



# NEWS FROM "THE MILL"

February 1 - 28, 2022

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

Welcome to the halfway point of the academic year! Semester 2 began Tuesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>. I encourage students to think back to their excitement and focus when the school year began in August, and to use that energy, and set goals for the second half of the year. The start of a new semester offers students the opportunity to have a clean slate and a renewed outlook for success on their path to college, careers, and beyond.

I am very proud of the seniors here at Watkins Mill. The scholarships and awards are pouring in to showcase our student's high achievements. If your student is amongst those receiving scholarships and awards, please be sure to let the counseling department know so we can celebrate their hard work.

Watkins Mill is proud to announce that we are one of only four MCPS high schools with two Posse Scholars this year! Tomy Liu and Krystin Ipina have been awarded full-tuition scholarships to Bucknell University in recognition of their extraordinary academic achievement and leadership potential.

In addition, Conrad Uyakonwu has been awarded the prestigious Questbridge Scholarship. He will attend the University of Chicago tuition-free in recognition of his outstanding academic ability. Congratulations to all three students on these amazing accomplishments!

**Important information for seniors:** By the end of February, letters will be mailed home to parents of seniors who are in danger of not obtaining necessary credits required for graduation, giving specific information regarding their graduation status. In the meantime, if you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact your student's counselor at 301-284-4420.

**Graduation:** - This year's Graduation Ceremony is tentatively scheduled for Monday, June 13, 2022, at 2:30 pm at DAR Constitution Hall. Due to the ongoing pandemic the vineyard may change.

**Report cards** will be available to students and parents through StudentVUE and ParentVUE between February 1. Parents that have not activated their ParentVUE account will receive a paper copy in the mail. The third marking period began on January 25, and ends on March 31, 2022.

Sincerely,

Carol Goddard, Principal

## **NEWS AND HAPPENINGS AROUND THE MILL:**

### **WMHS PTSA & BOOSTER CLUB NEWS**

#### **INVESTING IN THE WATKINS MILL COMMUNITY**

Thanks to your support, despite the ongoing COVID restrictions on our life together as a community, your PTSA/Boosters is moving forward to expand services to students, teachers, and our whole community!

**Students** - the School Store is back! After a brief hiatus from serving up snacks and drinks during the cafeteria hour, your PTSA will be opening up the store for limited hours certain days of the week starting in February. Healthy, low-carb, nutrient-rich but tasty snacks will be served for reasonable prices as always. Parents: if you would like to help staff the store, contact our Vice President, Margarita Maza, at 240-541-2273.

**Teachers** - our frontline workers whose strength, resilience, and creativity have carried us through this last year and a half deserve our appreciation! We will have more opportunities to show that appreciation very soon. If you would like to participate, email me, Dee Pinkowitz, at [deepinkowitz@yahoo.com](mailto:deepinkowitz@yahoo.com).

**Watkins Mill Community** - the Mulch Sale is back this year! Your PTSA/Boosters will be taking orders to deliver mulch in the neighborhood - details to follow. Would you like to volunteer to assist in the delivery? Email our Fundraising Coordinator, Carmen Frazier, at [carmenfrazier6@gmail.com](mailto:carmenfrazier6@gmail.com).

Together, we become stronger! Thanks for your support.

Norm Gordon, President  
WMHS PTSA/Boosters

### **INVIRTIENDO EN LA COMUNIDAD DE WATKINS MILL**

Gracias a su apoyo, a pesar de las continuas restricciones de COVID en nuestra vida juntos como comunidad, su PTSA/Boosters está avanzando para expandir los servicios a los estudiantes, maestros y toda nuestra comunidad.

**Estudiantes:** ¡la tienda de la escuela está de regreso! Después de una breve pausa de servir refrigerios y bebidas durante el horario de la cafetería, su PTSA abrirá la tienda durante horas limitadas ciertos días de la semana a partir de febrero. Como siempre, se servirán refrigerios saludables, bajos en carbohidratos, ricos en nutrientes pero sabrosos a precios razonables. Padres: si desea ayudar con el personal de la tienda, comuníquese con nuestra vicepresidenta, Margarita Maza, al 240-541-2273.

