIS events/activities, dress down days, and at our Bear's Den in the Cafeteria.



Be Responsible
Encourage Others
Act Safely
Respect All
Strive For Success

MARCH PBIS NEWS

Positive Referrals so far this quarter- 263, total to date 1,052. That's amazing! Keep it up black bears!

On February 14th we had a Valentine's Dress Down Day. Kids looked great in their Valentine's Day attire. The Latinos in Action (LIA) also sold and distributed "Sweet as Candy" Valentine's Day grams. February was a wonderful month of kindness!

February 23rd was our PBIS Karaoke Love Songs Event. Students and staff had the opportunity to sing and show the school they could hold a tune. Everyone had a great time!

NCMS will not host a PBIS Event in March. Stay tuned for April's event!

Students must continue to follow our B.E.A.R.S. Expectations and save those bear bucks for more upcoming PBIS events!

NCMS Business Partners in Education

Brue Family Dentistry 407-979-4170
Domino's Pizza (Narcoossee/St. Cloud) 407-984-4777
Dr. Sandra Mauro & Associates 407-505-2020
Esteem Dental & Orthodontics 407-476-5650
Hoffner Eye Care 407-207-2020
HomePride Realty Services Inc. 407-846-0940
Huntington Learning Center, St. Cloud 407-789-3688
Jeremiah's Italian Ice 407-313-0782
Lissette Sanchez, EXP Realty 407-603-5210
Mansour Orthodontics 407-846-2150
Peter Luu Signature Group w/Premier Sotheby's
The Naked Cupcake 407-208-5726



Other News and Resources

Donations

NCMS is always looking for donations of school appropriate jeans for middle school students. Please drop off fairly used or new jeans that are NOT distressed with holes, tears, or frays.

We also welcome other school appropriate clothing such as polo shirts, spirit shirts, kaki's, bermuda shorts, belts and sneakers.



In addition, the school accepts various donations of school supplies. We thank you in advance for your generosity!



Free Crisis Services

Does your child need social, emotional, or mental health stabilization? Devereux's Mobile Crisis Services, provides free crisis services with trained counselors. Services are available 24 hours a day, every day including weekends and holidays. Dial 2-1-1 or 407-839-HELP (4357).

ONE MORE CHILD Anti-Trafficking Mobile Team

If you or someone you know has been forced or coerced to perform sexual activities, or promised false opportunities, text or call us to set up a meeting with a mentor, advocate, or clinician.



YOU MAY BE A VICTIM IF:

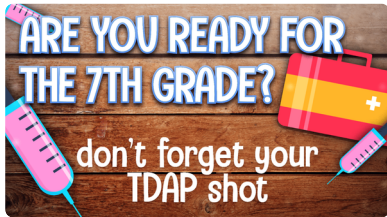
- You are not free to come and go as you wish.
- You are involved in the commercial sex industry (prostitution, stripping, pornography) with a trafficker, or you are under 18.
- You do not have control over your own personal documents/money.
- You were recruited to your job through false promises.
- You are forced to provide labor or commercial sex.

SERVICES INCLUDE:

- trauma-informed counseling
- psychoeducation
- court accompaniment
- life skills
- mentorship

- free food boxes & hygiene items
- access to 24/7 hotline
- advocacy
- referrals to other providers
- interpreter services available

For more information: <https://onemorechild.org> or <mailto:antitrafficking@onemorechild.org>



Important Information for 7th Grade:

All students entering 7th grade must provide the school with an updated immunization record (FL form 680/white form). All 7th grade students must have (1) Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (Tdap) vaccine and all other required vaccines must be up-to-date.

After receiving the Tdap, please email the form to: <mailto:ncmsregistration@osceolaschools.net>
 For FREE Vaccines, contact The Osceola County Health Department at 407-343-2066. Located on Fortune Road in Kissimmee.

Adult Learning Opportunity/Oportunidad de aprendizaje para adultos!

Nighttime English Classes for Adults at ALCO or at Narcoossee Middle School.

English Classes each Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30-8:30 PM.
 For more information, contact Carolina Figueroa at NCMS 407-891-6600 or ALCO at 407-518-8140.



You may apply at:

<https://otech.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/apply/>

Clases de Ingles para Adultos en ALCO o Narcoossee Middle School.

Clases cada martes y jueves de 5:30-8:30 PM.

Contacte a Carolina Figueroa en NCMS al 407-891-6600 o ALCO al 407-518-8140 para mas información.

Puede presentar su solicitud en: <https://otech.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/apply/>



Narcoossee Middle School- Home of the Bears

AVID National Demonstration School

Mission Statement: Our number one priority is student achievement with high expectations being the responsibility of our entire school community.

Website: www.ncms.osceolaschools.net

Location: [2700 North Narcoossee Road, St. Cloud, FL, USA](https://www.google.com/maps/place/2700+North+Narcoossee+Road,+St.+Cloud,+FL,+USA)

Phone: 407-891-6600, Fax: 407-891-6610

FaceBook: <http://www.facebook.com/NCMSbears>

Instagram: ncmsblackbears

Dr. Francisco Rivera Mieles, Principal

Lucille Schneider, Assistant Principal

Jamie Hopkins, Assistant Principal

Carolina Figueroa, 6th Dean

Marlenys Vargas-Ortiz, 7th Dean

Samantha Alfred, 8th Dean

Peter Swanson, Dean/MTSS

Ronaldo Ortiz, 6th Counselor

Brenda Lopez, 7th Counselor

Maria Morales, 8th Counselor

Dr. Gloria Martinez, Lead Counselor/FIT

Heather Biela, Media Specialist

Marisha Smalling, Literacy Coach

Gabrielle Tandlich, Math Coach

Hector Alvarez, Testing Coordinator

Meg Hodge, RCS

Marianela Abreu DeJesus, ESOL Compliance

Kremsa Susla, Psychologist

Michelle Lauria, Social Worker

Marisol Losada, Occupational Therapist



Francisco Rivera

Francisco is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters