



NEWS FROM "THE MILL"

May 1-31, 2019

Watkins Mill High School

10301 Apple Ridge Road

Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879

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

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

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MESSAGE FROM MS. GODDARD, PRINCIPAL

Happy Spring! The midpoint of the last marking period and Prom signal that the **end of the school year** is near, with many important events taking place each week. Please be sure to follow our calendars, website, and this newsletter about important end-of-year events, testing, graduation, schedule changes, and more.

Hundreds of our students began their **AP and IB exams on May 6**. All exams will take place on-site at school.

In addition, the **PARCC AND HSA testing will take place on May 20 - 23**. Please note there is a **special delayed opening schedule on 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 am**. These students will be supervised in a separate location until class starts. Please click [here](#) for the schedule.

As you know, the **Class of 2019 Graduation will take place at DAR Constitution Hall on June 7 at 2:30 p.m.** Below are some important updates to help all graduates and families finalize their planning for this memorable occasion. As a reminder, **there will be no classes on June 7** due to the commencement ceremony that afternoon.

- **Caps and gowns will be distributed** to all obligation cleared seniors on May 24.
- **Graduation rehearsal (mandatory)** is **Thursday, June 6 at 12:00 p.m.** in our gymnasium. **All seniors must be clear of obligations to participate in the rehearsal, which is mandatory in order to participate in graduation on June 7.** Graduation tickets for the commencement ceremony will be distributed at the rehearsal as well as academic cords. If you still have an obligation, students will NOT receive their tickets.
- **Financial obligations** must be cleared in order to participate in all senior events, including graduation.
- **Expectations for behavior** (students, families, and guests in the audience) We expect all participants at graduation to conduct themselves in a dignified manner to make this a special and memorable ceremony for all.

- Our PTSA is again **arranging charter buses this year to take seniors and their family members to graduation at DAR.** The buses will depart school at 12:00 p.m. and return following the ceremony. **Reservations are required.** The cost is \$20.00 per seat. **Bus reservation forms must be received with payment by May 10.**
- **Other items** such as student dress and transportation to Constitution Hall, can be found in the **senior packet** or on the Senior Page of our website, or click for [English](#) or [Spanish](#).
- If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Squier for tickets, or Ms. McIntyre for senior activities.

Adding to the excitement at the end of the school year, our annual **Senior Awards Night** and scholarship presentations will take place on **May 23 at 7:00 p.m.** This is a memorable evening where we will be publicly recognizing our top scholars and announcing winners of local scholarships, including those sponsored by the **PTSA and Booster Club**. Students who are receiving awards will receive an invitation letter at school during the week of May 14, but the entire school community is welcome to join us for this special evening.

Seniors— Please let Ms. Heald know about your **college decisions and scholarship awards!** Currently over \$6 Million dollars in scholarships has been reported for the Class of 2019. If you receive notice of any awards or scholarships—whether you intend to go to that college or not—please report it to Ms. Heald in the Career Center. We want to hear about all scholarships that are offered to any school that you applied to. We would like to tally all of the scholarship offers and have an accurate count.

Seniors—the Senior Survey is now live and ready and can be accessed in the About Me tab of your Naviance page. Final transcripts will NOT be sent unless you have completed your senior survey.

Seniors— Hard to be believe but it's that time of year again. Locker clean out for Seniors will be Thursday, May 23 at 2:30pm. All lockers must be cleaned out and left open for inspection. Any articles remaining in lockers will be donated to the Good Will.

PTSA Meeting May 28: Please join us **at 7:00 p.m.** for the final meeting of the year as the PTSA conducts elections for next school year and I provide updates on important school initiatives as we look ahead to next year. Thank you to the other parent leaders in the PTSA and Booster Club, who have been instrumental in our efforts.

