



NEWS FROM "THE MILL"

April 1-30, 2019

Watkins Mill High School
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<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/>

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MESSAGE FROM MS. GODDARD, PRINCIPAL

Hope everyone is planning to have a wonderful spring break. Hard to believe the **last marking period is almost here** and end of year activities are fast approaching! Spring sports are off to a great start, with lots of activities taking place each day on the courts, on the fields, and on the track.

Another important springtime event is the senior **Prom**, to be held on **Saturday, May 11** from 8:00 pm – midnight **at The Fillmore in Silver Spring, Maryland**. All financial obligations, including the cap and gown fee for seniors, must be paid before purchasing prom tickets. All prom information, including guest forms (for individuals not attending Watkins Mill HS), will be given to students when purchasing a ticket.

In addition, as we approach Prom, students are busy coming up with creative ways to ask a date to Prom (a.k.a "**Promposals**"). While well-intended and clever, in some cases, these proposals have resulted in uncomfortable situations. As a result, I have written an Open Letter to students about these "Promposals," urging students to think about new ways to go about this school tradition. The letter can be found [here](#).

Testing updates: Watkins Mill is running our "SAT School Day" on **April 9**. All 11th grade students will take the official College Board SAT for free! Also, the next round of PARCC & HSA testing will take place on **May 20-23**. Please note: there will be **special delayed opening schedules on April 9 and May 20-23 to accommodate testing**. Anyone NOT taking the HSA or PARCC assessments should not report to school during the testing time. However, MCPS buses will run at the normal times for students who need to come to school at 7:45 A.M. These students will report to the Auditorium until classes begin. -

AP and IB testing begin on Monday, May 6! Taking the AP exam is an important college preparatory experience and your success on the exam is a way to demonstrate to colleges and universities that you are ready for the rigor of college level academics. All students taking an AP exam will be participating in a mandatory **pre-administration session on Wednesday, April 24, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am in the cafeteria**. At that time, students will be given specifics regarding testing such as the times and locations for each specific test among other things.

Attention Montgomery College Applicants: The ACCUPLACER Placement Test, normally administered at Montgomery College, will be administered here at Watkins Mill High School again this year. **All seniors who applied to Montgomery College by the March 1st deadline and plan to go to Montgomery College** for the fall semester must take this placement test. Watkins Mill High School will administer the test **on April 9**. Please see Ms. Kimball or your counselor for additional information and questions.

Graduation is on June 7 it is about two months away! A few important reminders:

- **Financial obligations** must be cleared in order to participate in all senior events, including prom and graduation.
- The last day for seniors is May 24.
- There is a **mandatory graduation rehearsal at WMHS main gym** on June 6 at 12:00 p.m.
- **Expectations for behavior** (students, families, and guests in the audience) to make a dignified, memorable ceremony are being emphasized.
- **Other items** such as student dress, transportation to Constitution Hall, can be found in the senior packet.
- **PTSA Sponsored Charter bus transportation is available.**
- Graduation Cap & Gown: The price of the cap and gown fee is \$50. You can pay cash, check, or credit card (online only). See Ms. Holderman in the financial office to pay! All obligations must be satisfied in order to graduate.

All of this information and more can be found on the Senior Page see link below.

Please visit the [Senior Page](#) on our website for copies of the senior packet, as well as additional details about senior events and graduation.

2019 Graduating class updates!

- Graduation is Friday, June 7 at 2:30pm at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington DC
- Mandatory graduation rehearsal is Thursday, June 6 at noon in the main gym. Tickets for the ceremony will be distributed at rehearsal
- Senior picnic will follow in the stadium
- If you are interested in taking the PTSA sponsored bus to graduation, seats are going fast! Sign up now.

Reservations must be received by May 10. For payment forms See Watkins Mill website for payment forms.

- Last day for seniors is Friday, May 24. Cap and gown distribution will occur this day.
- Pay your obligations now including your cap and gown fee! See Ms. Holderman in the financial office if you have questions
- Please check out the senior page on the Watkins Mill website

Daily Announcements to Email. Our PTSA is doing an amazing job of updating families. You have to be subscribed to watkinsmillptsa@yahoo.com to receive the announcements. This is a wonderful and easy way to stay current with school news.

Congratulations to Jubilee Robinson on being selected as one of Bethesda Magazine's "Top Teens!" Jubilee is the second Watkins Mill High School student to ever receive this honor and was selected for her tireless work in educating the Watkins Mill community about the LGBTQ+ community. She is an Associate Editor of Watkins Mill's student newspaper, The Current, Editor-in-Chief of the school's literary magazine,

The Keyhole, and the President of the LGBTQ+ Club. Jubilee works daily to combat prejudice and stereotypes, which she says are born of a lack of education—something that she feels passionately about changing. Congratulations, Jubilee, on this tremendous and well-deserved honor!

Staff Wellness News for April

We will be hosting another 5K race for wellness in addition to an Acupuncture Interactive Expo. Stay tuned for a sign up email and bracket announcements for our Inaugural Staff Bocce Tournament on April 11, 2019.

Sports Booster Club News for April

Mulch Madness was a huge success due to Coach Brown's extraordinary efforts. Many thanks to him for tackling this huge fundraiser on behalf of Wolverines Athletics!

March to the Mill is coming back this summer. Registration is open now at www.MarchToTheMill.org. See the website for all of the information. New this year, there is going to be a day of Spanish music and dancing with El Pedro Night (Watkins Mill alum Daniel Chamorro) and OLAS.

The April Sports Booster Club meeting will be held at 7:00pm on Wednesday, April 3, 2019 in the Skybridge Conference Room.

The Sports Booster Club is always looking for volunteers to work in the concession stands of the many games and events hosted at Watkins Mill. In addition, your team or club can share in the profits. Contact Booster Club President Chanel Coley at pandacreates@gmail.com for more details.

It is my pleasure to introduce our new Building Service Manager, Ms. Stephanie Byrd. She started Tuesday, March 19, and she is already off and running. She is a great addition to our Watkins Mill team. Welcome Stephanie!

3rd Marking Period Ends Wednesday, April 3. Early Release Day.

4th Marking Period Begins Thursday, April 4.

ACT Administered, Saturday, 4/13.

PTSA Meeting – April 16, 2019, in the Media Center. We hope to see you there.

Report cards will be issued (sent home with students) **on April 16**. Interims for the fourth marking period will be published on May 9 for underclassmen, on May 2 for seniors.

Family Food Market: Watkins Mill High School will be hosting another Family Food Market on **April 13**. Please come to school at 8:00 am and shop for food items at NO COST! **Early entrance will be permitted if the food trucks arrive early and setup is completed.**

Summer R.I.S.E.—Connecting Students to Careers-

MCPS is partnering with WorkSource Montgomery and the Montgomery County Government on the 2019 Summer R.I.S.E. program that will provide *rising* juniors and seniors with enriching summer career

development experiences through local Montgomery County businesses and nonprofit organizations. Through Summer R.I.S.E. (Really Interesting Summer Experience), students will participate in a three-week career exploration that will introduce them to the structures of businesses, technical skills, the role of technology, and the importance of customer service. Sign up today! More information is available at: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/partnerships/summer-rise/>.

Summer R.I.S.E.—Conectando Estudiantes a Carreras

MCPS se está asociando con WorkSource Montgomery y con el gobierno del Condado de Montgomery para el programa Summer R.I.S.E. (Really Interesting Summer Experience (Experiencia Realmente Interesante Durante el Verano), que ofrecerá a estudiantes que *ingresarán* a los Grados 11 y 12 experiencias enriquecedoras de capacitación profesional durante el verano a través de empresas locales y organizaciones sin fines de lucro del Condado de Montgomery. Por medio de Summer R.I.S.E., durante tres semanas los estudiantes participarán en una exploración de carreras que les dará una introducción a las estructuras de empresas, destrezas técnicas, el rol de la tecnología y la importancia del servicio al cliente. ¡Inscríbase hoy Mismo! Hay más información disponible en <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/partnerships/summer-rise/>.

