

Bear Paw Times

Volume 15, Issue 1



Welcome Back

Hello Black Bear Family,

As we embark on a new school year, we cannot wait to share with you, and your student, all the wonderful things we have been planning over the summer. It was great seeing many of you during Open House, and I'm happy to report we had a great first week at NCMS. As a principal, I see the partnership between parents, the community, and the school as essential to success. We look forward to this year, and I hope we continue to earn your trust.

Additionally, join me in welcoming Mrs. Jamie Hopkins to our administrative team. Mrs. Hopkins was one of our own, and we are excited to have her as our newest Assistant Principal. The school theme for this year is "Building and Nurturing our Community Together". They say that if you build it, they will come, but if you nurture it, then they will keep coming.



Dr. Rivera
Principal



AVID News

Did you know that Narcoossee Middle School is an AVID National Demonstration School? There are only 24 schools in the state of Florida with that distinction & we are so very proud of our students & staff who continue to maintain focus on preparing students for future career & college choices. AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. We currently have over 400 students who are enrolled in the AVID Elective at NCMS with three full time teachers. This is the largest AVID population in Osceola County & we are focused and prepared to provide the very best guidance toward career & college readiness available. This guidance will include guest speakers, tutorials with AVID tutors twice a week, career exploration, and field trips to expand student interest in career options and college opportunities. To promote our AVID culture at NCMS, please speak with your child about our schoolwide organization system; their binder, check their agenda regularly, and stay in touch with teachers through Remind & Focus. We are an AVID school and with all stakeholders in support of our mission, our students will continue to strive for greatness in all aspects of their educational journey.

Attention Parents

New District Wireless Device Policy:

The School District of Osceola has instituted a no cell phone policy, including tablets, earphones and earbuds, unless specifically permitted by administration for special needs.

- Wireless Communication Devices must be powered off and stored in student back packs.
- Wireless Communication Devices are not permitted between 9:00am-4:30pm.
- Violations will result in your phone/device being confiscated and held in the Dean's Office until the end of the day.
- 1st offense - Confiscated cell phones/devices can be picked up from the front office at dismissal for walkers and



bus riders.

- 2nd offense – Parent/Guardian will be required to pick up cell phone or device.

For more information, you may refer to FAQ on SDOC website at:

<http://www.osceolaschools.net>



NCMS Student Laptop Reminder:

Students are to have their fully charged laptops at school every day with their charger in their laptop case, unless they have special accommodations. It is important to keep them in their appropriate cases with their charges to prevent costly damage that would be imposed on the parent.

The Importance of Student School Supplies:

School supplies, such as backpacks, school laptops, uniforms, textbooks, notebooks, pencils, pens, erasers, calculators and paper are important for students to be prepared and successful at school.

Arriving equipped for the school day:

- Improves grades, creativity, attitudes towards learning, peer relationships and self-image.
- Inspires and motivates, making the experience more positive.
- Impacts participation and attendance, making students more attentive in class.
- Prevents unwarranted behavior, helping students start on the right foot.
- Helps them feel confident and empowered to function in the classrooms.
- Helps classroom instructions to start on time.

Please make sure your child has all the necessary supplies every day. If you are in need of assistance, you may contact your child's school counselor.

Items That Are Not Allowed on School Campus:

- Gum, carbonated drinks, energy drinks, coffee
- Hairspray, cologne, perfume or scented lotions (many students and teachers have allergies and/or asthma which are aggravated by these items)
- Any item in a glass bottle
- Electronic game systems
- Toys, stuffed animals, balloons, etc.
- Fast-food student lunches, cupcakes, cakes or other celebratory foods



Change of Address Notification:

If you moved and need to update your address, please contact the school at 407-891-6600. You can also email a copy of your new mortgage or lease, current utility bill and your driver's license to: <mailto:migdalia.roman@osceolaschools.net>

Please include in the email your student's full name and grade.

Address changes requested through the Re-Enrollment Online parent site will not be approved.



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.

NCMS Counseling Corner

As your counseling department, we are confident and determined to work together to make 2023-2024 a great year! At Narcoossee Middle School, we nurture our students and provide them the necessary academic and occupational skills that will prepare them for a successful transition to high school and beyond. Counseling and guidance supports are an essential part of education for students at all levels.

We are also excited to announce that we have a new NCMS counselor, Mr. Ronaldo Ortiz! He is the new 6th grade counselor and an amazing new addition to our counseling team.

What services do we currently offer? Direct and Indirect Services

- Instruction
- Appraisal and Advisement
- Consultation
- Collaboration
- Referrals
- Counseling - Professional assistance and support to students during transition, heightened stress, critical change or other situations impeding student success. School counselors do not provide therapy or long-term counseling in schools; however, school

counselors are prepared to recognize and respond to student mental health needs and to assist students and families seeking resources.

How to coordinate an appointment with a school counselor? <https://tinyurl.com/3akmxrwj>

How to contact a specific NCMS School Counselor or Student Service Staff?

6th Grade - Ronaldo Ortiz ext. 32302 <mailto:ronaldo.ortiz@osceolaschools.net>

7th Grade - Brenda Lopez ext. 32303 <mailto:brenda.monroiglopez@osceolaschools.net>

8th Grade - Maria Morales ext. 32301 <mailto:maria.moralesperez@osceolaschools.net>

Lead School Counselor - Dr. Glorida Martinez
ext. 32304 <mailto:goria.martinez@osceolaschools.net>

Guidance Office Assistant - Sandra Alvarez
ext. 32122 <mailto:sandra.alvarez@osceolaschools.net>

Social Worker - Michelle Lauria ext. 32220 <mailto:michelle.lauria@osceolaschools.net>

School Psychologist - Kremsa Susla ext. 32222 <mailto:kremsa.susla@osceolaschools.net>

Building and Nurturing our Community Together!