One of the annual rites of spring is the **Senior Prom**, to be held on **Saturday, May 11, from 8:00 – 12:00 p.m. at the Filmore, Silver Spring, Maryland.** Tickets are \$75 per person. Purchase your ticket from Mr. Bero in Room C110. All financial obligations, including the cap and gown fee for seniors, must be paid before purchasing prom tickets. All prom information, and guest forms (for individuals not attending Watkins Mill HS), will be given to students when purchasing a ticket and can be found [here](#).

Looking ahead to the 2019-20 school year, we are now in the process of developing the master schedule for next year, based on the course selections that students made earlier this year. It's not too late to make changes, particularly if moving into an Honors, AP, and IB courses, electives, or special programs. Students will be bringing home tentative course selections the middle of May. If you have any questions about **course selections or placement**, please feel free to call or email appropriate staff with any questions.

Note on student behavior: With the excitement of the warm weather and the end of the school year, students may get distracted from academic priorities. Thank you for your support as we emphasize with students how important it is to remain on task, concentrate on finishing the semester strong, prepare for final exams, and take school seriously during the final weeks. The staff and I will remain vigilant and will not tolerate any disruptions to the educational environment at the end of the school year, especially with so much at stake with AP/IB exams, HSA's, senior activities, and graduation. This includes dress code, for example wearing crop tops exposing your midriff area, inappropriate use of electronic devices, drug/alcohol use, and any other dangerous or violent behavior. Most importantly, please emphasize with your students the importance of making safe and responsible decisions. Thank you in advance for helping our students remain focused as we near the end of the school year.

I would like to again draw your attention to the wide range of services that are available in our Wellness Center. If you have not done so already, please make sure your child is enrolled. Information and registration forms can be found here:
<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/about/WellnessCenter.aspx>

Senior Interims Published, May 2

SAT Administered, May 4

Staff Appreciation Week, May 6 – May 10

Booster Club Meeting May 7

Summer School Registration Begins, May 8

Underclass Interims Published, May 9

Spring Instrumental Concert, May 16 - 7 p.m., Auditorium, FREE

Spring Sports Awards, May 21, 7:00 p.m., Auditorium

Spring Choral Concert, May 22- 7 p.m., Auditorium, FREE

Senior Awards Night, May 23, 7:00 p.m., Auditorium

PTSA Meeting May 28, 7 p.m.-Media Center

Watkins Mill ART Show, May 9, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., Participants will be able to vote for their favorite artwork; all artwork will be judged by the community. Light refreshments, and fun. Students art will be on display in the media center.

Family Food Market: Watkins Mill High School will be hosting another Family Food Market on Saturday, May 18, 8:00 a.m. Please come to school and shop for food items at NO COST! Please note, if the food truck arrives early, we will open the doors early. Great SSL opportunity too.

Senior Locker Clean Out, May 23

Last Day for Seniors, May 24

Cap & Gown Distribution, May 24

Holiday, Memorial Day, May 27. School Closed.

ROCK THE BLOCK, Saturday, June 1, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. Don't miss it! On Saturday, June 1st from 3 p.m. – 6 p.m., Watkins Mill High School will be hosting Rock the Block. We will have fun activities including; games, face painting, balloon clowns, performers, moon bounce, dunk tanks, and sports-themed challenges. In addition, there will be student performances, band and chorus performances, food trucks, music, free food, fire trucks, EMT trucks, police demonstrations, and much more.

2019 Special Education Parent Involvement Survey (English and Spanish)

Parents or guardians of children receiving special education and related services are asked to complete the 2019 Maryland Special Education Parent Involvement Survey over the next few weeks. The information you provide will help guide the state's efforts in improving special education and related services in public schools. The survey is anonymous and can be completed online. The deadline to complete the survey is Friday, **May 17**.

Visit www.mdparentsurvey.com/ to complete the survey.

Encuesta 2019 de Educación Especial sobre Participación de los Padres

Se solicita a los padres o guardianes de estudiantes que reciben educación especial y servicios relacionados que en las próximas semanas completen la Encuesta 2019 de Maryland de Participación de los Padres en Educación Especial. La información que usted provea servirá para guiar los esfuerzos del estado a fin de mejorar la educación especial y los servicios relacionados en las escuelas públicas. La encuesta es anónima y se puede completar en línea. El plazo límite para completar la encuesta es el viernes, **1ro. de mayo**.

Visite www.mdparentsurvey.com/ para completar la encuesta.

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>

Sincerely,
Carol L. Goddard, Principal

COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER NEWS

Seniors- by now you should have made your decision as to where you are going to school next year. Be sure to stop by the College/Career center to let me know your decision!

Juniors- If you have not taken the ACT, the SAT or the Accuplacer you must take one of them by the end of your Junior year. If you are in this category please stop by and see Mrs. Heald in the College/Career Center to sign up.

All students should check their email on a regular basis. This is where you will learn about Summer Job Opportunities, Internships, Scholarships and More!

Kate Heald

College/Career Coordinator
301-840-3957

EARN SSL HOURS THIS SUMMER AT WMHS

Watkins Mill is looking for bright, motivated students to earn SSL hours this summer and assist in the main office. You will be asked to commit to one day per week, for a 3 ½ - hour shift. If interested, please stop by the main office to pick up a form. Return the completed form to Ms. Wilson-Carr in the main office by June 5, 2019. The start date will be Monday, July 1, 2019. This is a great way to meet your graduation SSL requirement.

ATHLETIC NEWS

Spring Sports Awards Night is May 21!

Dear Spring Athletes and Families:

On behalf of the Watkins Mill Athletic Department and Administration, I would like to invite you and your guests to our annual Spring Varsity Sports Athletic Awards Night on Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., May 21, 2019 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Timothy O'Shea Auditorium.

Coaches will share their messages and introduce team and team members receiving superlative awards for the 2018-2019 season.

Please make plans to join us in this celebration of achievement. We look forward to spending the evening with you!

Sincerely,

Reginald L. Spears
Athletic Director

A NOTE FROM OUR PTSA VICE PRESIDENT

Teacher Appreciation Week Breakfast

As part of Teacher Appreciation Week, the PTSA will be providing breakfast to faculty and staff on Tuesday, May 7, 2019. We need parents to help serve and contribute items for that day. Please email Carolyn Hurt (Carolyn.hurt@gmail.com) for more information.

PTSA Sponsored Graduation Bus

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. **Bus reservation forms must be received with payment by May 10.** – Click here [English](#)/[Spanish](#) to print a copy.

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 MAY 8.

A faculty or staff member can only receive this award once. Below is the list of Bell Award winners from the past 10 years (who are no longer eligible to receive this award):

2018: Lauren Squier
2017: Matt Johnson, Tom Sneddon
2016: Sandy Young, Ana Taffo, Mary Stackhouse
2015: Michelle Pettit
2014: Lisa Ingram, Jim Archer, Adam Salzman, Leigh Landsberger
2013: Lauren Wilkinson
2012: Adam Schwartz
2011: Jeff Heckert, Debbie Prochnow, Audrey Starr
2010: Mitchell Joy, Nancy Blanco, Faina Atamas
2009: Suzanne Mentz

Our last PTSA meeting is on Tuesday, May 28 at 7:00 p.m. You'll want to be sure to attend this meeting as we have important topics on the agenda -- **PTSA board elections** among them. If you are interested or would like to learn more about the board positions, please contact me at (PASmith127.ps@gmail.com).

A special thank you to everyone who helped out at a PTSA event or activity this year! Without the help of our wonderful volunteers, many of our PTSA programs and activities would not be the success that they are.

UNLESS someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not.
– The Lorax

Pamela Smith-Truesdale
PTSA Vice President

BOOSTER CLUB

Hello Wolverine Families!

