

Bear Paw Times

Volume 16, Issue 3 - October 2024



OCTOBER

Message from the Principal

Dear Black Bear Parents,

In the last couple of weeks, we have been dealing with a number of threats that have been either unfounded or found not credible by the Osceola Sheriff Department. At times, those threats have come from out of state and were completely unrelated to our school. It speaks to the power of social media, and how these types of threats can be disseminated really fast, and how disruptive they can be. I know that it is frustrating to listen to a call out from the principal with yet another unfounded claim. In the end, I hope you know that we take everything seriously, and that we are in lock step with both the School District and the Osceola Sheriff Department when it comes to this. It should not take away from the wonderful things happening at NCMS every single day. My hope is that you know that I'm always going to be transparent and keep you, as best as I can, up to date with what happens at NCMS. Lastly, we will not take it lightly if either a student or community member makes a false threat, if anyone disrupts education in our community by making or disseminating a false threat, significant school and legal consequences will be administered.

Dr. Francisco Rivera Mieles
Narcoossee Middle School Principal

Teacher Out-of-Field Assignments

Fall 2024 District Out of Field Report			
TEACHER LAST NAME	TEACHER FIRST NAME	OUT-OF-FIELD ASSIGNMENT	Assignment Date
Acevedo	Lesly	Drama	2/5/24
Alvarez Rohena	Abigail	ESE K-12	8/5/24
Alvarez Rohena	Abigail	ESOL-E	8/5/24
Cedeno	Jonathan	ESOL-E	8/3/23
Jackson	Luke	ART K-12	8/5/24
Melendez	Ilia	ESE K-12	2/26/24
Melendez	Ilia	Elementary K-6	2/26/24
Melendez	Ilia	ELOL-E	2/26/24
Parson	Alyssa	ESOL-E	3/27/24
Strenko	Brandon	Health K-12	8/5/24

Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month!

If you have a small business and would like to represent your business during our next event "Black Bears Multicultural Night" on October 18th, please sign up! Limited spaces available. You must be OASIS approved. For more information: <https://rmd.me/D8pBaAOiWBu>
You may sign up here: <https://rmd.me/AkWnKaYYgQu>



NJHS News

NJHS is recruiting new 7th and 8th graders the next two weeks, September 30 - October 10, 2024.

Candidates must have a 3.5 grade point average (As and Bs) for the last school year and current quarter.

They may pick up a candidate information form from their science teacher, Dr. Zuelke in 3-213 or Ms. Judy in the dean's office.

All forms must be returned to Ms. Judy in the dean's office by October 10, 2024.



Counselor's Corner

Meet The Counseling Team

Students can make appointments with their counselor by scanning the QR code below.



MEET THE SCHOOL COUNSELING TEAM



MR. RONALDO ORTIZ
LAST NAMES A-F

DR. GLORIA MARTINEZ
LAST NAMES G-O

MS. MARIA MORALES
LAST NAMES P-Z



MS. MICHELLE LAURIA
SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER

MS. KREMSA SUSLA
SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

QR CODE FOR STUDENTS TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

Parent/Guardian Requests

Parents and guardians can make requests for Section 504 information and for meetings with teachers by scanning the QR code below. They may also be reached by phone or email.



Narcoossee Middle School

Parents and Guardians

Please use the enclosed link if you are interested in:

- Section 504 Information/ Reevaluations
- Meeting with Teachers
- Meeting with a School Counselor



AVID News



AVID is in full swing in the month of October! Our students in grades 7th and 8th will be busy with Peer Tutor Training! This valuable module will prepare our students to assist other peers as we begin our tutorials in the classroom. Our AVID tutors will begin working with your children October 1st. We welcome their expertise and assistance every Tuesday and Thursday. Tutorials make a huge impact on student success in AVID. As the curriculum begins to increase in complexity, our tutors assist students with complex tasks they may be uncertain of. By strengthening their understanding each week in core subjects, we are setting students up for future success on upcoming

assessments. Please ask your child to see a TRF form and have them explain the 10-step process in presenting a tutorial to their peers. This process also helps our students develop their public speaking skills. Overall, tutorials are a WIN-WIN for every AVID student! If you are interested in watching our AVID classes in action, feel free to reach out to an AVID teacher & let's get you into the classroom! And... as always, thanks for your support!