**Maestros:** ¡nuestros trabajadores de primera línea cuya fuerza, resiliencia y creatividad nos han llevado a través de este último año y medio merecen nuestro reconocimiento! Tendremos más oportunidades de mostrar ese aprecio muy pronto. Si desea participar, envíe un correo electrónico a mi, Norm Gordon, a [ngordon0522@gmail.com](mailto:ngordon0522@gmail.com).

**Watkins Mill Community:** ¡la venta de mantillo está de regreso este año! Su PTSA/Boosters tomará pedidos para entregar mantillo en el vecindario; los detalles seguirán. ¿Le gustaría ser voluntario para ayudar en la entrega? Envíe un correo electrónico a nuestra coordinadora de recaudación de fondos, Carmen Frazier, a [carmenfrazier6@gmail.com](mailto:carmenfrazier6@gmail.com).

¡Juntos, nos hacemos más fuertes! Gracias por su apoyo.

Norm Gordon, Presidente  
WMHS PTSA/Boosters

Please find the WM PTSA/ Booster Club form here: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/11WLeaGAsbxbD1NuzP4EQXe-\\_S5cLm83-CaH9MGCNktI/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/11WLeaGAsbxbD1NuzP4EQXe-_S5cLm83-CaH9MGCNktI/edit)

To pay membership dues related to the WM PTSA/ Booster Club please visit our new payment site where you can now pay your fees by debit or credit card online using a web browser from any location, 24 hours a day. <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/>

- **Go to Quick Links**
- **Click “On-line School Payments”**
- **Find the Fee you are looking for (WM PTSA/ Booster Club Membership)**

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Start of Second Semester/Third Quarter January 25  
National School Counseling Week February 7 – 11  
No School (Professional) February 1  
No School (Holiday) February 21  
Family Food Market at MVMS February 19  
Deadline for AP Exam registration/payment/opt-out March 1st  
Early Release Day March 11

### **COURSE REGISTRATION for 2021-2022**

2022-2023 registration took place and was completed in January. Counselors presented through English classes and then assisted students with the course selection and registration process through history classes. Resources are available on the Counseling Department website under academic advising then course registration. Please contact your child's school counselor if you have any questions regarding scheduling for next year.

### **AP EXAM INFORMATION**

#### **February 2022 AP Letter**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mtS7In5tryEUIREWGIDZHa5PIHIZlqPeFRY9-ZEkRVo/edit>

**FREE TREES!!** The Tree-plant team is ready to spread the word about our tree-planting day, April 30, 2022. Our goal is to have 200 saplings planted on that day to offset our paper use in the 2018-2019 school year. Members of the community can help out by ordering a sapling to plant on their property. We are offering Flowering Dogwood, Red Maple, and Northern Red Oak saplings. Thanks to the generous donations from the WMHS community, the first 130 will be free! Use this website: [tpevents.org/school/2073](http://tpevents.org/school/2073) to order your sapling today! Orders need to be placed by March 30. Please help us spread the word by posting the attached flyers (English & Spanish) around our community. If you have any questions, contact [Karen\\_e\\_doerrler@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Karen_e_doerrler@mcpsmd.org)

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/17vQIYz-ydNbGRrAH-Mq7b3qUT28t\\_BqKFMrnJ0NkG9Q/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/17vQIYz-ydNbGRrAH-Mq7b3qUT28t_BqKFMrnJ0NkG9Q/edit)

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nZ3y30rFjD4e3TQTdei9InQX3niimq5-5Q0S\\_yEy\\_Wo/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nZ3y30rFjD4e3TQTdei9InQX3niimq5-5Q0S_yEy_Wo/edit)

Thank you!  
Karen Doerrler

## **JUNIOR/SENIOR SPRING BREAK 2023...!**

Junior and Senior Spring Break Trip 2023!