As the final days draw near, it is time to say goodbye to yet another great year here at the Mill. There is a mixture of so many emotions, good ones I promise you! To the class of 2019, this is not good bye, it's see you later alumni's!

SAVE THE DATE

RETURNING THIS SUMMER: March to the Mill – Summer Sports Camp for rising 3rd – 9th grade boys and girls.

Two one week sessions in June. June 17 – June 21 and June 24 – June 28. Monday thru Friday from 10:30 am to 3:30 p.m.

Sign up your future Wolverine for one or both weeks. Cost is \$125 for one session and \$240 for both sessions. You can deduct the expense from your Dependent Child Flexible Spending Account.

REMINDER

Join us each month at 7:00 p.m., in the Skybridge Lounge, for our Booster Meetings. We all have a role to play in the success of our students. Our next regular Booster Club meeting is Wednesday, June 5, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.

We still need **PARENT VOLUNTEERS**. Every year we have parents whose kids are graduating and they are looking to step down from the current roles. Our volunteers are important to the success of our student activities. There are a number of ways that you can contribute your time and talents to the needs of the Booster club. We welcome all Wolverine parents but would especially appreciate those of you with freshmen and younger siblings to step up so we can hand off the fun and rewards to the next generation. Please visit us during one of our Monthly Meetings to hear how you can help and continue the support to the Watkins Mill students and staff.

Staff Appreciation Week is May 6-10. Please come to WMHS and show your appreciation to the teachers and administrators, or have your students write a little note to show them how much their hard work and dedication is appreciated.

Go `Rines!!

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO PUBLIC EDUCATION AWARD

Please join me in congratulating Lola Rogers as she has been selected to receive a Distinguished Service to Public Education Award in the category of MCPS Staff. This annual award was established to recognize and show appreciation to individuals, groups and organizations that have made exemplary contributions to public education in Montgomery County.

THANK YOU TO OUR STAFF RETIREE!

Mr. John Ellison retired this spring after 30 years in MCPS. His work ethic and professionalism was a daily joy here at Watkins Mill. Best Wishes to Mr. Ellison in his retirement.

REVISED 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR MARKING PERIOD DATES & REPORT CARD SCHEDULE

- June 5, 2019 *Now a full day of normal classes due to winter weather emergency days.
- June 13, 2019 *Last update to student schedules due by 4:00 p.m.
- June 14, 2019 *End of marking period 4.
- June 17, 2019 *Teacher Grades due.
- June 18, 2019 *School Grades due.
- June 24, 2019 *Report cards mailed.
- June 26, 2019 *Schools receive report cards.

SPRING BREAK TRIP 2019...ITALY!

The 2019 Junior/Senior SPRING BREAK TRIP destination was Italy! This year's trip was a huge success, with 27 members of Watkins Mill's students and staff traveling throughout Italy. Highlights included all the usual tourist "musts" such as the colosseum, canals of Venice, and the Duomo in Florence. This year our students were able to see sooo much more, we made unscheduled stops in various smaller locations to eat local food, visit lesser known sites, and interact with local people. Although they all returned tired from 10 days of non-stop touring, our students were thrilled with their experience and have lots of stories to share about their adventures. Next stop.....Portugal in 2020. Sign up now!!!

Thomas Sneddon
Watkins Mill High School
Social Studies (IB History/Military History)

STAFF WELLNESS NEWS FOR MAY

On May 31, 2019 we will host a self defense class for staff. A representative from Kick Karate will lead us through a session of techniques to help ensure personal safety.

ARE YOU FEELIN' THE VIBE? PURCHASE YOUR YEARBOOK!

Get your yearbook for \$85 online at jostensyearbooks.com where you can pay by credit card, check, Bill Me Later, or PayPal. You can also take advantage of the monthly installment plan and make 3 online payments. Want to use a cash or check? See Mrs. Walthers in room E203 during STEP or after school. Only 55 copies left, so don't miss out! Get your book today before it's too late! LAST DAY to purchase your yearbook is Friday, May 11!

ESOL NEWS

On Tuesday, April 16th, the ESOL Department hosted an interactive workshop and performance by Piano Physical Theatre from Russia in the WMHS Auditorium. The delightful student performers are deaf and cannot hear the music or applause. Their 'theater without words' was accessible to ESOL students of all levels. You would never know that the performers cannot hear because of the participatory nature of their improvisation. They had an amazing way of connecting with the audience.

The pantomime workshop was done with about twenty of Ms. Faber's ESOL – Theater students, and the subsequent performance was presented to approximately 80 additional ESOL and American Sign Language students. The entire audience was on the stage with the players the whole time, pantomiming improvisations with the players and each other. The sheer magnetism of these lovely young performers made everyone want to co-create and participate!

MEDIA CENTER NEWS

This school year is quickly end! On April 3rd, we delivered overdue reminders to students who still have materials checked out. All materials* are due to the Media Center on May 15, 2019. *With the exceptions for students working on projects over the summer!

For more Media Center News click [here!](#)

MUSIC DEPT NEWS

"Classic Songs." Don't miss a night of memorable classic music, Our Choral Concert will be held on Thursday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free and the evening's events include performances by the Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, and featured solo performances. Our seniors and other students will be recognized and given awards.

Instrumental Music Concert will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the O'Shea Theatre featuring Jazz Band, Orchestra, and Symphonic Bank. Admission is free.

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 during the months of March and April: Giselle Lima, Gisell Maravi, Marvin Rodriguez Fuentes, Amadu Bah, Marion Tidoe, Daniel Agyumang, Jwoyal Ranjit, Christina Salsa, Nathan Terry, Zachary Dodge, and Natalie Helsel.

HEALTH ROOM NEWS

FALL SPORTS PHYSICALS!!

If you plan to do fall sports next school year, now is the time to get your physical exam done. You can have a physical done at your primary doctor's office, a walk in clinic or THE WATKINS MILL HEALTH CENTER. Come to the health room to find out more or make an appointment with us.

SPORTS PHYSICAL EXAMS WILL ALSO BE OFFERED OVER THE SUMMER BUT APPOINTMENTS WILL BE LIMITED. Watch the school website and the school marquee for the dates.

" A big shout out to all those who helped make this year's health fair a great success."

During the fair we were able to do vision screening for over 100 students, educate more than 150 students and staff on the value of knowing your BMI, counsel them on healthy diet choices, and assess their BMI. There we mental health resources, emotional health resources, CPR demonstrations and over 20 other health topics. Thanks for coming to the fair and SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!!

SBHWC Team
Nancy Caruso, RN/BSN/SCHN
School Community Health Nurse
301 284 4454 Health Room
240 406 1546 School Based Wellness Center
301 284 4455 RN Office
Fax 240 406 1548

OBLIGATION PAYMENTS

As of now, May 1st, no checks will be accepted for payment of obligations. **You may pay by cash or money order.** Please see Ms. Holderman in the financial office or call her at 301-284-4416 if you should have any questions.

Lisa Holderman
Financial Specialist

SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Summer School—Registration is scheduled to begin May 8, 2018.

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

Regional High School Summer School Program 2019

Session 1: June 25, 2018 – July 13, 2019

Session 2: July 17, 2018 – August 3, 2019

Sites:

James Hubert Blake HS
300 Norwood Road
Silver Spring, MD 20905
Phone: 240-740-1400
Fax: 301-879-1306

Winston Churchill HS
11300 Gainsbrough Road
Potomac, MD 20854
Phone: 240-740-5400
Fax: 301-469-1208

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

Northwood HS
919 University Blvd. West
Silver Spring, MD, 20817
Phone: 301-649-8088
Fax: 301-649-8285

The **high school summer school** is planned 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.

HOMWORK 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](https://www.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/>

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.shtml>