



# NEWS FROM "THE MILL"

January 1 - 31, 2022

**Watkins Mill High School**

10301 Apple Ridge Road

Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879

(301) 284-4400 FAX (301) 840-3980

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/>

## **IN THIS NEWSLETTER:**

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**Happy New Year!** I hope you and your families had a restful Holiday season and have entered 2022 with focus, renewed energy, and commitment to our student's success.

In accordance with CDC guidance, MCPS will implement a multi-layer health and safety protocol that includes multiple strategies to protect school community members from COVID-19, including: use of masks/face coverings, vaccine promotion, enhanced sanitation, frequent hand-washing, improved ventilation, quarantine, and contact tracing in the event that a student or staff member tests positive. Specifically, MCPS will implement the following health and safety practices in schools, offices and on school buses.

Looking ahead, **report cards** will be available to students and parents through StudentVUE and ParentVUE on February 1. The third marking period begins on January 25 and ends on March 31, 2022.

**College acceptances** and **scholarships** are coming in at a rapid pace for the Class of 2022! So far, thousands of dollars in merit-based scholarships have already been reported to our Career Center. If you receive notice of any merit-based awards or scholarships—whether you intend to go to that college or not—please be sure to report it to **Sarah Kessler/College Career Coordinator**. We want to hear about all the scholarships that are offered to you at any school that you apply. We would

like to have a total of the scholarship offers and have an accurate count. Keep those award letters coming in!

Sincerely,

Carol Goddard, Principal

## **NEWS AND HAPPENINGS AROUND THE MILL:**

**SY22-23 Student Course Registration:** Course registration for the 2022-23 school year will begin when schools resume after Winter Break. Students will receive information via counselor presentations in their English and ESOL classes the week of January 3<sup>rd</sup> according to the tentative schedule below:

- Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> and Jan 4<sup>th</sup>: ESOL classes
- Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>: 11<sup>th</sup> grade English classes
- Jan 6<sup>th</sup>: 10<sup>th</sup> grade English classes
- Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>: 9<sup>th</sup> grade English classes

During these sessions, students will learn about graduation requirements and receive a registration card to review course offerings. During that week, please ask your child for their registration card to talk about courses for next school year, and to provide the parent signature.

Beginning January 13<sup>th</sup>, students will fully register for classes in Synergy via their Social Studies classes, with counselor support, according to the tentative schedule below:

- Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>: 11<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies classes
- Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>: 10<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies classes (and select AP 9<sup>th</sup> grade classes)
- Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>: 9<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies classes (and select AP 10<sup>th</sup> grade classes)

Students and families in self-contained Special Ed programs will receive information separately on their completed schedules for next school year.

For additional resources and information related to scheduling, please visit the [Watkins Mill HS Counseling page](#) . For questions, please contact your student's counselor.

## **WMHS PTSA & BOOSTER CLUB NEWS**

### **GRANTS UP TO \$500 FOR YOUR GROUP!**

The WMHS PTSA/Boosters is giving grants of up to \$500 to any worthy individual or group who has a plan to benefit the Watkins Mill High School community. Here are the guidelines:

1. Any member of the WMHS community may apply - student, teacher, staff member, community member.
2. The funds must be used to benefit the WMHS community.
3. The maximum request amount is \$500.
4. Approval by the PTSA/Boosters will be on an ongoing basis throughout the 2021-2022 school year.
5. To apply, applicant must fill out the online Grant Request Form [let's include the link here]
6. Applicant must show how the money will be used.
7. Applicant must be a PTSA/Booster member for the current year.
8. Volunteer help for concessions this year by members of group represented by applicant will be taken into consideration.

If you are interested in applying, email the PTSA President, Norm Gordon, at [ngordon0522@gmail.com](mailto:ngordon0522@gmail.com).

### **SAVE THE DATES**

No School (Holiday) January 17

End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Marking Period January 21

No School (Day End of Marking Period Grading/Planning) January 24

No School (Professional) February 1

No School (Holiday) February 21

Early Release Day March 11

### **AP EXAM INFORMATION**

#### **Payment and Fee Waiver Deadlines Reminder**

If you have not paid for your AP exam, please do so as soon as possible to avoid a financial obligation. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Schultze ([Erin\\_Schultze@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Erin_Schultze@mcpsmd.org)) in room B201.