Media Center News

October 1st: Jen Calonita Author Visit-Best Selling author of 12 to 22 and Disney Twisted Tale series. Her new book Fairy Godmother-An Enchanter's tale will be discussed with students. Select students will receive a copy of her new book!

SAVE-THE-DATE

November Fall Bookfair Coming Soon!

Cheer News

Cheer Information

Cheer clinics are Friday, October 4th - Wednesday, October 9th from 4:30-6:30pm daily.

Official tryout date is Thursday Oct. 10th.

The team will be announced on Thursday night on the IG Tryout page as well as in the Cheer Canvas course.

First team practice will be on Tuesday, Oct 15th.

With our official Team parent meeting on Thursday Oct. 17th in Media Center at 6:00pm.



Sports News

IMPORTANT Athletics Information

On October 11th we are having an eligibility day where we walk through students and parents through Aktivate and get everyone cleared for volleyball tryouts. Students must have their physicals done before attending in order to be cleared. Students will not be able to attend try outs for volleyball if they do not attend.

Boys Volleyball tryouts will be October 15th, 17th, and 18th.

Girls Volleyball tryouts will be October 21st for 6th Graders, 22nd for 7th Graders, 23rd for 8th Graders, and callbacks the 24th and 25th.

Volleyball tryouts will begin after school and end at 6pm.

Band News



If you have an 8th grade student in band and they are planning to attend Tohopekaliga High School next year you are invited to attend 8th Grade Band Night on **Friday, October 4th!**

More details to come in class 😊

If you have a student who is auditioning for All - County (Intermediate and Advanced Students only!) We will be recording your auditions in class during the **week of October 14 - 18!** Scales, Chromatic Scale and prepared piece!

Testing Information

Testing Days REMINDER:

Students need to charge their laptops the night before testing and have a great night's sleep. A nutritious breakfast is also encouraged for State Testing readiness.

For more testing information, contact: frances.velezcollazo@osceolaschools.net

Attention Parents

Medical Opt-In 2024-2025

Parents, please be aware that the Osceola School District's medical option form has been changed for the 2024-2025 school year. The new form requires parents to opt-in to any medical services for their children, instead of opting out as in years past. If a parent does not opt in, or does not make a selection, the school nurse will not provide medical services to your child. Only emergency medical services would be permitted.



Parents are asked to please log in to their FOCUS Parent Portal account and complete their medical opt-in/opt-out selection prior to the beginning of school. Besides being a "one-stop shop" for completing necessary educational forms and updating your child's important information, the FOCUS Parent Portal gives parents the opportunity to log in regularly to monitor your child's progress and attendance in school throughout the school year.

Uploading an Absent Note

In our efforts to be more efficient and to decrease the volume of emails and paper usage, we are aiming to use the FOCUS Parent Portal for the purpose it was designed.

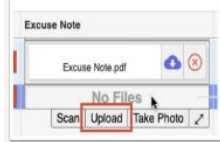


UPLOADING AN ABSENT NOTE IN PARENT PORTAL

Parent Portal

If needed, Request a Parent Portal Account

**Visit <https://osceola.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus/auth>
to create your own parent portal account online AFTER you
obtain the parent portal PIN letter from your child's school.**

<p>1. Log into Portal https://osceola.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus</p>	<p>2. Select Absences On the left side of the screen</p>
<p>3. Upload the Note Select the date of absence and add the note by selecting Scan, Upload, or Take Photo</p> 	<p>Congrats You are done!</p>

My School Bucks

Experience the convenience of easily managing all of your student's fees in one place!



1

Visit **MySchoolBucks.com**
or Download the App



2

Create your account,
Add Renaissance
Charter Schools & Add
your students

3

Pay with your
credit/debit card

Here Comes The Bus APP

Here Comes The Bus is an easy-to-use website and app that enables parents to see the location of their child's school bus on a smartphone, tablet, or personal computer.

You may call the Transportation Call Center if you have any other questions or concerns.

TRANSPORTATION CALL CENTER:

School days 6am-6pm 407-483-3673

Please have the following information ready when you call:

1. Student Legal Name (Student Number is helpful)
2. School Name
3. Bus ROUTE Number
4. Bus Stop Location (Pick-up / Drop-off)





Here Comes The Bus[®]

A GPS-BASED APP TO TRACK YOUR CHILD'S BUS

HERE'S HOW TO GET STARTED

- Download the Here Comes the Bus app or visit www.herecomesthebus.com
- Click the **Sign Up** button
- Enter school code **73760**
- Click "Next" followed by "Confirm"
- Complete the "User Profile" box
- Under "My Students," click "Add." Enter your child's last name and student ID number.
- Once you confirm your information, you're ready to go!





