



## WATKINS MILL HIGH SCHOOL

Montgomery County Public Schools

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November 25, 2008

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Thanksgiving is directly upon us and I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving, and hope that you are able to enjoy a restful time with your families and friends. Please remember that Wednesday, November 26 is a half day for students. Our students will be released at 11:40 a.m. for the Thanksgiving break.

We are proud to announce that four of our senior students were admitted to Morehouse College at an “on the spot” admissions session held at Gaithersburg High School recently. Congratulations to: Brice Dang, Amir Nasser, Mahad Fatah and Andrew Morrison!

Our drama department held three extremely successful showings of the three one-act play “A New Beginning”. I hope you were able to take the opportunity to attend one of the performances. Kudos to Mr. Jamaly Allen and Ms. Leayne Freeman, as well as the entire drama department for a well received and excellent production!

On Thursday, November 20, we had two well-attended and successful activities. Our Financial Aid Workshop was held with presentations in English and Spanish. In fact, we were showcased on Fox Channel 5 news that very evening. You can view that newscast at the following link:

<http://www.myfoxdc.com/myfox/pages/Home/Detail;jsessionid=F57A2A473E5CFD11D3B4BA09BE5A7B84?contentId=7915171&version=1&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=VSTY&pageId=1.1.1&sflg=1>

Also that evening, our Booster Club hosted their Silent Auction to raise funds for various school and athletic activities. There were instrumental and vocal performances by our students, and a fun time was had by all.

**TEEN CLUB** - WMHS is making an effort to start-up the Teen Club. Any student who would like to see “Teen Club” come back to the “Mill”, see Mr. Diggs or there is a sign-up sheet in Room D208. Teen Club is a great opportunity for students to take trips and to get a better understanding of one another.

**CYBERSAFETY INITIATIVE** – MCPS, in association with Montgomery County State’s Attorney’s Office and the Montgomery County Police Department is promoting *CyberSafety Initiative*. The “kick off” will be held at the Montgomery County Council of Parent Teacher Associations (MCCPTA) delegates meeting today. Opportunities will be forthcoming

regarding the importance of being proactive in protecting children as they access the internet. In the meantime, a brochure has been developed which provides valuable information regarding surfing sites, warning signs and tips. You may access that brochure at:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/info/cybersafety/CyberSafety.pdf>

Please take a few moments of your time to become acquainted with this program and some upcoming resources.

CAREER CENTER INFORMATION - If you missed the Financial Aid Night at Watkins Mill on November 20, then try to attend one of the other sessions at one of our neighboring high schools:

- Northwest High School, December 2 @ 6:30 (Auditorium);
- Poolesville High School, December 10, 7:00 pm in the media center.

Watkins Mill High School encourages all students and their parents to complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) regardless of income. January 1 is the first day that the FAFSA can be submitted. However, each student and one parent can, and should, apply for their PIN (Personal Identification Number) now. Go to [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov) and apply. A PIN is required to “sign” the electronic form. This year, Watkins Mill High School will host a FAFSA Help Night to help students and their parents complete the FAFSA. The event will be held on February 4 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Media Center. Bilingual financial aid advisors will be present.

Remember to check out the Career Center website on a regular basis at:

[http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/cc/career\\_center\\_new.shtm](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/cc/career_center_new.shtm)

OUR ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT now has their own website where you can find athletic announcements, forms and files, sport schedules and game scores/results. Please be sure to check it out at: [www.WatkinsMillAthletics.org](http://www.WatkinsMillAthletics.org)

The MCPS Division I Cheerleading Competition was held at Blair High School on Saturday, November 22. We competed in a classification which consists of the largest and most talented squads in the county. While we placed sixth, we were extremely close to placing third. Our girls performed extremely well and we are very proud of them! The Watkins Mill High School crowd won the Spirit Award for the 12th consecutive year! Great job!!!

Our Fall Sports Awards Night will be held this evening. Students receiving awards have received a special invitation to attend this event.

This edition of the Principal’s Edline/Calendar Update provides you with information related to school activities for the first half of the month of December. Calendar items are listed below for easy reference. I hope this information proves helpful to you in planning your family activities in conjunction with school events.

Kevin Hobbs, Principal

## **December 1-16, 2008**

### December 1

Booster Club Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Skybridge Conference Room

### December 2

Financial Aid Workshop at Northwest H.S., 6:30 p.m., Auditorium

### December 5

Blood Drive – Auditorium, 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

BB B-Quince Orchard at Watkins Mill V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm

BB G-Watkins Mill at Quince Orchard V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm

### December 6

Airing of the It's Academic Team – NBC4, 10:30 a.m.

WR-Damascus and Watkins Mill at Gaithersburg V 2:30 pm

### December 9

Second Quarter Interims Sent Home

BB B-Wheaton at Watkins Mill V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm

BB G-Watkins Mill at Wheaton V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm

### December 10

Financial Aid Workshop at Poolesville H.S., 7:00 p.m., Media Center

### December 11

Choral Concert, 7:00 p.m., Auditorium

### December 12

BB B-Watkins Mill at Gaithersburg V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm

BB G-Gaithersburg at Watkins Mill V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm

### December 13

SW-Einstein and Watkins Mill at Martin Luther King Swim Center 11:30 am