- To pay online, go online to <https://osp.osmsinc.com/montgomerymd/> and click on the High School tab and select Watkins Mill High School. Select AP exam fees and add to cart to pay for your exam. A 3.75% fee will be added to the purchase price of a school purchase as a site service fee. This fee is not collected by MCPS but is a processing fee of the company hosting site. If you have filled out the Waiver form, then please only pay for the 15\$ exam fee.

- To pay by check, make checks/money orders payable **Watkins Mill High School** and include your student's name and ID number in the subject line. Send your payment to Lisa Holderman at 10301 Apple Ridge Rd, Gaithersburg, MD 20879. Give it to Mrs. Holderman in the Financial Office.
- If your family needs support in paying for some or whole exam fee, please fill out the Title IV Scholarship Form that is linked [HERE](#).

## **Recordatorio de plazos de pago y exención de tarifas**

### **Pague el examen AP lo antes posible para evitar una obligación financiera.**

- Para pagar en línea, visite <https://osp.osmsinc.com/montgomerymd/> y haga clic en la pestaña High School y seleccione Watkins Mill High School. Seleccione las tarifas del examen AP y agréguelas al carrito para pagar su examen. Se agregará una tarifa de 3.75% al precio de compra de la compra de una escuela como tarifa de servicio del sitio. MCPS no cobra esta tarifa, pero es una tarifa de procesamiento del sitio de alojamiento de la empresa. Si ha completado el formulario de exención, pague solo la tarifa del examen de \$ 15.
- Para pagar con cheque, haga los cheques / giros postales pagaderos a Watkins Mill High School e incluya el nombre de su estudiante en la línea de asunto. Envíe su pago a Lisa Holderman en 10301 Apple Ridge Rd, Gaithersburg, MD 20879. Dar a Mrs. Holderman en la oficina de financiero.
- Si su familia necesita ayuda para pagar la tarifa completa o algo del examen, complete el Formulario de becas del Título IV que está vinculado [AQUÍ](#).

Below, you will see a picture of the two online payment options for the AP Exam. Please make sure that you submit a separate payment for EACH exam. If your family has filled out the waiver form, please pay the 15\$ for EACH exam. If your family has not filled out the waiver form, please pay 95\$ for EACH exam that your student is taking. If your family has filled out the Title IV Scholarship form (linked above), please hold off on payment, Erin Schultze will contact you with specific instructions on how to pay. If you have any questions in regards to payment, please do not hesitate to contact Erin Schultze ([Erin\\_Schultze@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Erin_Schultze@mcpsmd.org)).

A continuación, verá una imagen de las dos opciones de pago en línea para el examen AP. Asegúrese de enviar un pago por separado para CADA examen. Si su familia completó el formulario de exención, por favor pague los \$ 15 por CADA examen. Si su familia no ha llenado el formulario de exención, por favor pague 95 \$ por CADA examen que esté tomando su estudiante. Si su familia completó el formulario de Beca Título IV (vinculado arriba), espere el pago, Erin Schultze se comunicará con usted con instrucciones específicas sobre cómo pagar. Si tiene alguna pregunta con respecto al pago, no dude en ponerse en contacto con Erin Schultze ([Erin\\_Schultze@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Erin_Schultze@mcpsmd.org)).

## **JUNIOR/SENIOR SPRING BREAK 2023...!**

### Junior and Senior Spring Break Trip 2023!

The 2023 Spring Break Trip will be to FRANCE! We will visit Paris, Brittany, and Normandy. You will visit the classic historical and cultural sites in Paris, Medieval castles in Brittany, and the World War 2 battlefields of Normandy . It will be trip full of culture, history, and great food.

Registration has already begun and spots are limited (and going fast).

To join us, use the information below to visit our tour website and register for our 2023 trip. Junior and Senior students only.

We hope you'll join us.

[www.eftours.com](http://www.eftours.com)

Tour ID: 2493024PA

Phone Number: 800-665-5364

THOMAS SNEDDON

Watkins Mill High School

Social Studies (IB History/Military History)

## **COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER NEWS**

Hi! My name is Sarah Kessler and I recently started as the College & Career Information Coordinator at Watkins Mill. I am very excited to join your community and hope you will reach out to me at [Sarah\\_H\\_Kessler@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Sarah_H_Kessler@mcpsmd.org) with any questions you may have. I will be sending time-sensitive updates via Naviance. Parents, be sure to opt into email communication on Naviance to receive this important information.