ROCK THE BLOCK: Don't miss it!! On Saturday, June 1, from 3 pm – 6 pm, Watkins Mill High School will be hosting Rock the Block. We will have fun activities for the younger kids, including games, face painting, balloon clown, mascots and performers, carnival games, and more. For the older students, we will have moonbounces, dunk tanks, yard games, cheerleading, sports-themed challenges, and more. For kids of all ages, there will be student performances, band and chorus performances, food trucks, music, free food, fire trucks, EMT trucks, police demonstrations, and much more.

Testing Information:

ELA PARCC: May 20 and May 21 (Delayed opening for testing)

Alg PARCC: May 22 and May 23 (Delayed opening for testing)

Accuplacer: April 9th (No Make-ups given)

HSA Government: May 22 and May 23 (Delayed opening for testing)

MISA: May 20 and May 21 (Delayed opening for testing)

HSA/PARCC Make-ups: May 24 (Regular Bell Schedule) – June 7

Link to the Testing Information –[Click here!](#)

BELL AWARDS HONOR FACULTY AND STAFF: If you know of a staff or faculty member who has made an outstanding contribution to you or other WMHS students or to our school, now is the time to show your appreciation and give them the recognition they deserve. Any parent, student, or faculty member can nominate a member of the WMHS faculty or staff who has been exceptional in giving of their time and talent to help an individual reach their goal or make WMHS a better place for all of us.

To nominate a faculty or staff member for a Bell Award, you can simply write a letter indicating why you feel they deserve the award. Bell Award nominations can be submitted to the PTSA mailbox in the school office (ATTN: Bell Awards) or emailed to Martha Crews at mjcrews5@gmail.com with a subject heading of Bell Award. DEADLINE IS APRIL 30.

A faculty or staff member can only receive this award once. **Below is the list of Bell Award winners who are no longer eligible to receive this award:**

Tom Sneddon, Sandy Young, Ana Taffo, Lisa Ingram, Jim Archer, Lauren Wilkinson, Adam Schwartz, Jeff Heckert, Faina Atamas.

Thank you for your support of our students and school community. If we can ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to email or call. A full **staff** directory can be found here:
<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/staff/directory.aspx>

Sincerely,
Carol Goddard, Principal

COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER NEWS

Seniors, please continue to notify Mrs. Heald of your merit awards from any of the colleges to which you applied that accepted you. Mrs. Heald can add that to the Class of 2019's Scholarship total.

For additional information from the College/Career Center including information regarding scholarships, internships and summer opportunities, check out the College/Career Center webpage, <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/careercenter/>.

Juniors the NACAC College Fair for ALL juniors is scheduled for April 1 at 10am. You will only be able to attend on April 1 if you take the bus from Watkins Mill. Permission slips can be picked up from Mrs. Heald in the college and Career Center.

Kate Heald
CCIC

ATHLETIC NEWS:

The spring sports season is underway. Please follow athletic department news and scores on twitter @TheMillSports and by visiting the Watkins Mill HS official athletic website at www.watkinsmillathletics.com. The WMHS Athletic Department strongly suggest that parents and students follow the information posted on the website about cancellations and rescheduled athletic events. Please contact the individual coach if score information is not updated.

Reginald L. Spears, CAA
Athletic Director
Watkins Mill High School
Office 301-840-3979
[Reginald L Spears@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Reginald_L_Spears@mcpsmd.org)
Follow on Twitter @TheMillSports

A NOTE FROM OUR PTSA VICE PRESIDENT

We have **two important dates for the PTSA this month**. Our next regular meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 16th** at 7 pm in the Media Center.

How about working with other parent volunteers to help with the **Bell Awards**? This is a fun committee in which you review nominations submitted for these special staff awards also given out at the May ceremony.

Do you like showing our wonderful staff how thankful we are for all they do for our students? Help with **Staff Appreciation Week**, held in early May. Parent volunteers are needed to help with activities to show our staff how much we appreciate them. We are also in need of donations for that week. Please let me know if you would like to contribute.

