



KNIGHTS NEWS



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW YORK MILITARY ACADEMY

Superintendent's Message

NYMA is covered in snow again! We only had a slight delay in starting classes on Wednesday thanks to all the people who helped clear the roads. We invited the cadets to an additional session of drill training that day. I really enjoyed watching the training, shoveling the snow, and taking photos of our beautiful winter scenery.



NYMA continues to grow! We welcomed a number of new cadets this week and a few more will be joining us next week. I am absolutely thrilled to see our community grow bigger and bigger.

Over the next few weeks, we will be hosting some visiting students from both Taiwan and Mainland China. I hope that our cadets and staff will enjoy the collaboration and that we will all take the opportunity to learn from each other!

Dean's News

This Tuesday began our second semester and the start of our second real snow fall this winter that continued into Wednesday. As you can see from the picture below, through snow and sleet, NYMA students march on! We interrupted our usual Wednesday service learning program this week so that Sergeant Bailey

could practice drill with the Corps of Cadets. On Thursday we were visited by three Army instructors from the ROTC unit of Fordham University who were here to inspect our color guard, platoon drill, and supply system. They will be returning to finish the process. While they were here, they met with many students and briefed them on the Army ROTC Scholarship process.

The first semester grades have been calculated and are now viewable in the Rediker portal. As a reminder, the report card lies in the E-portfolio section of the E-locker tab. The report card will also show any comments provided by teachers in the narrative section. Each semester is comprised of two marking periods that are each weighted 40% of the semester grade with the midterm exam weighted at 20%. The grades that were recently posted to Rediker include the 2nd MP grade, the midterm exam grade, and the first semester grade.



With the exception of a few courses that are only one semester in duration, most courses at NYMA are taught over two semesters. If your student did poorly in the first semester, it is critically important that they work hard in the second semester because it will be the average of the two semesters that will determine the final grade. We have created new tutorial schedules based on the 2nd MP grades and those schedules will be given to students beginning on Monday. I will also be sending out letters to parents of students that have failed the first semester of their two-semester courses. There are many opportunities for your students to receive extra help at NYMA and they are all encouraged to do so.

Some courses that have just begun in the second semester are Robotics taught by Ms. Hill, Economics taught by Dr. Webb, and a new course that we have brought back this year, Plagues and Pandemics taught by Ms. Furnia.

We are so pleased to have already had a number of new students join NYMA this second semester and more are on the way. It is very gratifying to see our numbers grow!



Nathan Zhou and new student Edward Trenkmann are seen here working very hard in the new session of the Robotics class.

I wanted to congratulate the students who were just promoted within the corps. Keep up the good work and continue to set the example!



Lastly, I am asking for our families that are **NYS residents** that are planning on having their children take the Regents exams to please contact me so that I can help you orchestrate the process. Arrangements must be made for your student to take the exam at their home school or possibly another of your choosing. Also, our teachers would like to know sooner than later so that they can supply students with any additional material they will need in preparation for the exams. If you are uncertain about any aspect of this, please give me a call and I can guide you through it. I can be reached at Ext. 4244.

From the Admissions Office

Last weekend our Drill Team traveled to Pennsylvania to participate in the Association of Military Colleges and Schools of the United States Annual Drill Meet. AMCSUS schools from all over the country compete in this elite meet.

The AMCSUS Drill Meet is different from others in that instead of all the schools traveling to one central location to compete, recordings are made at each school and the event is judged weeks later by representatives of the AMCSUS Senior Military Colleges.

For the first time in the event's history, two schools came together to practice and sharpen their skills before competing against each other. Carson Long Military Academy integrated our cadets into their corps for the weekend and drill teams from both schools worked together to prepare and help each other.

After each team was recorded, both teams joined together for a knock-out drill. Knock-out is when a drill leader issues commands and anyone with even a slight infraction (too slow, fingers not placed properly, etc.) is "knocked out" until the most drilled cadet remains. NYMA cadets made up three of the last four left standing, but sadly first place went to CLMA.

After such a long day of travel and work, all the cadets spent time relaxing together and swapping stories about their respective schools over pizza. More pictures of this exciting event can be seen at the end of this newsletter.

From the Athletic Department

This was a slow week for NYMA Athletics due to weather-related cancellations. We had three basketball games that were canceled due to the snow as well as two wrestling matches and our first bowling competition.

The JV Boys Basketball team did have a chance to travel to Marvelwood on Saturday, 1/13. They played extremely hard, but lost by the score of 49-52. Bob Wang finished with 20 points and Henry Racine had 13. The Varsity Boys will be back in action tomorrow (1/20) as they host Springfield Commonwealth at 3:00 pm.

Next week all of our teams will be competing and back on schedule. For updates and recaps on the schedules and games, please visit our website, www.nyma.org.



Commandant's Notes

We're off and running...in the cold weather! The second semester is in full force and we've got a busy first part of the new year. First, I'd like to remind everyone of the military ball (Winter Formal) on February 10th. The details are still being finalized, but I want to keep it fresh in your mind. There are also several military inspections this month and the cadets are practicing their movements and drill work. Cadet leaders were also working on their commands and control of the unit. They looked very good yesterday!

In order for as many cadets as possible to get an opportunity to learn how to lead, we're changing out many of the leadership positions for second semester. We did several promotions last Friday and put the new cadet leaders in place today. If your cadet is completing their leadership experience for this past part of the school year, we thank them for their hard work. If your cadet is beginning their leadership experience, please give them your support and encouragement as they learn how to lead others!

Counselor's Corner

Greetings, NYMA families! Your students have worked incredibly hard to finish up this past semester strong and are off to a great start this second semester. For those students who may need additional homework help, taking advantage of the teacher supervision of the Evening Study Period (ESP) would be in their best interest. Minimizing distractions on their own and creating a prioritized to-do list are just some of the ways that students can develop even better study habits during this next marking period. As this 2017-18 Corps of Cadets grows, we look to each of our senior leaders to continue to be a great example of kindness, empathy, and NYMA decorum. Education is not only about classwork and academics, but it is about learning how to care for others and positively contribute to your community. I hope that your families have a wonderful weekend and a fantastic week!

From the Activities Coordinator

This week the campus is covered in white, but our weekend activities will not be influenced by any weather-related distractions. Friday evening we are hosting a "Heads Up" competition in the Social Center. Just like you may have seen on the talk show "Ellen", the cadets will break into two teams and play this guessing game. Winners are slated to get Valentine's Day inspired prizes. Oh, for the love of words!

Saturday evening at the Social Center there will be a "make your own mini-pizza" night. We're passing out the pepperoni and toaster muffins and hoping for some delicious masterpieces. Shopping will take place on Sunday afternoon at Woodbury Commons.

Looking ahead to next week, there will be a BINGO night and a horseback riding activity. Also, in several weeks we will be hosting a night ice skating event at Bear Mountain State Park. In February we will be setting aside an activity that can also count for cadet community service; we will be making Project Linus blankets for sick children in hospitals. We will remember to take and post lots of pictures!

