

Bear Paw Times

Volume 16, Issue 6 - January 2025



JANUARY

Message from the Principal

January Message from Dr. Rivera



Counselor's Corner

Meet The Counseling Team

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

ONE FAMILY GROWING AND LEARNING TOGETHER



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



The AVID classes want to wish all our families a very Happy New Year! With the beginning of a new year, AVID always shifts the focus to goal setting. Our students will reflect upon the past year, celebrate successes, and look forward to greater growth as we push into 2025. We also recognize that typically quarter 3 poses the most challenges academically for our students. The most difficult curriculum is ahead and staying focused and organized is of utmost importance. Please make sure your child has the proper supplies and materials needed. This is a good time to reload school supplies and organize binders to start fresh for the new year. AVID is also busy planning for our field trips in quarter 3.

All 8th graders will attend the Career & College Fair sponsored by Junior Achievement on January 28th. This is a great opportunity for your child to visit a variety of college and career booths as they begin to make decisions for their future paths. Our AVID 7th graders will visit Valencia in February and our 6th graders will visit Full Sail University for a campus tour. 8th graders will tour Florida Southern in February as well. Quarter 3 will prove to be full of challenges but packed with opportunity. Please encourage your children to stay current with classwork, focus on new learning, and to strive for their goals. We believe every child can achieve their greatest potential in 2025!

Media Center News

January is the perfect time to return overdue library books!

Don't forget to log your reading minutes into Beanstack, located in Classlink. For the January challenge Mrs. Biela will be choosing random students who complete the challenge to win prizes!

Band News



Monday Jan 27

Advanced Band after school rehearsal in the band room
4:30 - 6pm

Baby DJ Toy Drive

Miss Bruning is beyond proud of the dedication and hard work everyone has shown in making the Baby DJ Toy Drive a tremendous success. The students' commitment to bringing joy to children and families during the holiday season truly made her very proud! Way to go Advanced Academics classes and everyone here at NCMS!!!!!!



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.

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

A screenshot of a file upload dialog box titled "Excuse Note". It shows a file named "Excuse Note.pdf" with a blue cloud icon. Below the file name, it says "No Files" and "No files selected". At the bottom, there are three buttons: "Scan", "Upload", and "Take Photo". The "Upload" button is highlighted with a red box.

My School Bucks

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

**MY
SCHOOL
BUCKS**



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>

District News

District tutoring opportunity.

24/7 On-Demand
Chat Tutoring

Free

Chat Tutoring

I need help with my homework. It's due tomorrow! Please help.

> Submit Question

NEW!

When Osceola students need help with homework or are struggling to solve a problem, they can immediately chat with a tutor, 24/7, to get the help they need.

Varsity Tutors
for Schools

Mark Your Calendar

January 23rd-6th Grade Orientation
January 27-January 31-Literacy Week



NCMS Literacy Week 2025 .pdf

Download

260.8 KB

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

During January 2025, the PBIS Store will be open:

Monday 27, 3rd Period DEN,
 Tuesday 28, 4th Period DEN,
 and Thursday 30, 5th Period DEN.

PBIS Social Hour will be held Friday, January 24 from 3:18 pm-4:15 p.m.

NCMS Business Partners in Education

Brue Family Dentistry 407-979-4170
 Carlyle Orthodontics 407-447-9060
 Dr. Sandra Mauro, & Associates 407-505-2020
 Hoffner Eye Care 407-207-2020

HomePride Realty Services Inc. (407) 846-0940
 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 NEW Business Partner in Education

City Beautiful Ballet (a non-profit dance school)

<mailto:info@citybeautifulballet.com>



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.



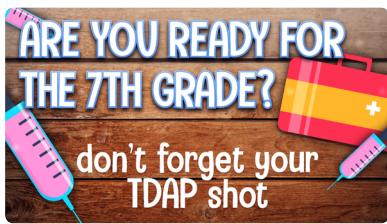
YOU MAY BE A VICTIM IF:

- 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