MESSAGE FROM MR. MURPHY, PRINCIPAL

I hope you and your families had a wonderful Thanksgiving and are re-energized for a busy month of December. Here at school, we are very proud of the outstanding achievements of our students inside and outside the classroom. I am also very proud and grateful to have such a talented, dynamic staff who have a tireless commitment to students, and a supportive parent and surrounding community that we couldn’t do without. The staff and I are truly grateful to be working in such a great school community. Thank you!

As we move into the month of December and approach Winter Break, the end of the semester will be here before we know it—so it is as important as ever for students to remain focused and make the most of this marking period. Interims will be published on or around December 11 to Edline. If you need assistance activating or using Edline, please contact Edward_W_Graf@mcpsmd.org or call us at 301-840-3959 at any time.

Please make sure students are taking advantage of the wide range of ways that they can get academic support—whether it is seeing a teacher at STEP, using the A200 lab before school or during STEP, or taking advantage of Village Time. I would also like to remind students and parents that the media center is open for academic support Monday-Thursday from 2:30 – 5:00 through the RecZone. Free snacks and transportation (activity bus at 4:15 and 5:00) are provided.

I also want to ask parents and students to begin planning for final exams January 12-16, 2015. A full exam schedule can be found in this newsletter or click here. The semester will end on January 16, followed by a long weekend. The second semester will begin on January 21. Ninth grade parents: Please be advised that during exam week, students are only required to attend school when they have an exam. As you may be aware, the final semester grade (used for GPA purposes) is an average of each marking period and the exam, so it is critical that students conclude the semester with an upward trend on their exam.

As we near the end of the semester, students need to be reminded of the attendance intervention policy. Students accumulating more than 5 unexcused absences will automatically risk failing the class for
the semester unless an appeal is submitted and/or an intervention plan is successfully implemented. Now is the time for students to make an appeal to their teacher or work with their counselor on an intervention plan if five unexcused absences have been accrued.

In other news, thank you to the PTSA for hosting a cluster-wide PTSA event on November 18. It was a pleasure to hear from our remarkable students about their wide range of experiences in IB and success stories at The Mill. Please be sure to join us at future meetings, all of which provide important, useful tips for parents.

Wellness Center - Almost 300 students have registered in the Wellness Center and are active in a wide range of after-school programs and services. Staff also provided dozens of free sports physicals before the winter season. Please be sure to find out more information and register for the Wellness Center now! More information can be found here: [http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/about/WellnessCenter.aspx](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/about/WellnessCenter.aspx)

Please note that in order to receive health services in the Health Clinic, students who were enrolled last school year need to update their records with an updated enrollment form, available here:

**Registration for 2014-15 is underway!** This month, juniors will begin registering for classes for next year, with underclassmen to follow in the coming weeks. When making decisions about course selections, please call or email appropriate staff with any questions. We expect all students to enroll in the most rigorous academic program possible, especially in our IB program. Exposure to and successful completion of these courses has a direct correlation to college readiness. Any student, regardless of their perceived abilities, can be successful in advanced courses with effective effort and hard work. We also want students to make informed decisions about their elective courses, as the master schedule will be built around student interests and needs.

**Attention 10th grade parents & future IB students!** Beginning in December, Ms. Ingram will be conducting class visits to discuss next year’s course and program options with rising 11th graders. Discussions will focus on the important decisions at hand for future IB students in grades 11-12. There are many options to consider between now and early January when rising juniors will be asked to turn in next year’s course selection cards. Among the topics discussed: Each of our IB programs-- the Diploma Program and the IBCC; the opportunities to take individual IB courses, and the differences between IB and AP. We will also discuss important items related to college readiness, including preparation for the ACT/SAT/Accuplacer in the upcoming school year. Look for personalized IB and IBCC two year plans in the coming month. Once you receive your son or daughter's two year plan sheet, be sure to contact Mrs. Ingram if you have questions. Lisa_A_Ingram@mcpsmd.org

**SAT PREP!** I would like to draw your attention to the KAPLAN ACT & SAT Test Prep Class we are hosting at Watkins Mill, **FOR ONLY $225 (regular price $699)!!!** The evening classes, offered in collaboration with Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions to prepare students for the March SAT or the April ACT, both will be held at Watkins Mill. We are pleased to offer our students this great advantage which will potentially assist them in increasing their ACT or SAT scores. By getting the preparation by highly qualified Kaplan teachers, students will obtain the skill set needed to perform at the best of their ability on the ACT or SAT. In turn, students will have a chance to open more doors in regard to gaining admission to the college or university of their choice, in addition to scholarship opportunities. WM students have an advantage of taking this course which retails for $699 for only $225. This includes class materials, and 10 sessions of instruction beginning on Tuesday, February 3, for the March 14 SAT and on Tuesday, March 3 for the April 18 ACT. Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning at 5:00 pm. See Mrs. Prochnow in the
College/Career Center for registration forms or download the form from the WMHS homepage. Please submit payment to the Financial Office across from the Main Office. Checks can be made payable to Watkins Mill High School. Each class will be capped at 25 students. More information can be found here.

Please also be sure to read our College and Career News below, as well as the monthly newsletter, for up-to-date information about SAT/ACT registration, college visits, financial aid, scholarships, and more. Remember—there is a college for everyone and we can help everyone make college affordable! The last day of school prior to winter break is Tuesday, December 23. We look forward to seeing our students return on Monday, January 5.

Please note that the next edition of News from the Mill will be published on or around January 6, after we return from winter break. We have included calendar items for the first few days of January in this newsletter for planning purposes. Thank you for your support of your students and our 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

As you are aware, Mr. Shawn Krasa, principal intern, will serve as acting principal from January 5 – February 13, as part of his practicum. I will be on special assignment as a visiting principal at Damascus High School and will return to The Mill on February 17. More information about the Mr. Krasa’s practicum can be found here:


In the meantime, I hope you and yours have a wonderful Holiday Season and joyous New Year. I am looking forward to ending the semester on an extremely positive note with our students, staff, and community.

Sincerely,
Scott W. Murphy, Principal
MESSAGE FROM MR. KRASA, PRINCIPAL INTERN
Greetings everyone! Watkins Mill High School is the place to be. From my first day in July, I have felt proud to be a Wolverine. Students take pride in their International Baccalaureate (IB) course work and extra-curricular activities. Mr. Murphy has been an excellent mentor in helping to prepare me for the role of the principal. As we approach the month of January, I will be taking on more responsibilities of the principal. Then, when we return from winter break, I will have an opportunity to become acting principal for six weeks. My practicum experience as acting principal will begin on Monday, January 5 and will conclude on Friday, February 13. During this time period, our school will be engaged in taking first semester exams, starting second semester coursework, and registering for courses during the 2015-2016 school year. As always, I respect our student commitment to academic excellence and trust our staff in preparing students to become critical thinkers, collaborative communicators, and equitable problem solvers.

Sincerely,
Shawn Krasa, Principal Intern

INFO FROM THE WMHS COLLEGE/CAREER CENTER:
WMHS Daytime On the Spot Admissions Event for Seniors
On December 11, admissions representatives from Morgan State University, Coppin State University, the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Alderson-Broaddus College and Trinity University Washington, D.C. will be on hand to conduct on the spot admissions interviews with our seniors. Application fees will be waived for this event.

Students need to complete the online application for each school before the event and print out copies of their ACT or SAT scores except for Trinity which does not require an SAT or ACT for admission. Students who are permanent residents need to make a copy of both the front and the back side of their green card. Two letters of recommendation, one from a teacher and one from a counselor are needed for this event. The deadline to request letters was November 21. Mrs. Prochnow will provide the official transcript and will download the letters from Family Connection.

The event will start at 12:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. Passes will be sent to students on the morning of December 11 to inform them of their interview time. Students need to dress professionally for this event.

ALUMNI 2014
Our Annual Alumni Day for the class of 2014 will occur on December 23. Alumni are invited to WMHS at 11 a.m. to visit with their former teachers and classmates. In addition, during 4th period, Juniors and Seniors will hear from a small panel of alumni who will sit on the stage and answer questions and share their experiences about their first semester at college. This is always a fun and informative event.
FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP at Watkins Mill H.S.
A financial aid workshop will be held at Watkins Mill High School on **Wednesday, January 7, 2015** at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center in English and in the cafeteria in Spanish. **This workshop is very important for parents of 12th grade college-bound students** but all parents are welcome to attend. Ms. Barbara Miller, a financial aid counselor at Stevenson University, will discuss the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), Maryland state grants and the CSS Profile along with other pertinent financial aid information in English and Ms. Alexandra Gonzalez, a financial aid counselor from Montgomery College, will host the event in Spanish. Don’t miss this important event! Parents attending the workshop will get answers to their financial aid questions.

WATKINS MILL TO HOLD KAPLAN ACT AND SAT TEST PREP FOR $225!!!
Watkins Mill High School will be holding an ACT and an SAT preparation class in collaboration with Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions to prepare students for the March SAT or the April ACT, both of which will be held at Watkins Mill. This partnership is to benefit students of WM. We are pleased to offer our students this great advantage which will potentially assist them in increasing their ACT or SAT scores. By getting the preparation by highly qualified Kaplan teachers, students will obtain the skill set needed to perform at the best of their ability on the ACT or SAT. In turn, students will have a chance to open more doors in regard to gaining admission to the college or university of their choice, in addition to scholarship opportunities.

WM students have an advantage of taking this course which retails for $699 for only $225. This includes class materials, and 10 sessions of instruction beginning on Tuesday, February 3, for the March 14 SAT and on Tuesday, March 3 for the April 18 ACT. Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning at 5:30 pm. Registration forms can be downloaded from the WMHS homepage.

Please submit payment to the Financial Office across from the Main Office. Checks can be made payable to Watkins Mill High School. New this year, parents can opt to pay by credit card. Please see WM homepage for details. Each class will be capped at 25 students.