REMIND

If you are NOT receiving REMIND for Narcoossee Middle School
TEXT @sdocncms to 81010

or to get email notifications - Join online:

Visit - <https://www.remind.com/join>

and enter the class code

@sdocncms and your email address

or JOIN FROM YOUR INBOX: Send a blank email to

<mailto:sdocncms@mail.remind.com>

You'll get a response with more instructions.



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>

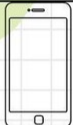
Dean's One Pager


See below for important information from the dean's office.

NCMS 24-25
DEAN'S OFFICE
ONE-PAGER
Quick Guide

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

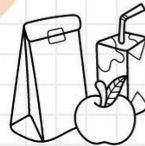
1. Remind students that devices are not permitted, ask them to put the device away.
2. If student refuses, call/message the dean's office and we will collect the phone for the remainder of the day.
3. Teachers should not confiscate phones or input minor/referral for devices. The dean's office takes care of that.




DRESSCODE

1. Students are able to wear school appropriate hoodies, but hoods must remain off. If student refuses to remove the hood, remind them of the expectation.
2. Pants must be high enough that no undergarments show. If student refuses, call/message the dean's office.
3. No holes in jeans, holes must be patched.
4. Shorts must be mid-thigh.
5. Polo shirts must be: Black, White, Pink, Hunter Green, Navy

DEAN'S LUNCH DUTY SCHEDULE

3rd Period Lunch: Vargas Figueroa	4th Period Lunch: Alfred Figueroa
Alfred-Lunch Detention Rm. 3-104 Vargas-Lunch Detention Rm. 3-104	
	5th Period Lunch: Vargas Alfred Judi Figueroa-Lunch Detention Rm. 3-104



District News

All stakeholders are invited to attend upcoming meetings.

DISTRICT Dialogues

WITH DR. SHANOFF



*Every voice is
important!*



Dates and Locations:

- **Tuesday, September 3, 2024**
Location: Media Center - Liberty High
- **Thursday, September 5, 2024**
Location: Business Academy- Poinciana High
- **Tuesday, September 17, 2024**
Location: Media Center - Celebration High
- **Thursday, October 10, 2024**
Location: Media Center- Osceola High
- **Tuesday, October 15, 2024**
Location: Media Center- Osceola County
School for the Arts
- **Thursday, October 24, 2024**
Location: Media Center- Harmony High
- **Tuesday, October 29, 2024**
Location: Media Center - St. Cloud High
- **Tuesday, November 12, 2024**
Location: Mixer Space- NeoCity Academy

All stakeholders are invited to participate to share and discuss improvement ideas as we move the Osceola School District to an "A!"

All meetings will be from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. for school district employees and from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. for parents, students, and community members.

Mark Your Calendar

- 10/1 - Best Selling Author Visit (Jen Calonita)
 - 10/4 - 8th Grade Band Night
 - 10/10 - Cheer Tryouts
 - 10/11 - End of 1st Grading Period
 - 10/11 - Sports Eligibility Day (starting at 4:30pm until cleared)
 - 10/14 - Teacher Workday/Student Holiday (NO SCHOOL)**
 - 10/15 - First Day of 2nd Grading Period
 - 10/15, 10/17, 10/18: Boys Volleyball Tryouts
 - 10/17 - Cheer Parent Meeting in Media Center at 6 PM
 - 10/18 - Multicultural Night 5:30-8:30 PM
 - 10/21 - 6th Grade Girls Volleyball Tryouts 4:30-6 PM
 - 10/22 - 7th Grade Girls Volleyball Tryouts 4:30-6 PM
 - 10/23 - 8th Grade Girls Volleyball Tryouts 4:30-6 PM
 - 10/24-10/25: Volleyball Callbacks
 - 10/25-11/1: Fall Book Fair
 - 10/28 - 1st 9 Weeks Report Cards
 - 10/31 - Happy Halloween!
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Clubs

Media Center Club

If you are interested in joining a Media Center Club. Please go to the school website: <https://osceolaschools.net/ncms> and click on media center and then media center clubs.