**College acceptances** and **scholarships** are coming in at a rapid pace for the Class of 2022! So far, thousands of dollars in merit-based scholarships have been reported to our Career Center. If you receive notice of any merit-based awards or scholarships—whether you intend to go to that college or not—please report it to the Career Center. We want to tally all of the scholarships offers to have an accurate count. Keep those award letters coming in!

Check out the Local/National Scholarships and the web-based Scholarships on the College/Career Center page. Seniors – don't forget to submit your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)? The application is available at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>. If you have questions, please email Mrs. Kessler.

The **Central Scholarship Bureau** is a privately funded, non-profit organization whose mission is to provide access to post-secondary education to students from Maryland. The CSB offers interest-free loans and competitive scholarships and grants to qualified

students to help meet the costs of college, professional or vocational training. There are no application or loan fees; loans are interest free for the life of the loan. Applicants must be permanent residents of Maryland, but may attend any accredited U.S. college, university or vocational school. They must be full-time students in good academic standing, meet CSB income guidelines, and have completed the FAFSA. For more details go to <https://central-scholarship.org/> . Deadline to submit the online application is April 1.

**Sarah Kessler**

College/Career Coordinator

[Sarah\\_H\\_Kessler@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Sarah_H_Kessler@mcpsmd.org)

**ACES Program**

**Achieving Collegiate Excellence and Success (ACES)** is a program that provides students with **FREE** college/career readiness support including college tours, SAT/ACT prep, FAFSA/scholarship application assistance, resume building and interview skills workshops, and much more! ACES is currently recruiting 10th grade students who identify with any of the following categories: historically underrepresented in higher education, first in their family to attend a college or university in the US, has a 504 plan or IEP, from a single parent household, from a low-income household or English language learners. For more information or to apply to ACES, visit [acesmontgomery.org](http://acesmontgomery.org). **The application deadline is January 14th, 2022!** If you have questions, please contact Ms. Maria Abasi, ACES Academic Coach at Watkins Mill via phone: (240) 429-3072 or email: [maria.i.abasi@mcpsmd.net](mailto:maria.i.abasi@mcpsmd.net)

**FAMILY FOOD MARKET:**

WMHS is pleased to announce the return of the Family Food Market. Due to Co-Vid restrictions, families will receive a pre-sorted box of non-perishable goods and a bag of fresh produce. The food market will take place at **Watkins Mill High School** on Saturday mornings. Social distancing and safety protocols will be followed at all times. Families will not have to provide student names or ID numbers. Upon arrival, you will be asked the total number of people living in the household, how many adults over 65, and how many students.

Date: Saturday January 15<sup>th</sup>

Location: Watkins Mill High School  
10301 Apple Ridge Road  
Gaithersburg, MD 20879

Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm

Contact: [Lora\\_S\\_Johnson@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Lora_S_Johnson@mcpsmd.org)

Future Dates:

February 19<sup>th</sup>

March 19<sup>th</sup>

April 23<sup>rd</sup>

May 21<sup>th</sup>

June 11<sup>th</sup>

## YEARBOOK INFORMATION

YEARBOOKS ARE ON SALE: Order your copy of the Watkins Mill High School yearbook now through 1/28/22 for \$90. The cost of the yearbook is \$100 but you can save if you order early. Order at Jostens.com or by [CLICKING HERE](#).

SENIOR YEARBOOK ADS ARE ON SALE: Place your senior congratulatory ad by 1/28/22. This is the final deadline! Create your ad at Jostens.com or by [CLICKING HERE](#).



## KEY CLUB

Key Club has begun wrapping up its first big project of the year, the clothing drive. All students at Watkins Mill High School have been given the opportunity to collect and donate items of clothing to benefit people who need them during the cold winter months. A good amount of clothes were donated to InterFaith Works Clothing Center and will definitely put a smile on someone's face this season. Interfaith is known for helping families in need since 1972, so it was Key Club's pleasure to work with them. In other news, Key Club members will be able to use their creativity to make bookmarks to donate to Saint Jude's Children's Hospital. Members will be able to earn SSL hours, all while benefiting the community through arts and crafts. Membership fees for Key Club can now be waived if members fill out an application, making Key Club truly for everyone at Watkins Mill.

## NHS TUTORING

**NHS Tutoring during STEP-** Tutoring started last month and will continue daily during the time frame of 11:30 am to 12:15 pm. The National Honors Society student members will be available for tutoring. Take advantage of this opportunity.

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS NEWS

Happy Holidays from the health room staff and Wellness Center.

I know we are all informed and perhaps exhausted with information about **Covid 19**. Please stay up to date with the latest changes from the CDC and updates from the county and state government. I know that it seems to change frequently and gets confusing. We are always here to help answer any questions you may have.

My message to you today is to **PLEASE GET VACCINATED FOR BOTH COVID 19 & THE FLU**. It is always important to get your flu shot, but along with Covid 19 the risk of overwhelming the healthcare system is much greater. The flu causes severe illness and even death every year. Please remember that the goal has always been to not overwhelm the hospitals and healthcare system. We all want everyone to be able to access healthcare when they need it.

Many area pharmacies and other facilities like clinics and your health care providers office are offering the flu vaccine and Covid 19 vaccine/boosters free of co-pay charges. You can get your flu vaccine and Covid vaccine at the same time.

Again, **PLEASE GET VACCINATED FOR THE FLU & COVID 19** as a holiday gift to yourself and others. For those of you that are already vaccinated, don't forget to sign up for your **COVID 19 BOOSTERS**. This is our best protection against severe disease and new variants.

Stay well and enjoy the holiday break.

Lisa Frost, RN/SCHN

Health Room and Wellness Center Staff

### **STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING HOURS (SSL)**

MCPS is ***still requiring all students meet their SSL hour requirements for graduation.***

This means, you need to have a total of **75** hours to graduate in June.

There are **virtual and in-person** opportunities available to students.

Students may find SSL opportunities at the following quick links: <https://bit.ly/SSLOpportunities> and <https://bit.ly/VirtualSSL2020>

Students may also access an overview of the current state of the SSL program at <https://bit.ly/SSLOverview2020> and step-by-step directions for viewing their SSL record on StudentVUE at <https://bit.ly/SSLonVUE>.

Do you know how many hours you or your student has earned towards graduation?

Please follow this link to view our WM SSL hour database. You will find upcoming opportunities and the December monthly opportunity newsletter.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cOleHF3NuyLZX9jNo1-m0NSZYU\\_3VAo3ikazmx4uSMQ/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cOleHF3NuyLZX9jNo1-m0NSZYU_3VAo3ikazmx4uSMQ/edit)

We will still accept **all** SSL forms, even late. *Don't forget to turn in your forms and get credit for those service hours you did!*

Krista Jiron

School Counselor

Watkins Mill High School

301-284-4420

### **HOSPITALITY NEWS**

"The hospitality management students are back to work! They will be preparing 600 cookies and muffins for our teachers and staff."

### **MEDIA CENTER NEWS**

For this month's Media Center Newsletter please click on the Google link below:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LRO5rgl1Yd3htOpMS5iH9xS9MAjiHkvmFulf6uPJrO4/edit?usp=sharing>



## **WMHS ATHLETICS NEWS**



For this month's Athletics News, please click the link below.

<\\Wm545-data1\staffhome\WILSONCE\Documents\NEWSLETTERS-WMHS\Athletic News- January 2022 Newsletter.pdf>

## **WOLVERINE TIME**

For this month's Wolverine Time information, please click the English and Spanish links below.

<..\My Pictures\Wolverine Time Info\21-22 WT Flyer - English.png>

<..\My Pictures\Wolverine Time Info\21-22 WT Flyer - Spanish.png>

## **Social Media**

Make sure to follow all things Wolverine Athletics:

- Twitter: @WMRinesSports
- Instagram: @wmrinessports
- Facebook: Watkins Mill Athletics
- Website: [www.watkinsmillathletics.com](http://www.watkinsmillathletics.com)
- Athletic Teams Accounts: <https://watkinsmillathletics.com/athletic-social-media-accounts/>

## **IMPORTANT LINKS**

WMHS Website Home:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/> Athletics:

<https://watkinsmillathletics.com/>

Calendar: [Calendar](#)

Staff Directory:

<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/staff/directory.aspx>

PTSA Information:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/ptsa/>

Booster Club: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/boosters/boostersClub.aspx>

Lunch Pre-Payments: <https://www.mylunchmoney.com/>

Student Service Learning:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/ss/> Bullying:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/forms/230-35.shtm>

Free SAT/ACT Prep: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/hsi/testprep.shtm>

Free & Reduced Lunches: <https://www.myschoolapps.com/Application>