For more information check out the College/Career Newsletter and the College/Career Center webpage at [http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinssmillhs/careercenter/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinssmillhs/careercenter/)

Debbie Prochnow College/Career Coordinator
Watkins Mill High School
10301 Apple Ridge Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
301-840-3957
News from the IB Office December 2014

IB Examination Registration is now complete and we have a strong group of students set for their May 2015 IB exams. The following statistics represent the specific categories and subjects of our IB testing cohort for the May 2015 exam session. Thank you to students, teachers, counselors, and parents for each of your parts in getting these youngsters in place to capitalize on their hard work in IB! 206 Students in total are registered to sit for 396 formal IB examinations in addition to the Research Projects from both the IBCC and IBDP students. SO PROUD OF OUR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS!!!!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registrations by level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>248 registrations in 8 higher level subjects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>188 registrations in 9 standard level subjects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 registrations in 4 extended essay subjects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 registrations in Theory of Knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44 registrations in Reflective Project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registrations by subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOLOGY EE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOLOGY HL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEMISTRY SL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGLISH A: Literature HL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS SL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRENCH B SL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST. EUROPE/ME - ARAB-ISRAELI HL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST. EUROPE/ME - ARAB-ISRAELI SL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HISTORY EE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATHEMATICAL STUDIES SL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATHEMATICS SL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATHEMATICS HL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYSICS HL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCHOLOGY EE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYCHOLOGY SL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPANISH AB. SL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPANISH B HL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPANISH B SL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THEATRE HL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORLD RELIG. EE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ATTENTION ALL RISING 11TH GRADERS:

Beginning in December Mrs. Ingram will be conducting class visits to discuss next year’s course and program options with our rising 11th graders. Our discussions will focus on the important decisions at hand for this group of youngsters and advice as to how to become informed regarding all the many options between now and early January when rising juniors will be asked to make course selections for the upcoming school year. Among the topics we will discuss include the specific nuances of each of our IB programs: The Diploma Program and the IBCC, the opportunities to take individual IB courses, and the differences between IB and AP. We will also discuss important items related to college readiness, including preparation for the ACT/SAT/Accuplacer in the upcoming school year. Look for personalized IB and IBCC two year plans in the coming month. Once you receive your son or daughter’s two year plan sheet, be sure to contact Mrs. Ingram if you have questions.

Lisa Ingram, IB Coordinator  
Lisa_A_Ingram@mcpsmd.org

NAME CHANGE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE CAREER RELATED CERTIFICATE (IBCC)

As of the 16th November, what we have known as the “IBCC” will be referred to by the IB as the Career-related Programme (CP). Schools currently implementing the programme will have up to September 2016 to update their in-school collateral and materials from the IBCC to the CP. As such the naming of the CP is in effect from now onward.

Where candidates have commenced studying the IBCC in September 2014/January 2015, they will complete the programme as the IBCC. For students starting the programme after September 2015/January 2016, they will study the CP. If schools wish to refer to the programme as the CP before then, this is possible.

The final year of IBCC assessment will be May/November 2016. Anticipated candidates for the CP will sit examinations for DP courses from May/November 2016. The first year of assessment of the CP Reflective Project will be May/November 2017.

Systems and materials used by schools will transition from referring from the IBCC to the CP during 2015, including IBIS, the public website and the OCC. The physical certificate for students will continue to refer to the IBCC until May/November 2017.
ATHLETIC NEWS:
The 2014 fall season was concluded by celebrating during the annual Fall Sports Awards Night on Wednesday, November 19, 2014. Coaches and team members were asked to come on stage and reflect on their season’s accomplishments. Coaches recognized athletes on stage by presenting Four Year Senior, Scholar Athlete, and Mike Tyler Sportmanship awards.

The Watkins Mill HS Athletic Department presents a very special award to each senior student-athlete for their contributions to a single sport, including JV and/or Varsity competition, during all four years of high school. The following senior athletes were recognized for the Fall Sports 2014 Senior Award:

Field Hockey – Iesha Chandler and Amy Cruz
Boys Soccer – Alec VanBronkhorst, Chernet Tsegaye, Nico Mazariagos, and Ross Campbell
Girls Volleyball - Katherine Anaya, Ana Portillo, Julie Pham, and Caroline Hanson
Girls Tennis - Eku Abban
Football - Luke Moon, Tristan Pelaez, Adrian Torres-Vista, and Gradi Tshilombo
Cross Country - Michael Tessitore
Girls Soccer - Nathaly Alvear, Ruth Atomate, Kendra Diaz


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>12/05/2014</td>
<td>Basketball Boys</td>
<td>Watkins Mill at Thomas Johnson V 7 pm/JV 5:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>12/06/2014</td>
<td>Basketball Girls</td>
<td>Watkins Mill at Thomas Johnson V 4:30 pm/ JV 3pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>12/06/2014</td>
<td>Swimming &amp; Diving</td>
<td>Einstein and Watkins Mill at Montgomery College - Takoma 2:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>12/06/2014</td>
<td>Wrestling</td>
<td>Watkins Mill and Rockville at Wheaton 2:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>12/09/2014</td>
<td>Basketball Boys</td>
<td>Watkins Mill at Urbana V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Wednesday</td>
<td>12/10/2014</td>
<td>Wrestling</td>
<td>Seneca Valley at Watkins Mill V 6 pm/JV 7 pm (HO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Friday</td>
<td>12/12/2014</td>
<td>Basketball Boys</td>
<td>Poolesville at Watkins Mill V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm(HO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>12/12/2014</td>
<td>Basketball Girls</td>
<td>Watkins Mill at Poolesville V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>12/13/2014</td>
<td>Swimming &amp; Diving</td>
<td>Blake and Watkins Mill at Olney Swim Center 9:15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>12/15/2014</td>
<td>Basketball Boys</td>
<td>Watkins Mill at Paint Branch V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
*Monday 12/15/2014  Basketball Girls  Paint Branch at Watkins Mill V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm(HO)
Tuesday 12/16/2014  Wrestling  Watkins Mill at Gaithersburg V 6 pm/JV 7 pm
Wednesday 12/17/2014  Basketball Boys  Damascus at Watkins Mill V 5:15 pm
Wednesday 12/17/2014  Basketball Girls  Damascus at Watkins Mill V 7 pm
Thursday 12/18/2014  Basketball Boys  Watkins Mill at Damascus JV 3:30 pm
Thursday 12/18/2014  Basketball Girls  Watkins Mill at Damascus JV 5:15 pm
Friday 12/19/2014  Basketball Boys  Watkins Mill at Seneca Valley V 5:15 pm/JV at WM 3:30 pm
Friday 12/19/2014  Basketball Girls  Watkins Mill at Seneca Valley V 7 pm/JV at WM 5:15 pm
Saturday 12/20/2014  Swimming & Diving  Watkins Mill and Magruder at Martin Luther King Swim Center 9:15 am
Saturday 12/20/2014  Wrestling  Clarksburg at Watkins Mill V 1 pm
Saturday 12/20/2014  Wrestling  Richard Montgomery at Watkins Mill JV 2:30 pm
Monday 12/22/2014  Basketball Boys  Watkins Mill at Rockville V 5:15 pm/JV at WM 3:30 pm
Monday 12/22/2014  Basketball Girls  Watkins Mill at Rockville V 7 pm/JV at WM 5:15 pm
Thursday 12/23/2014  Wrestling  Watkins Mill at Northwest V 3:30 pm/JV 4:30 pm