STEM Clubs

Robotics, Odyssey of the Mind, and Sphero's

For more information,

<mailto:Stephani.Mckeown@osceolaschools.net>

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, special cafe privileges, and at our Bear's Den in the Cafeteria.

Be Responsible
Encourage Others
Act Safely
Respect All
Strive For Success





B E A R S

	Be Responsible	Encourage Others	Act Safely	Respect All	Strive for Success
Hallway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During class have a pass • Walk face forward 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep hands and feet to self • Hold doors for others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow Directions • Go directly to your destination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay quiet- classes are in progress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set a good example • Keep hallways clear and clean
Restroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wait your turn • Throw trash in receptacle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect privacy • Use kind words and actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use supplies and equipment • Wash hands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep water in sink 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go, flush, wash • Use time wisely
Assembly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sit appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep hands and feet to yourself • Eyes and ears on speaker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow directions from adults • Walk at all times 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay in designated area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate • Use appropriate applause
Cafeteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use an indoor voice • Raise your hand for help 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect other's space • Use kind words and actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eat only your food • Sit with feet under table 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eat only your food • Put the trash in the trash can 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave a clean table, chair and floor
Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay on Task • Put things away in their proper place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect others trying to read and learn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow directions from adults • Take care of books and equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return materials on time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be quiet • Use time wisely
Classroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise your hand to speak • Stay on task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay attention to your teacher • Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself • Use kind words/actions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow instructions • Try your best always 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use classroom materials • Be ready to learn appropriately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete your work • Organize • Participate
Bus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch for traffic when entering/exiting • Listen for your stop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep noise down • Use kind words/actions • Keep hands and feet to yourself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report problems to adult • Keep track of your belongings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay seated face forward • Remember your bus number • Keep your backpack closed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to bus driver • No eating or drinking • Keep track of your belongings

B.E.A.R.S. Den Store

The B.E.A.R.S. store for the academic year 2024-2025 is now open during the three lunch periods, from 11:08 am to 1:30 pm, depending on the DEN Time for each day.

Students that model our B.E.A.R.S. Expectations will be awarded with BEAR BUCKS to be utilized in our Den.

NCMS Business Partners in Education

Brue Family Dentistry 407-979-4170

Carlyle Orthodontics 407-447-9060

Lach Orthodontics 407-359-1960

Mansour Orthodontics 407-846-2150

Marcela Alzate Realtor 321-353-2424

Peter Luu Signature Group w/Premier Sotheby's 407-250-1958

UR Learning Solution 407-658-7575



Welcome Back Business Partners in Education

Dr. Sandra Mauro, & Associates 407-505-2020

Hoffner Eye Care 407-207-2020

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:

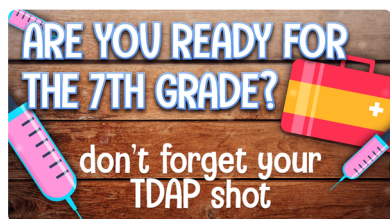
- You are not free to come and go as you wish.
- You are involved in the commercial sex industry (prostitution, stripping, pornography) with a trafficker, or you are under 18.
- You do not have control over your own personal documents/money.
- You were recruited to your job through false promises.
-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

SERVICES INCLUDE:

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

- 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 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: 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!

ALCO

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](#)

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

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

Instagram: ncmsblackbears

Dr. Francisco Rivera Mieles, Principal
Lucile Schneider, Assistant Principal
Jamie Hopkins, Assistant Principal
Carolina Figueroa, A-F Dean
Marlenys Vargas-Ortiz, G-O Dean
Samantha Alfred, P-Z Dean
Ronaldo Ortiz, A-F Counselor/PBIS
Dr. Gloria Martinez, G-O Counselor/MTSS/FIT
Maria Morales, P-Z Counselor
Heather Biela, Media Specialist
Marisha Smalling, Literacy Coach
Gabrielle Tandlich, Math Coach
Frances Velez-Collazo, Testing Coordinator
Meg Hodge, RCS
Marianela Abreu DeJesus, ESOL Compliance
Kremsa Susla, Psychologist
Michelle Lauria, Social Worker
Marisol Losada, Occupational Therapist
Bethany Contreras, Speech Therapist
Clifford Childs, Computer Technician



Francisco Rivera

Francisco is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters