



# **NEWS FROM "THE MILL"**

January 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/>

## **IN THIS NEWSLETTER:**

- *Message from Ms. Goddard*
- *College and Career Center Update*
- *IB Update*
- *Athletic News*
- *PTSA News*
- *Important Dates*

### **MESSAGE FROM MS. GODDARD, PRINCIPAL**

**Happy New Year!** I hope you and your families had a restful Holiday season and have entered 2019 with focus, renewed energy, and commitment to our students' success.

Looking ahead, **report cards** will be distributed to students to take home on February 6. The third marking period begins on January 29, and ends on April 3, 2019.

The **second semester** will begin with a homeroom on Tuesday, January 29 (there is no school for students on Monday January 28). During homeroom on January 29, students will receive new second semester schedules. Note: it is not too late for students to enroll in an advanced class for the second semester. If you are interested in making a change to an advanced-level class, please contact your child's counselor!

**PSAT scores have arrived!** PSAT Score Reports from the fall administration will be distributed to students during the month of January, with an explanation on how to read the score report. Students and parents can also visit the PSAT website at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) for more information on reading the score report and on how these scores can help students with college planning. The PSAT Score Report is a valuable tool in predicting performance on the SAT and advanced level classes.

**College acceptances** and **scholarships** are coming in at a rapid pace for the Class of 2019! So far, thousands of dollars in merit-based scholarships have already been reported to our Career Center. If you receive notice of any merit-based awards or scholarships—whether you intend to go to that college or not—please report it to the

Career Center. We want to hear about all the scholarships that are offered to any school that you applied. We want to tally all of the scholarships offers and have an accurate count. Keep those award letters coming in!

**Registration for 2019-20 is underway! Got IB?** Juniors and sophomores have begun 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 IB courses. Exposure and successful completion to these courses is known to have a direct correlation to college readiness, and is an enriching educational experience for the 21st century learner. Any student, regardless of their academic profile, 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 10<sup>th</sup> grade parents:** Please consider having your child take advantage of courses in our [International Baccalaureate \(IB\)](#) program, or consider enrolling in the IB Diploma or IBCP Programme. Regardless of the courses they have taken, they are eligible to consider IB now! Questions? Please contact Ms. Ingram, IB Coordinator, at [Lisa\\_A\\_Ingram@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Lisa_A_Ingram@mcpsmd.org) or your school counselor.



**Why is the IB Program ideal preparation for college, careers, and beyond? Find out [here](#)**

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Saturday, January 5, POMS Invitational**

**Wednesday, January 9, Football Banquet**

**Saturday, January 12, Winter Formal Dance, Main Gym**

**Saturday, January 19, Family Food Market,** Watkins Mill High School will be hosting another Family Food Market. Please come to school at 8:00 am and shop for food items at NO COST!

**Monday, January 21, (Holiday – MLK Day)** school and office closed.

**Wednesday, January 23, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night:** Join us future wolverines at 6:30

pm for this once a year event to learn about our amazing programs & supports, registration process, extracurricular activities and so much more. Click [here](#) for more information.

**Friday, January 25**, 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Ends/2<sup>nd</sup> Marking Period Ends; **Early Release Day**.

**Monday, January 28** no school for students due to professional day for teachers.

**Tuesday, January 29**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Begins/3<sup>rd</sup> Marking Period Begins; Homeroom for Schedules

### **Wednesday, February 6, Report Card Distribution**

**Yearbook:** The yearbook is now on sale for \$84.80. Order now @ [www.jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com) or see Mrs. Walthers in room A209 to purchase your book or if you have any questions. Yearbooks are going fast, so get yours before they sell out!

### **Emergency Planning:**

The safety and security of students and staff is our top priority every day. All MCPS schools have specific emergency response plans, and drills are conducted several times throughout the year. MCPS is in the process of developing new resources for parents, students and staff about our safety and security procedures. The school district has posted a new video and other information on its Emergency Preparedness website. These resources provide details about our school safety procedures, and review the different levels of response—Lockdown, Evacuation and Shelter in Place. Please take some time to learn more about our emergency procedures:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/emergency/preparedness/>

Throughout the year, we routinely conduct school lockdown/shelter-in-place and reunification drills. In the event of an actual emergency, there will be a “reunification” process in which parents sign out their children, or allow an authorized relative or another person to do so. This process states that when parents or guardians pick up a student, that identification be presented and the student signed out accurately. Please make sure that you keep your student’s emergency contact up-to-date and provide contact information for any adult who is authorized to release your child. This information can be updated on MyMCPS Parent Portal or by contacting the school. Questions? Please call Ms. Rogers at 301-284-4420 or email her at: [Lola\\_R\\_Rogers@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Lola_R_Rogers@mcpsmd.org).

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 Goddard, Principal

## **COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER NEWS**

Seniors, do you still need to submit your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)? If you have questions, stop by and see Mrs. Heald in the Career Center.

### **GET FREE HANDS ON HELP WITH THE FAFSA AT THE GAITHERSBURG LIBRARY**

The MC-EOC program provides information, guidance/advising and application assistance for enrollment in post-secondary education. Individualized services include: Admissions Counseling, Financial Aid Counseling, FAFSA application assistance Scholarship Search GED counseling Academic Advising Career Advising Financial Literacy and Advising on **the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of each month**. Schedule an appointment by calling 240-777-4959.

Looking for \$\$ for college? Check out the Local/National Scholarships and the web-based Scholarships on the College/Career Center page. Scroll down to find the latest editions.

The **Central Scholarship Bureau** is a privately funded, non-profit organization whose mission is to provide access to post-secondary education to students from Maryland. CSB offers **interest-free loans** and **competitive scholarships and grants** to qualified students to **help meet the costs of college, professional or vocational training**. There are **no application fees or loan fees**. **Loans are interest free for the life of the loan**. Applicants must be **permanent residents of the State of Maryland**, but **may attend any accredited U.S. college, university or vocational school**. **They must be full-time students in good academic standing, meet CSB income guidelines and have completed the FAFSA**. For more details go to [www.central-scholarship.org](http://www.central-scholarship.org) . **Deadline to submit the online application is April 1.**

### **Attention Juniors**

JUNIORS SHOULD SIGN UP NOW TO TAKE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS TESTS (SAT OR ACT) IN THE SPRING. We will be hosting a FREE SAT Day at Watkins Mill in March, more information to follow! Registration is online at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat> or at <http://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act.html>. Register four to six weeks in advance of a test date to ensure your first choice of location.

### **FREE ONLINE SAT/ACT TEST PREP FOR WMHS STUDENTS**

For **FREE SAT prep: Khan Academy:** <https://www.khanacademy.org/>

For **FREE ACT prep:**

**Exampracticetests.com**

**Prepfactory.com**

### **SAT and ACT Prep classes offered through Montgomery College**

Montgomery College will be offering SAT Prep classes in preparation for the March, May, and June tests. ACT prep classes are also available to students who plan to take the ACT in February, April or June. These classes are \$365.00 for 30 hours of classroom instruction. Register early. Classes fill fast! For more information on the schedule of classes, please visit:

[www.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/satprep.html](http://www.montgomerycollege.edu/wdce/satprep.html)

The HBCU Fair is scheduled for Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, Mark your calendars! More information to follow!

**Kate Heald**

College/Career Coordinator

[Catharine\\_E\\_Heald@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Catharine_E_Heald@mcpsmd.org)

301-284-4432

**EXCITING NEWS FROM COUNSELING**

Andre Tulloch has been selected as the Posse Scholar recipient for Watkins Mill High School. The Posse Foundation identifies, recruits, and trains individuals with extraordinary leadership potential. After a very selective nomination process, selected students are then interviewed and led through a series of teambuilding exercises with the Posse selection committee. It is after this rigorous process that students are selected to be a Posse scholar and receive full-tuition leadership scholarships from Posse's partner colleges and universities. Andre has selected the University of Rochester where he will pursue his undergraduate degree in Biological Sciences.

**NEWS FROM THE IB OFFICE**

**ATTENTION ALL RISING 11TH GRADERS:**

In early January Mrs. Ingram conducted class visits in 10<sup>th</sup> grade English classes to discuss next year's course and program options with our rising 11<sup>th</sup> graders. Our discussions focused on the important decisions at hand for this group of youngsters and advice as to how to become informed regarding all the many options to consider for next year's course selections. Among the topics we discussed included the specific nuances of each of our IB programs: The Diploma Program (IBDP) and the Career Related Program (IBCP), the opportunities to take individual IB courses. We also discussed important items related to college readiness, including preparation for the ACT/SAT/Accuplacer in the upcoming season. Emails were also sent out with information regarding the IBDP and IBCP to school email addresses. Be sure to contact Mrs. Ingram or your counselor if you have questions about any aspect of the IB Program or scheduling items related to IB.

**ATTENTION ALL RISING 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> GRADERS:**

As you make your course selections for the next school year, be sure to plan with the end in mind. That is, if you plan to embark upon a program of studies in IB, several selection considerations must be made. Specifically, please make an effort to carefully select your courses with advisement of your current teacher per subject, and make note of advisement regarding the proper level of instruction your counselors make on a variety of data points. The more rigor you can manage in 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, the better prepared you will be for advanced studies in IB as an upperclassman. Consider selecting courses which are prerequisites for any program for which you hope to be considered in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades; additionally, please be mindful of the practical benefit of attempting to schedule the basic MCPS graduation requirements (Technology 1.0 credits; Fine Arts 1.0 credits; Physical Education 1.0 credits; Health 0.5 credits) in 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> so as to make free the capacity in the schedule for programs such as the IB Diploma or IB Career Related Certificate programs, both of which have stringent scheduling considerations and of which have need for careful planning and forethought. Be sure to contact Mrs. Ingram or your counselor if you have questions about any aspect of the IB Program or scheduling items related to IB.

Lisa Ingram, IB Coordinator  
[Lisa\\_A\\_Ingram@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Lisa_A_Ingram@mcpsmd.org)  
(301) 840-9375

### **ESOL**

Place: Watkins Mill High School rooms D004a, D006, D008

Cost: free

Includes: ESOL and math instruction for newcomers, homework help, and direct academic support for juniors and seniors trying to graduate this year; SSL opportunities; wellness groups, arts, and recreation such as field trips; incentives; snacks and meals; transportation home including for out-of-area METS students

Goal: 10 hours per week of participation by 60 students

Registration through ESOL classes, the Wellness Center, and counselors is underway.

A big shout out to staff who have stepped up to get the program started:

*Heather Holcomb, Coordinator of Academic*  
*Juan Toscano-Madrid, Coordinator of Wellness*  
*Elizabeth Paco, Wellness Center Staff*  
*Danny Gutierrez, Wellness Center Staff*  
*Ms. Petrovic, Newcomers*  
*Ms. Shellabarger, Juniors and Seniors*  
*Mr. Britt, Math*  
*Mr. Machuca, Math*

**To refer a student, contact Juan Toscano-Madrid: [jtoscanomadrid@identity-youth.org](mailto:jtoscanomadrid@identity-youth.org)  
or Heather Holcomb: [Heather A Holcomb@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Heather_A_Holcomb@mcpsmd.org)**

### **HSA NEWS**

Fall Block HSA (High School Assessment) Government and MISA (Maryland Integrated Science Assessment) Testing is coming!

Eligible students will test the week of January 7-11, 2019. Eligible students will receive a pass to inform them of the need to test, when they will test and where to report on the day of testing. This testing is very important as completion of and passing scores on the Government and MISA Tests are graduation requirements. All Juniors, and eligible Seniors will take the MISA test this fall, as participation in MISA test will meet the graduation requirement. Below are the eligible groups of students for the Fall Block of Government and MISA Testing:

## **Government**

- Students that have passed the second semester course and have not tested or have not passed the test.

## **MISA**

- Any Senior without a Biology HSA score or MISA participation
  - All Juniors without a Biology HSA score or MISA participation
- More information will follow.

Please continue to check the Watkins Mill High School website for announcements and updates regarding Fall Block HSA Testing.

## **WELLNESS**

We had a great time participating in the Walk to the Moon Challenge through MCPS and the WMHS 5K during this school year. Let's kick off the New Year 2019, with more fun and health!! Start your year off healthy and colorful with this link to delicious New Year Smoothie recipes: <https://www.serious-eats.com/2015/01/best-smoothie-recipes-fruit-vegetable-drinks.html>

Our Next Staff Wellness Event will be on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. in the GYM.

*Join us for "Tree Pose" @ "The Mill"*

Our very own Kauri Martin will help us connect, center, stretch and grow!

Please sign up by sending an email to Mrs. Augustin at [Ruth\\_E\\_Augustin@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Ruth_E_Augustin@mcpsmd.org).

## **MCPS Staff Wellness Challenge Update**

Thank you to everyone who has been participating and those who are cheering us on with our ***Challenge to The Moon*** program! We are happy to make the following announcement:

Five winners were chosen AT RANDOM from those who entered activity for the period of 10/15-10/21. Watkins Mill High School was chosen! Individual winners are looking forward to receiving a fruit platter delivered to their school! And their corresponding schools/offices will enjoy a \$250 grant to be used for physical education equipment or to promote wellness within their staff!

## **ATHLETIC NEWS**

### **Poms**

- WMHS will be hosting its second annual **The Wolverine Pompons Invitational** on January 5, 2019. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased in advance from any member on the Poms team. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$5. Division 2 & 3 will begin at 9:30 am and Division 1 will begin at 2:00 pm. Doors will open at 9:30 am concessions and vendors will be available for this event. Please come out and support the Poms, as they get ready for the MCPS County Championships, which will be held on Feb. 2, 2019, at Blair High School.
- Watkins Mill Poms team will be competing in a Pompon Invitational on Jan 12, at Blake High School starting at 10 am. In addition, on January 26, 2019, we will be competing at Northwest high school also starting at 10 am. Each event will be \$5.00. Come and support

your Wolverine Poms team. We are getting ready for county completion in February. See you there.

### Swim & Dive

The Watkins Mill Wolverines went up against Paint Branch this past weekend. The girls defeated Paint Branch by over 20 points! Some of the highlights included a win the 200 Medley relays consisting of Marley Hammond, Diana Yanes, Lauren Flandrau, and Maddie Aguilar. Vivian Ingram got first in the 200 free by a landslide! Diana Yanes, Jubilee Robinson, and Alyssa Holt swept the 200 IM, getting places 1 through 3! The 200 freestyle relay consisting of Shelby Aguilar, Jubilee Robinson, Alyssa Holt, and Helen Kreitzer had a come from behind win. On the boys' side, Bryant Sanchez representing the Wolverines as the only diver, getting 1<sup>st</sup> place! Some of the other highlights include Griffen MacLaren dropping 4 seconds in the 200 IM, Anis Gribri representing the wolverines as the only male 500 freestyle swimmer. Chris Crews got a best time in a close race in the 100 breaststroke, and the boy's team ended the meet with an awesome 400 free relay, consisting of Selvin Cruz, Bryan Ventura, Anis Gribri, and Brennan guilds. Come cheer us on!

### Boys Basketball

The boys basketball team is off to a great start to the season for the record of 1 and 1 including a great win against Crosstown rival Northwest High School 61-57. The boys will play 3 tough games leading into Christmas break against Clarksburg High School, Walter Johnson High School, and Einstein High School. This year the Wolverines will be participating in the Quince Orchard Holiday Tournament well they will face off against Tuscarora High School and Owings Mills High School. Please come out and support the boys and the opportunity that you get. Go 'Rines

### Athletic Activities for the month of January

01/02/2019	Wednesday	JV Wrestling	Gaithersburg at Watkins Mill 7:15 PM
01/02/2019	Wednesday	Varsity Wrestling	Gaithersburg at Watkins Mill 6:15 PM
01/03/2019	Thursday	Boys JV Basketball	Seneca Valley at Watkins Mill 5:30 PM
01/03/2019	Thursday	Boys Varsity Basketball	Seneca Valley at Watkins Mill 7:15 PM
01/03/2019	Thursday	Girls JV Basketball	Watkins Mill at Seneca Valley 5:30 PM
01/03/2019	Thursday	Girls Varsity Basketball	Watkins Mill at Seneca Valley 7:15 PM
01/05/2019	Saturday	Boys JV Basketball	Watkins Mill at Blake 12:15 PM
01/05/2019	Saturday	Boys Varsity Basketball	Watkins Mill at Blake 2 PM
01/05/2019	Saturday	Coed Varsity Swim & Dive	Seneca Valley and Watkins Mill at Gaithersburg Aquatic Center 12 pm
01/05/2019	Saturday	Girls JV Basketball	Blake at Watkins Mill 12:15 PM
01/05/2019	Saturday	Girls Varsity Basketball	Blake at Watkins Mill 2 PM
01/07/2019	Monday	Boys JV Basketball	Watkins Mill at Damascus 5:30 PM
01/07/2019	Monday	Boys Varsity Basketball	Watkins Mill at Damascus 7:15 PM
01/07/2019	Monday	Girls JV Basketball	Damascus at Watkins Mill 5:30 PM
01/07/2019	Monday	Girls Varsity Basketball	Damascus at Watkins Mill 7:15 PM
01/11/2019	Friday	Boys JV Basketball	Watkins Mill at Rockville 5:30 PM
01/11/2019	Friday	Boys Varsity Basketball	Watkins Mill at Rockville 7:15 PM
01/11/2019	Friday	Girls JV Basketball	Rockville at Watkins Mill 5:30 PM
01/11/2019	Friday	Girls Varsity Basketball	Rockville at Watkins Mill 7:15 PM



01/12/2019	Saturday	Coed Varsity Indoor Track	MCPS Indoor Montgomery Invitational at PG Sportsplex 8 am-9 pm (Athletes may enter at 8 am)
01/12/2019	Saturday	Coed Varsity Swim & Dive	Kennedy, Seneca Valley and Watkins Mill at Germantown Indoor Swim Center 9:15 am
01/15/2019	Tuesday	Boys JV Basketball	Poolesville at Watkins Mill 5:30 PM
01/15/2019	Tuesday	Boys Varsity Basketball	Poolesville at Watkins Mill 7:15 PM
01/15/2019	Tuesday	Girls JV Basketball	Watkins Mill at Poolesville 5:30 PM
01/15/2019	Tuesday	Girls Varsity Basketball	Watkins Mill at Poolesville 7:15 PM
01/16/2019	Wednesday	Coed Varsity Indoor Track	MCPS Indoor Track & Field Championships at PG Sportsplex 2:30 pm-9:30 pm (Athletes may enter at 12:30 pm)
01/16/2019	Wednesday	JV Wrestling	Watkins Mill at Damascus 7:15 PM
01/16/2019	Wednesday	Varsity Wrestling	Watkins Mill at Damascus 6:15 PM
01/19/2019	Saturday	Coed Varsity Swim & Dive	Wheaton and Watkins Mill at Olney Swim Center 11:30 am
01/22/2019	Tuesday	Boys JV Basketball	Magruder at Watkins Mill 5:30 PM
01/22/2019	Tuesday	Boys Varsity Basketball	Magruder at Watkins Mill 7:15 PM
01/22/2019	Tuesday	Girls JV Basketball	Watkins Mill at Magruder 5:30 PM
01/22/2019	Tuesday	Girls Varsity Basketball	Watkins Mill at Magruder 7:15 PM
01/23/2019	Wednesday	JV Wrestling	Watkins Mill at Wheaton 7:15 PM
01/23/2019	Wednesday	Varsity Wrestling	Watkins Mill at Wheaton 6:15 PM
01/25/2019	Friday	Boys JV Basketball	Watkins Mill at Seneca Valley 5:30 PM
01/25/2019	Friday	Boys Varsity Basketball	Watkins Mill at Seneca Valley 7:15 PM
01/25/2019	Friday	Girls JV Basketball	Seneca Valley at Watkins Mill 5:30 PM
01/25/2019	Friday	Girls Varsity Basketball	Seneca Valley at Watkins Mill 7:15 PM
01/26/2019	Saturday	Coed Varsity Swim & Dive	Watkins Mill and Magruder at Martin Luther King Swim Center 9:15 am
01/26/2019	Saturday	JV Wrestling	Poolesville at Watkins Mill 2 PM
01/26/2019	Saturday	Varsity Wrestling	Poolesville at Watkins Mill 1 PM
01/29/2019	Tuesday	JV Wrestling	Watkins Mill at Walter Johnson 7:15 PM
01/29/2019	Tuesday	Varsity Wrestling	Watkins Mill at Walter Johnson 6:15 PM
01/30/2019	Wednesday	Boys JV Basketball	Damascus at Watkins Mill 5:30 PM
01/30/2019	Wednesday	Boys Varsity Basketball	Damascus at Watkins Mill 7:15 PM
01/30/2019	Wednesday	Girls JV Basketball	Watkins Mill at Damascus 5:30 PM
01/30/2019	Wednesday	Girls Varsity Basketball	Watkins Mill at Damascus 7:15 PM

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER - SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION**

It is the time of year when winter weather may disrupt school operations, forcing schools to close, dismiss early, or delay opening. Announcements of school closings or delays are made as early as possible, generally in time for news broadcasts that begin at 5 a.m. If schools are closing early, the announcements are made by 11 a.m.

There are several ways to get the latest information on closings.

- MCPS QuickNotes e-mail news service will send emergency information to subscribers.
- To sign up visit: [www.mcpsquicknotes.org](http://www.mcpsquicknotes.org)
- -MCPS home page <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org> will display emergency announcements.

- -ASK MCPS Telephone Information Center at 301-309-6277 has English- and Spanish-speaking
- -Operators available from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- -MCPS information line, 301-279-3673, has recorded information 24 hours a day.
- -MCPS Cable channel 34 and local radio and TV stations will broadcast the information
- -MCPS will Twitter at <http://twitter.com/mcps>

### **INTERNATIONAL NIGHT**

**March 14, 2019 6:00pm**

Volunteers Needed – Parents and Students (SSL hours will be provided)

Looking for anyone who would like to help with the following:

- Performing – Dance, music, theatrical
- Dressing up for the fashion show portion – Cultural attire
- Creating a display board (i.e. trifold board that has information about a particular culture, region or country)
- Making any dishes to share during the event
- General help with different things like - setting up decorations and cleaning up.

If interested email Ms. Flores at [Reina i floressesnich@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Reina_i_floressesnich@mcpsmd.org)

**Our first meeting will be Tuesday, January 8, during STEP in room E006.**

### **CULINARY NEWS**

Johnson and Wales visited all classes in the Culinary Arts program on December 17th. Students were treated to Fresh Indian Cuisine prepared in class. We are looking forward to a visit from Ana Mendez in the near future.

### **IN THE ART WORLD**

About 40 WMHS visual art students will be going to visit Glenstone Museum in Potomac, Maryland. The trip is scheduled for January 11, 2019. Glenstone is a private museum that recently opened to the public. The Rales, Glenstone owners, are sponsoring this trip in which students will experience art both indoors and outdoors. The museum exhibits art by various contemporary artists as well as beautiful architecture.

[www.glenstone.org](http://www.glenstone.org)

### **SGA**

The Student Government is hosting an American Red Cross Blood Drive Tuesday, January 15, from 8:30-2:00 pm in the auditorium. Students ages 16 and older are eligible to donate. If you are 16, you must get a parent permission form prior to donating. See Ms. Squier in B102 to make an appointment and/or to get a permission form. All first time eligible donors will receive a free shirt for donating. Thanks for helping us save lives!