Reggie Spears, RAA Athletic Director
Watkins Mill High School
Phone: 301-840-3979
Fax: 301-840-3956
Reginald Spears@mcpsmd.org
A NOTE FROM OUR PTSA PRESIDENT – SUSAN YOUNG
We had another great turnout at our November PTSA meeting, including parents who don’t have students at Watkins Mill yet. At our meeting, we learned all about the wonderful programs and academic opportunities at our school from a panel of articulate and engaging Watkins Mill students. We also met Officer Goodale, our School Resource Officer (SRO).

We will not hold a December PTSA meeting.

Did you know that it’s still not too late to join the PTSA and Boosters? Simply download the membership form for the WMHS Web site, and send it back to school with your payment. Show your commitment to your student and our school by joining and participating -- and making a difference! And remember, if you’re a parent of a senior, a PTSA membership is required for consideration for PTSA sponsored scholarships.

Can you give a little bit of your time by joining a PTSA committee? If everyone pitches in just a little, we’ll be able to be successful in our efforts. Committee members are needed for: Staff Appreciation, Bell Awards, and Scholarship. Please contact me at susan@youngspa.com if you can help!

Are you on Facebook? Then be sure to visit the Watkins Mill HS PTSA/Boosters page and "like" us. It’s another great way to get information out to the parents and learn about events and activities.

Are you on our Yahoo listserve group? You’ll automatically be added when you join the PTSA, but if you’d like to start receiving communications now, please send me an email at susan@youngspa.com.

Happy Holidays; see you around the Mill!

Susan Young
PTSA President

VOLUNTEER CORNER
The year is off to a great start! Many parents and students have already offered their time and talent to support our school. It is great to see some new faces too! If you have never volunteered, it is a fun way to meet people and support our students. Watch the newsletter and your email for volunteer opportunities. Please email me any hours that you spend volunteering. This can include helping a teacher, assisting in the office as well as working concessions and/or helping with the band or a sports team. Thanks.
Thanks to all the volunteers and supporters that made the first DRIVE 4UR SCHOOL fundraiser a success. We were able to raise $4,000. A special thank you to Sherri Janzen, Lisa Acuna and Band Director, Doug Woodruff, for their tireless efforts in making this a success. I hope that you will join us for our Spring Event - SHEEHY Ford Drive 4UR School event. Don't miss out on this Hassle-Free opportunity to support our school.

The Winter Athletic Season is upon us. The calendar is full of activities leading up to the holidays and beyond. Please volunteer your time to help at the indoor concessions during our home events.

Our next meeting is Monday, December 1 @ 7:00 pm in the Media center. We invite all parents, students, and school staff interested in learning more about your Booster Club to join us. We need new Wolverine parent volunteers and leaders every year to replace graduating parents. Through participation you will learn and continue our tradition of success.

Athletic calendar of events can be found at. www.countysportszone.com. Plan to come out to the home games to cheer on your Wolverines, enjoy our delicious concessions and pick up the latest spirit wear!

Annual Seasons Passes for all home athletic events are now available in the school finance office: Adult @ $70, Student @ $40. Winter and Spring only passes, also available.

You can also complete the membership form found on the PTSA/Booster Club ink on the school web site: www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/ptsa/ and return to the school office.

All parent volunteers: Please remember to send your monthly volunteer hours to our Volunteer Coordinator, Elaine Ratliff, at elaineratliff1@verizon.net. Thanks!

Go 'Rhines!!

Lisa Rishell, Booster Club President Mobile: 240-888-5358 Email: lisarishell@gmail.com
November 2014 Media Center Newsletter

November is the month to celebrate and reflect ~ ~

We are thankful for Watkins Mill students and the support of our communities.

The Media Center is expanding the world language collection:
Come check out some of the popular titles in Spanish and in French including the *Divergent* trilogy and *The Fault in Our Stars*. Do you know the title “The Fault in Our Stars” is literally translated to “Under the Same Star” in Spanish and “Our Contrary Stars” in French?
News from the Science Department
Engaging, inspiring and challenging students in the world of Science

The following students have been selected by their Science Teacher in recognition of their hard work, self-discipline, and regard for the IB Learner Profile.