Would your senior student and his or her family like to go by **bus** to the **graduation** ceremony? Tickets are available now for \$20/person. Reservation forms are available in the main office.

Don't forget, it's still not too late to join the PTSA if you haven't done so already. Remember, for seniors to be eligible for PTSA scholarships, the student must be a PTSA member.

Save the date: Our final meeting of this school year will be **Tuesday, May 21**. Please consider volunteering to be on the board of the PTSA or Boosters next year. We have many families with seniors and to keep the PTSA and Boosters going next year, we need new people to step up.

See you around the Mill!

Pamela Smith
PTSA Vice President

CONVERTING FROM HEAT TO AIR CONDITIONING

It's springtime and schools will have their heating systems converted to air conditioning soon. Depending on the weather forecast in early April, this schedule may be shifted. Once the changeover process has begun at the school, heating will not be available. Always safe to dress in layers.

SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Summer School—Registration is scheduled to begin **May 8, 2019**.

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/extendedhours/summerschool/>

Regional High School Summer School Program 2019

Session 1: June 24, 2019 – July 12, 2019 – (No School on July 4 and 5, 2019)

Session 2: July 16, 2019 – August 1, 2019

8:10 a.m. – 1:55 p.m.

SITES:

James Hubert Blake HS
300 Norwood Road
Silver Spring, MD 20905
Phone: 240-740-1400

Winston Churchill High School
11300 Gainsbrough Road
Potomac, MD 20854
Phone: 240-740-5400

Fax: 301-879-1306

Gaithersburg HS
101 Education Boulevard
Gaithersburg, MD 20877
Phone: 301-284-4500
Fax: 301-284-4701

Fax: 301-469-1208

Northwood HS
919 University Blvd. West
Silver Spring, MD 20901
Phone: 301-649-8088
Fax: 301-649-8285

The **high school summer school** are for students who are presently enrolled in Grades 9–12.


For questions about the regional summer school programs, please call the Summer School office at 301-279-3202.

SSL NEWS:

Student Service Learning (SSL) Tips

Give a Little Time...Make a Big Difference – April 2018

Students gain necessary knowledge and skills.

- Meaningful SSL experiences can prompt students to redirect initial career paths toward more challenging and fulfilling opportunities.
- Students involved in school-sponsored clubs and organizations that include a *service learning* project may earn SSL hours for their involvement in the supervised project in a public place outside of the instructional day.
- Find answers to questions that are frequently asked regarding the SSL program by clicking on <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/ssl/pages/faq.aspx>. It's all there!
- Plan now for a summer that includes *service* and *learning*. Choose organizations and opportunities that have a  graduation cap icon by them on the website www.mcpsssl.org OR get approval of MCPS Form 560-50 *Individual SSL Request* in advance of any service.
- Stay well informed to *Serve* and *Learn* within the MCPS SSL guidelines. Know program details and follow them!

HOMEWORK HOTLINE LIVE! - (FREE HOMEWORK HELP)

New Season of Homework Hotline Live!

Homework Hotline Live! (HHL) is back, offering students in grades K-12 free homework assistance from MCPS teachers. Students can call, send text messages, or email questions on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 4 to 9 p.m. Questions received by phone are answered between 4 and 6 p.m.; all other questions are answered up until 9 p.m.

Students can ask questions by:

- Calling 301-279-3234
- Visiting the HHL website askhhl.org
- Sending a text message to 724-427-5445
- Emailing question@AskHHL.org
- Posting a message to Facebook (facebook.com/AskHHL)

- Posting a "tweet" to Twitter (@askHHL)

Homework Hotline Live! can be viewed on MCPS-TV (Comcast 34, Verizon 36, RCN 89) and on the Web at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/itv/hhl/

IMPORTANT LINKS

WMHS Website Home: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/>

Athletics: <http://www.watkinsmillathletics.com/>

College/Career Monthly Newsletter: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/careercenter/>

Calendar: <http://coldfusion.mcps.k12.md.us/cfms/webteam/calendar/calendar.cfm?calendarID=watkinsmillhs>

Staff Directory: <http://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/ssl/>

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

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

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