### **2020 SPRING BREAK TRIP ANNOUNCEMENT**

The 2020 Spring Break Trip destination will be...PORTUGAL! The trip will include a tour of Porto, Lisbon, the Algarve, and more! Visit the beaches, the cathedrals, the castles, and more as you and your friends eat phenomenal meals and visit one of the most unique cultures in the world.

Registration has already started, so if you want a great Spring Break experience next year, sign up ASAP. The price of the trip increases over time, so get in now to lock down the lowest price!

Visit the following website or call to register...  
eftours.com/2167282YC (800) 665-5364

This trip is for Juniors and Seniors Only! See Mr. Sneddon in the Social Studies Office at STEP if you have any questions.

Obrigado

### **KEY CLUB**

In November, Key Club members worked together and made over 500 dog toys for the local animal shelter. Member, Josue Hernandez, volunteered to drop off the items.



Key Club members wanted to lend a helping hand to neighboring Frederick County Students. In partnership with Hood College, Key Club members collected personal items (lotion, toothbrushes, gloves, etc.) for homeless students in Frederick County.

Key Club members also donated a portion of their budget to donate 30 holiday gifts and sign holiday cards to the families of WMHS.

### **A NOTE FROM OUR PTSA VICE PRESIDENT**

**I hope that everyone enjoyed winter break and had a relaxing and enjoyable time with family and friends. Our next PTSA meeting will be Tuesday, February 19th, 6:30 pm in the Media Center.**

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.

**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 an email to [pasmith127.ps@gmail.com](mailto:pasmith127.ps@gmail.com).

Pamela Smith-Truesdale  
PTSA Exec Vice President

## **BOOSTER CLUB**

### **Hello Wolverines Families-**

Happy Holidays! Our concession sign-up is going very well and we thank everyone who has been signing up for concessions. Please continue to do sign-up; we need all the money we can get! Everyone is welcomed and encouraged to work the games and Clubs can share the profit with the Booster Club.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b49afaa28a1ff2-concession>

A Big **THANK YOU** to all the parents who are helping with the current concessions, but we have **The Watkins Mill HS Pom Invitational on Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup>**. This event will bring between 600 to 700 people to our school and we need all the help/volunteers we can get. The Concession stand will need to open from 9:00am to 4:00pm. SSL hours will be available for students who assist with prepping, various activities and clean up at the end of the day. Please contact Chanel Coly at [pandacreates@gmail.com](mailto:pandacreates@gmail.com) or Aissa Sires at [sireshomes@gmail.com](mailto:sireshomes@gmail.com) for further information.

**Our next BOOSTER meeting will be Wednesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 @7:00 pm in the Skybridge conference room.** We invite all parents, students, and school staff interested in learning more about your Booster Club to join us.

**Annual Seasons Passes** are still available for all home athletic events in the school financial office: Adults @ \$70, Students @ \$40. Winter and Spring only passes, also available. Winter passes are \$40 adults and \$24 for students. Spring passes are \$20 adults and \$12 for students. ***PLEASE CONFIRM/UPDATE?***

You can always also complete the membership form found on the PTSA/Booster Club link on the school web site:

[www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/ptsa/](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/ptsa/) and return to the school office. Membership can also be paid via PayPal.

**All parent volunteers:** Please remember to send your monthly volunteer hours to our Volunteer Coordinator, Mariana Hildesheim, at [hildeshm@comcast.net](mailto:hildeshm@comcast.net). Here is the link to the form to submit:

[https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/watkinsmillhs/news/Volunteer%20Log%20311-56\(2\).pdf](https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/schools/watkinsmillhs/news/Volunteer%20Log%20311-56(2).pdf)

Thank you!

## CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION (CTE) PROGRAMS

Registration for the 2019-2020 school year is currently taking place through the Counseling Office. If your child is interested in one of the Career programs, please be certain to have them register for the classes for next year. The classes include Hospitality Management, Child Development, Academy of Finance, and Medical Careers. If they are unsure of whether they want to join one of the programs, taking an introductory class is a great way to help them decide.

For more information, feel free to reach out to any of the Career teachers listed below.

- Emily Nalda – Hospitality Management
- Melissa Cloyd – Child Development
- Sandy Chaplin – Academy of Finance
- Paula Mascendaro – Medical Careers

## HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE HEALTH ROOM AND HEALTH AND WELLNESS CENTER!

We are at the start of a new year and we would like to remind you of some very important health policies.

PLEASE let the health room know if your student has been diagnosed with an illness that may require medical assistance at school.

ALSO, PLEASE let the health room know if your student is carrying his/her own prescribed or over-the-counter medication. This is very important for us to know so we can assist your student if they should require that medication or medical attention while in school. Some examples might be Epi-pens or asthma inhalers.

Also, please inform the health room and the main office of any address or phone number changes in case we need to reach you during the school day.

Remember, we are offering **FREE** influenza / gripe, vaccines/vacuna in the health room for students.

Nancy Caruso

Watkins Mill High School/SBWC10301 Apple Ridge Road  
Gaithersburg, MD 20886

## HOLIDAY SUCCESS

The outpouring of gifts from the community, staff, and the SGA has changed the holidays for 35 families this year. A giant thanks to OPIS who provided gifts and food for 5 of the families. The gifts ranged from coats (the most requested) to soccer balls, to warm blankets, to socks. Each family was given food for the holidays and that was a big help for the many days of no school, along with grocery gift certificates. Every day is hard when you are living at the poverty line, thank you to everyone who participated in the gift drive.

## MVA MARYLAND LEARNERS PERMIT

Maryland Learners Permit testing process is offered by the MVA at Watkins Mill High School. The test will be conducted on January 19, 2019, and will begin promptly at 12:30 pm. Click [here](#) for more information and permission slip.

## **WATKINS MILL TRAFFIC INFORMATION**

Attention Watkins Mill Parents,

To assure safety for all of our students, and staff, please follow the procedures when picking up or dropping off students. The Watkins Mill Security Team are out there directing traffic during student's arrival and departure to make sure traffic rules are being followed. In the link below, you will find the Watkins Mill Traffic Information. Click [here](#) for more information.

## **GIANT BONUS BUCKS**

Watkins Mill High School is again participating in the A+ Giant Bonus Bucks Program. Please take a moment and register your card for our school. Each card can have up to 3 designated schools. If you registered your card last year, you do not need to do it again this year. However, if you have not registered please do so and help our school earn some money for student activities.

How Do Parents/Guardians Community Members Sign Up?

- Locate your 12-digit Giant card number found on the back of your card.
- Visit [www.giantfood.com/aplus](http://www.giantfood.com/aplus) and select "register your card," located in the red box at the right of the webpage. Follow the prompts to complete the registration, or call the A+ School Rewards Hotline at 1-877-275-2758 for assistance.
- If you have a Giant card but do not know your 12-digit Giant card number, call the Giant card hotline at 1-877-366-2668 and select Option #1. Representatives will be able to provide you your Giant card number and register your chosen school(s).
- If you need a Giant card, please visit your local store or visit [giantfood.com](http://giantfood.com).

Thanks for your support!!

## **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>

## **SAT/ACT for Grade 11 Students**

### **Montgomery County Public Schools Covering Cost of SAT or ACT for Grade 11 Students**

As part of a comprehensive strategy to ensure access and opportunity for all students, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) provides important college readiness examinations to all students. This includes the PSAT during the school day for all Grade 10 students each fall, and SAT School

Day for all Grade 11 students each spring. In lieu of the SAT, Grade 11 students also have the option of taking the ACT during a national administration date. Not only does this approach allow greater access to these important examinations, but also it supports efforts to remove barriers associated with college entrance examinations and ensures equitable access to these important steps to college and career readiness. Click [here](#) for more information.

### **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](http://askhhl.org)
- Sending a text message to 724-427-5445
- Emailing [question@AskHHL.org](mailto: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/](http://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://wmhsboosters.com/>

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>

News From "The Mill" will be published every month on the news page of the school website, emailed to all active Connect-ed accounts, and available by hard copy in the main office.