**Congratulations**

Jevon Spruill      Heaven Atta      Louis Tucker      Matt Pryor
Peter Orban       Edem Yevooy      Nathan Hurt       Marlee Ropel
Jamila Banes       Nafisat Abidoye    Gabriel Feliz    Jose Villalta

Nah Vincent Naatehn

**Student opportunities in STEM**

**UMBC and NASA Open House Events**

The NASA’s BEST Students team is offering a series of free UMBC Open House Events to the general public at the UMBC telescope.

**WHERE:** UMBC Telescope (Physics Building, Room 401)

**WHEN:** 7 - 9 PM

**TOPICS:**

December 4th: Nebulae
Opportunities and announcements including internships and scholarships will once again be posted on the science bulletin board in the second floor D hallway. Stop by and check it out from time to time. You can also go to https://twitter.com/STETeam1 for opportunities in Science, Technology and Engineering. These include competitions, events, internships, contests and volunteer opportunities.
YOUR SCHOOL BASED WELLNESS CENTER

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, If your student registered for the Wellness Center during the 2013-2014 school year, AND you have not RE-ENROLLED for the CURRENT school year, please have your student come to the health room to pick up the NEW enrollment form. Your student will not qualify for health services until the new enrollment form is completed. Note: This does not affect Wellness Center groups and programs (health services only).

The new enrollment form is also available on the Watkins Mill High School Website. http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/about/WellnessCenter.aspx You may fax the enrollment form to 240-406-1548.

Contact the Health and Wellness Center if you have questions about your student’s enrollment status at 240-406-1546.

Mrs. Caruso, RN/SCHN, 301-840-3954 and Mrs. Camacho, Site Coordinator, 294-406-1545

Mrs. Camacho, Site Coordinator
294-406-1545
ESOL FIELD TRIP
The ESOL 1 students took a field trip to the D.C. monuments and the Museum of Natural History on October 15. They learned about the construction of the Washington Monument, enjoyed walking around and having lunch on the national mall, and visited the giant squid and other marine and terrestrial creatures at the Smithsonian's Natural History Museum.
MARCH TO THE MILL SUMMER SPORTS CAMP
Registration for March to the Mill 2015 is now underway.

The camp grows more fun and exciting every year and we expect this year to be better than ever. We also expect this year’s camp to fill to capacity quickly, so register early. Don't let your child miss out.

March to the Mill is a summer sports camp where rising 3rd through 9th graders form area elementary and middle schools do a different sport every day with Watkins Mill coaches and athletes. Days are fun-filled and action-packed. Your camper will come home good and tired.

The camp takes place June 15 – July 3 from 10:30 – 3:30 on the Watkins Mill campus. Cost is $95 for one session, $190 for two sessions, and $270 for three sessions. This expense qualifies for you Dependent Child Flexible Spending Account.

Every camper gets a free, exclusive, limited edition tee shirt and pinnie.

Rising 9th graders who have attended a previous March to the Mill are encouraged to apply to be counselors-in-training. Rising 10th through 12th graders are encouraged to apply to be counselors. Counselors receive a free tee shirt and pinnie, earn SSL hours, and have a blast!

For more information or to apply to be a counselor, please contact Toni Marsh at tonimash101@gmail.com or 202-510-4163. Counselors MUST apply by May 1, 2015.

You can also visit our website at MarchToTheMill@blogspot.com

INSTRUMENTAL/CHORAL MUSIC INFORMATION
Choral Music Winter Concert will take place at WMHS on Dec. 4, at 7pm in the O'Shea Theater. Admission is Free.

Instrumental Music Winter Concert for the Band will take place at WMHS on Dec. 11, at 7pm in the O'Shea Theater. Come and see our Band, Orchestra and Percussion Ensembles perform. Admission is Free.

SENIOR PARENTS
Parents of 2015 graduates, please remember that you have until December 19 to place their order for announcements. You can find information at www.Jostens.com. Please remember that cap and gown fees of $50 are also due and will become an obligation semester 2. Please have your child see Ms. Leecost in C208, during STEP, should they have any questions.

Thanks again,
Ms. Leecost
SENIOR CONGRATULATORY AD — DEADLINE 12/5
FINAL DEADLINE (DEC 5TH) TO PURCHASE YOUR SENIOR CONGRATULATORY AD! SENIOR AND FRIENDSHIP ADS - FINAL DEADLINE is 12/5. Celebrate your student or your friendships by creating your ad online at JOSTENSADSERVICE.COM. Upload photos, ad text and pay for your ad all online.
http://jostensadservice.com?REF=A03351760

LOOKING FOR A HOLIDAY GIFT IDEA?
The yearbook costs $85, but you can SAVE $10 and pay ONLY $75 if you order now. Order online at jostensyearbooks.com to pay by credit card, check, Bill Me Later, PayPal or to take advantage of the monthly installment plan where you can make 3 payments OR return the order form and payment to Mr. Wu.

Jennifer Massey  Your Jostens Representative
410-924-6247

EDLINE UPDATE — Contact Edward.W.Graf@mcpsmd.org if you don’t have an activated Edline account. An activated Edline account will allow you to:
• Check your child’s latest grades and see missing work
• See the status of credits for graduation
• Receive email alerts when new grades are posted
• Receive emails with school or class information
• View team and club activities
• Email your child’s teachers
• View upcoming assessments

Our Watkins Mill HS website has a link on the right hand side for edline, and there is also a “how to activate my edline account guide” there as well. Here are two important url’s:
http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/
www.edline.net

BULLYING: We are also providing reminders about the swift and severe action that will be taken if students are involved in bullying, a fight, any physical aggression, theft, drugs or drug paraphernalia, or any other serious incidents. We are also encouraging students to talk to a trusted adult if there is ever a concern at school, at home, in the neighborhood, or online.

The following link to MCPS Web page is provided for your ease of access to the resource.

• MCPS Form 230-35, Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation Reporting Form, is available on the MCPS website at http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/forms/pdf/230-35.pdf
MCPS EMERGENCY INFORMATION
How to Receive Emergency Information from MCPS
MCPS parents can receive emergency information from the school system in a variety of ways including MCPS QuickNotes, Alert MCPS, Twitter, the MCPS website, MCPS TV, and a recorded telephone information line. Please visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency for more information on how to keep in touch with Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) and stay informed in times of emergencies.

HOMEWORK HOTLINE LIVE! (FREE HOMEWORK HELP)
New Season of Homework Hotline Live!
Homework Hotline Live! (HHL) is back for its 28th season, 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/
October 13, 2014

Dear Watkins Mill Community:

As you know, Watkins Mill High School is one of several schools supporting the training of future principals in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), with Mr. Shawn Krasa serving as principal intern during the 2014-15 school year. The primary goal of the principal internship is to prepare candidates to become highly successful school principals in MCPS. The secondary internship experience is a combination of professional development activities, a practicum experience, and strategic coaching and mentoring.

As the principal intern, Mr. Krasa has been serving as assistant principal while also gradually assuming responsibility for many leadership functions in our school. He has also been responsible for leading meetings and activities typically carried out by me. In addition, he is participating in monthly meetings with other MCPS interns to continue to develop the necessary knowledge and skills to ensure effective implementation of school initiatives and the MCPS strategic plan.

An important component of the secondary internship is a practicum experience where the principal intern serves as acting principal for a period of six weeks. The goal of this activity is to offer an opportunity for the principal intern to gain experiences required to fulfill the responsibilities of the principalship.

To this end, Mr. Krasa will serve as acting principal of Watkins Mill High School during a period of six weeks, scheduled to begin on January 5, 2015 after Winter Break. During this practicum, as part of the MCPS program, I have been assigned as a visiting assistant principal at Damascus High School to support the principal intern there. Meanwhile, Ms. Jennifer Webster, principal at Damascus High School, will come to Watkins Mill as a visiting assistant principal in exchange. With the support of Ms. Webster and our leadership team, I have great confidence that Mr. Krasa will do an outstanding job as acting principal in my absence. My absence is designed to give Mr. Krasa space to truly experience the role of principal. I will be back to Watkins Mill by mid-February to resume my role as principal of Watkins Mill High School.

I consider it a great privilege for our school to be selected as a training site for a future MCPS principal. I am sure that all of you join me in supporting Mr. Krasa as he enhances his skills and abilities as an emerging MCPS principal.

Sincerely,

Scott W. Murphy
Principal

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/
10301 Apple Ridge Road • Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879 • (301) 840-3959 • FAX (301) 840-3980
## January 2015
### Final Exam Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Semester 1 Exam Review Day</th>
<th>Regular Bell Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, January 9, 2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, January 12, 2015</td>
<td>Period 1 Exam</td>
<td>7:25 a.m.-9:25 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Period 2 Exam</td>
<td>9:55 a.m.-11:55 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 13, 2015</td>
<td>Period 3 Exam</td>
<td>7:25 a.m.-9:25 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Period 4 Exam</td>
<td>9:55 a.m.-11:55 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, January 14, 2015</td>
<td>Period 5 Exam</td>
<td>7:25 a.m.-9:25 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Period 6 Exam</td>
<td>9:55 a.m.-11:55 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, January 15, 2015</td>
<td>Period 7 Exam</td>
<td>7:25 a.m.-9:25 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Make-Up Exams</td>
<td>9:55 a.m.-11:55 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, January 16, 2015</td>
<td>Make-Up Exams</td>
<td>7:25 a.m.-9:25 a.m. &amp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>End of Semester/2nd Marking Period</td>
<td>9:55 a.m.-11:55 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, January 19, 2015</td>
<td>No School – Martin Luther King Day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, January 20, 2015</td>
<td>No School – Professional Day for Teachers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SNOW/WEATHER CONTINGENCIES:** Please check the Watkins Mill H.S. homepage for contingency plans in the event of weather-related delays or closings. Information is posted at: [http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/).

There are no regular classes during final exam days; students will attend school only during their scheduled exams. The cafeteria will be open between exam periods.

School buses run at their regularly scheduled times. Students in the building (but not taking an exam) will report to their regularly assigned teacher in the morning; following dismissal at 12:15 pm, students will be placed in a supervised study hall in the auditorium in the afternoon until busses arrive at 2:10 pm.

**NOTE:** Students who miss a scheduled exam must pre-arrange a make-up exam with the individual teacher (the excuse note must be given directly to the exam teacher). **

LFI/Farms Service provided for full instructional day. Please contact your child’s teacher or counselor.
November 13, 2014

To: All Parents c/o Watkins Mill High School
   10301 Apple Ridge Road
   Gaithersburg, Md 20879

From: Motor Vehicles Administration
      15 Metropolitan Grove Road
      Gaithersburg, Md 20878

Dear Parent(s),

As part of a statewide effort to reduce customer wait times and improve customer service the MVA has created a Wait Time Reduction Plan and rolled out to all of its branches in the state of Maryland. An important part of this is streamlining the process for your child's testing and obtaining the Maryland Learners Permit. As our young people reach the age of "15 and 9 months" many of them will want to come to the MVA to partake in testing for the Maryland Learners Permit. The MVA in Gaithersburg, MD located at 15 Metropolitan Grove Road, has partnered with Watkins Mill High School to offer the Maryland Learners Permit test to all age eligible students at the school rather than coming to the MVA. On Saturday, November 1, 2014 we gave the very first test in its written form to over fifteen students who met the qualification for testing. This was a huge success with a 70% pass rate, so we have decided to do it again! Many of the parents commented on the convenience of not having to take a day off from work to come to the MVA. Students liked being able to test in the comfort of their own school with their peers!

If you would like your child to participate in this new approach to obtaining the Maryland Learners Permit and skip the line at the MVA, please complete the attached form and have your child return it to the school no later than Friday, December 5, 2014. You will then receive a written notification of testing dates at Watkins Mill High School within 14-days of the MVA receiving your child's permission form. We sincerely hope this process will alleviate much of the stress and inconvenience of waiting in line with hundreds of other applicants for you and your child making the testing process a most pleasant experience.

Your child will receive his/her score the day of the test along with instructions on the next steps to take. If he/she should pass the test all you will need to do is come into the branch with your child and your MD State issued photo ID/License to complete the process for issuing the Maryland Learners Permit. This process will involve your child taking a photo, vision test and completing the payment process. There will be no need to wait in line to take the actual test, as this part will already be completed and on file.

We at the MVA Gaithersburg look forward to meeting you and providing for your child's licensing needs!

For questions regarding the test for the Maryland Learner’s Permit at Watkins Mill High School, please contact Andre Cooke, Assistant Branch Manager, Gaithersburg MVA at 301-987-8444 x4212.
PERMISSION TO TEST FOR THE MARYLAND LEARNERS PERMIT

_____ Yes, I would like for my son/daughter to participate in the Maryland Learners Permit testing process offered by the MVA at Watkins Mill High School. I understand that the test is to be given in its written form and will be timed at 20 minutes just as the computer test at the MVA Branch.

I acknowledge the following:

1. I will need to accompany my child to the testing location.
2. I will need to bring a copy of my child's original Birth Certificate or Passport, valid Immigration Documents, Social Security Card or proof of ineligibility for a Social Security Card and my own MD State issued License or ID. I will also need to bring the original documents to compare.
3. If my child is under the age of sixteen I will need to present a certification of satisfactory school attendance provided by the school my child attends.
4. I understand that my child will not be allowed to test if any of the above documents are missing.
5. Should my child pass the Maryland Learners Permit testing process, I will receive notification of the next steps to take to complete the issuance of the permit.
6. If my child should fail the Maryland Learners Permit test, I will need to self schedule a test for my child via the MVA's website.

_____ No, I would prefer to bring my child to the MVA and complete the process for the Maryland Learners Permit.

I certify that my child is fifteen and nine months or older and give my permission for he/she to test and receive a Maryland Learners Permit. It is my responsibility to make certain my child is prepared and arrives on time for the testing dates offered. I understand that participation in this testing is completely voluntary and will not affect my child's licensing status in any way.

_________________________ (Parent/Guardian) ____________ (Date)
_________________________ (Student) ____________ (Date)

Please complete the following:

Home Address: ___________________________ City/County __________ State __ Zip Code __________

Telephone: ___________________________ Date: ____________
Attention Juniors...

Prepare for the MARCH SAT!

Kaplan SAT Test Prep Classes

Held at Watkins Mill HS

Classes Begin FEB 3rd
10 Sessions
Student Max 25, Min 20

Only $225
(Regular Price $699)
In preparation for the MARCH 14 SAT

Classes to be held at Watkins Mill High School

Feb  3 –  5:30-9:30pm – Diagnostic Test
Feb  5  –  5:30-8:30pm
Feb 10 –  5:30-8:30pm
Feb 12 –  5:30-9:30pm – Test
Feb 17 –  5:30-8:30pm
FEB 24 –  5:30-8:30pm
Feb 26 –  5:30-9:30pm – Test
March 3 –  5:30-8:30pm
March 5 –  5:30-9:30pm – Test
March 10 –  5:30-8:30pm

Please give your registration form and check for $225 (payable to WMHS) to the financial office. If you prefer, you may pay online at http://osp.osmsinc.com/montgomeryMD. Click “High School”. Click “Watkins Mill High School”. Click on “Kaplan SAT Prep”. Bring printed receipt and registration form to the Financial Office.

Student ID#  __________  Student Name  _______________________________

Address:  _________________________________________________________

Student e-mail  ________________________________  Cell#  _________________

Parent/Guardian Name  ________________________________  Cell#  _________________
Attention Juniors...

Kaplan ACT Test Prep Classes

Held at Watkins Mill HS

Prepare for the April ACT!

Classes begin March 3rd
10 sessions
Student Max 25, Min 20

Only $225
(Regular Price $699)
In preparation for the April 18 ACT

Classes to be held at Watkins Mill High School

March 3 – 5:30-9:30pm – Diagnostic Test
March 5 – 5:30-8:30pm
March 10 – 5:30-8:30pm
March 12 – 5:30-9:30pm – Test

March 17 – 5:30-8:30pm
March 19 – 5:30-8:30pm
March 24 – 5:30-9:30pm – Test
March 26 – 5:30-8:30pm
March 31 – 5:30-9:30pm – Test
April 2 – 5:30-8:30pm

Please give your registration form and check for $225 (payable to WMHS) to the financial office. If you prefer, you may pay online at http://osp.osmsinc.com/montgomeryMD. Click “High School”. Click “Watkins Mill High School”. Click on “Kaplan ACT Prep”. Bring printed receipt and registration form to the Financial Office.

Student ID# __________  Student Name _______________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________

Student e-mail ________________________________  Cell# __________________

Parent/Guardian Name __________________________  Cell# _________________
**IMPORTANT DATES:**

**December 1**  
Booster Club Meeting, 7:00 pm, Media Center

**December 2**  
Village Time 4

**December 3**  
MVF Tree Lighting, 12/3, 6pm, @ MV Shopping Ctr w/WM Chamber Singers

**December 4**  
Winter Choral Concert, Auditorium, 7pm, FREE!

**December 5**  
BB B – Thomas Johnson @ Thomas Johnson V 4:30 pm/JV 3:30 pm

**December 6**  
SAT Administered  
BB G – Thomas Johnson @ Thomas Johnson V 4:30 pm/JV 3:00 pm  
SW - Einstein and Watkins Mill at Montgomery College - Takoma 2:30 pm  
WR - Watkins Mill and Rockville at Wheaton 2:30 pm  
WM Chamber Singers Performs Veterans Park, 2:30 pm & Maryland State House, 7:30 pm

**December 9**  
BB – B - Watkins Mill at Urbana V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm

**December 10**  
WR - Seneca Valley at Watkins Mill V 6 pm/JV 7 pm

**December 11**  
Winter Band Concert, Auditorium, 7pm, FREE!

**December 12**  
BB – B-Poolesville at Watkins Mill V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm  
BB – G-Poolesville, V 7pm/JV 5:15 pm  
Talent Show, 7pm, Auditorium

**December 13**  
ACT Administered  
BB – B-Watkins Mill at Poolesville V  
7pm/JV 5:15 pm BB – G-Poolesville  
at Watkins Mill, V 7pm/JV 5:15 pm  
WM Chamber Singers Holiday Tour, Lakeforest Mall, 10:30 am (Lord & Taylor court)  
SW - Blake and Watkins Mill at Olney Swim Center 9:15 am

**December 14**  
WM Chamber Singers Holiday Tour, Rockville Glenview Mansion

**December 15**  
BB – B-Watkins Mill at Paint Branch V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm  
BB – G -Paint Branch at Watkins Mill V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm
**December 16**
WR - Watkins Mill at Gaithersburg V 6 pm/JV 7 pm

**December 17**
BB – Varsity - Damascus at Watkins Mill Boys V 5:15 pm/Girls V 7:00 pm

**December 18**
BB – JV-Watkins Mill at Damascus Boys JV 3:30 pm/Girls JV 5:15 pm

**December 19**
In School Concert, 3\(^{rd}\) and 4\(^{th}\) period
BB -B - Watkins Mill at Seneca Valley V 5:15 pm/JV at WM 3:30 pm
BB-G-Watkins Mill at Seneca Valley V 7 pm/JV at WM 5:15 pm

**December 20**
SW - Watkins Mill and Magruder at Martin Luther King Swim Center 9:15 am
WR-Clarksburg at Watkins Mill V 1 pm
WR - Richard Montgomery at Watkins Mill JV 2:30 pm

**December 21**
SW – Watkins Mill & Einstein at Kennedy Shriver Aquatic Ctr, 9:15 am

**December 23**
ALUMNI DAY – AUDITORIUM
Last Day of School before Winter Break

**December 24-January 2 – WINTER BREAK**

**January 5**
School Resumes

**January 3**
BB B-Watkins Mill at Einstein V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm
BB G-Einstein at Watkins Mill V 7 pm/JV 5:15 pm

**Athletic Key:**
SW = Swimming & Diving
BB B = Boys Basketball
BB G = Girls Basketball
WR = Wrestling
**IMPORTANT LINKS**

WMHS Website Home: [http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/)


Calendar: [http://coldfusion.mcps.k12.md.us/cfms/webteam/calendar/calendar.cfm?calendarID=watkinsmillhs](http://coldfusion.mcps.k12.md.us/cfms/webteam/calendar/calendar.cfm?calendarID=watkinsmillhs)

Staff Directory: [http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/staff/directory.aspx](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/staff/directory.aspx)

Edline: [www.edline.net](http://www.edline.net)

Edline Assistance: [Joseph_C_Bellino@mcpsmd.org, Mitchell_Joy@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Joseph_C_Bellino@mcpsmd.org,Mitchell_Joy@mcpsmd.org)


Lunch Pre-Payments: [https://www.mylunchmoney.com/](https://www.mylunchmoney.com/)


---

News From "The Mill" will be published every month on the news pages of the school website and Edline; emailed to all active Edline accounts; and is available by hard copy in the main office. If you would like a copy emailed to your Inbox, please make sure that your Edline account is activated with your current email address.