Media Center News

Picture Day is September 1st in the media center.

- Students must be in school uniform attire.
- <http://www.jostenspix.com> (school code: FE88823)



Mark Your Calendar

8/31 - FAST ELA Assessment

9/1 - School Picture Day

9/4 - Labor Day/NO SCHOOL (Student/Teacher Holiday)

9/7 - First SAC and PTO Meeting (5:00-6:00pm and 6:00-6:30pm)

9/7 - FAST Math Assessment

9/7 - Jeremiah Ice Spirit Night (All Day at Lake Nona Location)

9/11-9/15: Cheer Tryouts

9/14 - Band Fee Due (All)

9/14 - 1st 9 Weeks Progress Reports

9/15 - Author Visit/Taryn Souders in the Media Center

9/22 - NO SCHOOL (PD Day/Student Holiday)

9/22 - 8th Grade Band Night at TOHO HS

BE ON THE LOOK OUT:

Latinos in Action 2023-2024 Information coming soon!



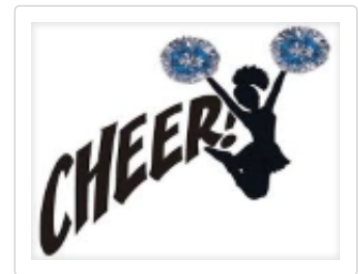
Testing Information

The FAST assessments for ELA and Math for students will be August 31st and September 7th.

Students with IEPs or 504s know that they may or may not be testing on those days. Letters with more testing information and scheduling will be sent home.

Cheer News

Cheer tryouts will be Monday, Sept. 11th - Friday, Sept. 15th. Please see Coach Trujillo in 5-114 for Canvas course information!!!



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>

WANT TO JOIN ODYSSEY OF THE MIND?



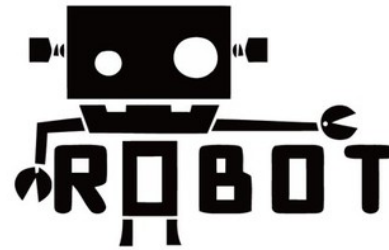
Odyssey of the Mind Interest
2023/2024



chittareturn . 000100105

Please scan the QR code and fill
out the information Form!

WANT TO JOIN ROBOTICS CLUB?



This Photo by Unknown author is licensed under CC BY-NC.

PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE AND FILL OUT
THE INTEREST FORM



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.).

Be Responsible
Encourage Others
Act Safely
Respect All
Strive For Success

**Students can spend their Bear Bucks at our PBIS events/activities, dress down days, and at our Bear's Den in the Cafeteria.*

Free/Reduced Lunch Benefits

Apply for Free and Reduced Meals online at <http://www.osceolaschools.net> or contact 407-870-4678.



NCMS Business Partners in Education

Please welcome our returning Partners in Education. If you would like to find out more about our PIE program, please contact Ms. Lowell @ 407-891-6600 x 32121.

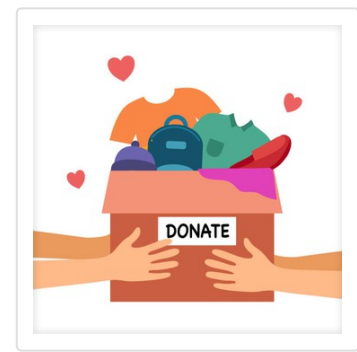
Brue Family Dentistry 407-979-4170
Domino's Pizza (Narcoossee, St. Cloud) 407-984-4777
Dr. Sandra Mauro & Associates 407-505-2020
Esteem Dental & Orthodontics 407-476-5650
Hoffner Eye Care 407-207-2020
HomePride Realty Services Inc. 407-846-0940
Jeremiah's Italian Ice 407-313-0782
Lissette Sanchez, EXP Realty 407-603-5210
Peter Luu Signature Group w/Premier Sotheby's
WAWA Gas Station on Narcoossee Rd/Boggy Creek
Ur Learning Solution 407-658-7575

Donations

NCMS is 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!



Resources

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).

SDOC Transportation:

A graphic for SDOC Transportation Services. The background is dark with a repeating pattern of yellow school buses on the left side. The text is centered and reads: 'SDOC Transportation Services' in blue and yellow, 'Parent Hotline is now' in white, and 'OPEN!' in large yellow letters with a white underline. Below this, it says 'Please call (407)483-3673' and 'Hours of Operation: Monday to Friday 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.'. On the right side of the graphic is a yellow school bus with a circular logo on its side.

Adult Learning Opportunity/Oportunidad de aprendizaje para adultos!

Nighttime English Classes for Adults at ALCO

English Classes each Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30-8:30 PM.

For more information, contact Carolina Figueroa at NCMS or ALCO at 407-518-8140.

You may apply at: <https://otech.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/apply/>

Clases de Ingles para Adultos en ALCO.

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

Contacte a Carolina Figueroa en NCMS o ALCO al 407-518-8140 para mas informaci3n.

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

Thank You

NCMS would like to give a big Thank You to A Hero For Kids for donating much needed copy paper and color paper to the school! We appreciate their generosity.



A Hero For Kids is a nationally recognized award-winning 501c3 community focused nonprofit charity organization.

For more information about who they are, what they do, and/or how you can help, check out their website at: <http://aheroforkids.org>



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](http://www.ncms.osceolaschools.net)

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

Peter Swanson, 7th Dean/MTSS

Samantha Alfred, 8th Dean

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
Leah Boyd, Testing Coordinator
Meg Hodge, RCS
Kremsa Susla, Psychologist
Michelle Lauria, Social Worker
Marisol Losada, Occupational Therapist