The 2023 Spring Break Trip will be to FRANCE! We will visit Paris, Brittany, and Normandy. You will visit the classic historical and cultural sites in Paris, Medieval castles in Brittany, and the World War 2 battlefields of Normandy. It will be trip full of culture, history, and great food.

Registration has already begun and spots are limited (and going fast).

To join us, use the information below to visit our tour website and register for our 2023 trip. Junior and Senior students only.

We hope you'll join us.

[www.eftours.com](http://www.eftours.com)

Tour ID: 2493024PA

Phone Number: 800-665-5364

THOMAS SNEDDON

Watkins Mill High School

Social Studies (IB History/Military History)

## **News from the College & Career Center**

To date, Watkins Mill Seniors have reported a total of \$950,750 in college scholarship awards!! If you have been accepted to college or received a scholarship, please share the good news. Fill out this [GOOGLE FORM](#) or come to see Ms. Kessler in the Counseling Office. We are so excited for our students!

## **HBCU COLLEGE FAIR**

The MCPS NAACP HBCU Fair will take place virtually on Friday, February 18th from 6:00-8:30 PM. Over 50 colleges & universities will be participating in the fair, open to ALL grade levels. [Register HERE!](#)

"On-the-Spot" instant admission and scholarship interviews for Seniors take place throughout the week of February 14-17. Information has been shared with students, they must register for the interviews in Naviance: [Video instructions](#) [HBCU College Fair On-the-Spot Flyer](#)

## **COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE?**

Please share the good news about your acceptances and scholarships! Fill out this [GOOGLE FORM](#) or come to see Ms. Kessler in the Counseling Office.

## **FAFSA DEADLINE - Maryland Deadline March 1**

The **2022-2023 FAFSA** - Federal Student Aid Application - is for students with a Social Security Number and is available at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>. Video help tips are on the [Financial Aid](#) page of the WM College & Career website. Undocumented students can apply for aid from Maryland with the [MSFAA](#) MD Financial Aid Application.

Once your FAFSA is complete go to the Maryland aid page: <https://mhec.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx>, and click on the "MDCAPS" icon at the bottom to start application. Up to about \$20,000 per year is available with the Howard P. Rawlings Grant. Must have >2.5 GPA for first semester senior year. More info [HERE](#).

### **ASVAB TESTING**

The ASVAB Career Exploration assessment will be given in-person at Watkins Mill on Wednesday February 16th from 7:45 - 11:00 AM. Discover your skills and interests in order to make informed decisions about your post-secondary options. It is typically required for entry into the military. Email [Sarah\\_H\\_Kessler@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Sarah_H_Kessler@mcpsmd.org) with any questions or to register; permission slip required. Important updates related to colleges, scholarships, testing, and more are sent every Friday to Juniors & Seniors via Naviance. Information is also regularly updated on the [WM College & Career website](#). Please email [Sarah\\_H\\_Kessler@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Sarah_H_Kessler@mcpsmd.org) with any questions or if you would like to be added to the Naviance emails.

Please follow the WM College/Career Center on Twitter @WMHS\_CCIC for news & updates.

Sarah H. Kessler  
*College & Career Coordinator*  
Watkins Mill High School  
A Regional IB World Program  
[WM College/Career Center](#)

*Twitter: @WMHS\_CCIC*  
*Watkins Mill HS uses RepVisits*

### **FAMILY FOOD MARKET**

WMHS is pleased to announce the return of the Family Food Market. Due to Co-Vid restrictions, families will receive a pre-sorted box of non-perishable goods and a bag of fresh produce. The food market will take place at **Watkins Mill High School** on Saturday mornings. Social distancing and safety protocols will be followed at all times. Families will not have to provide student names or ID numbers. Upon arrival, you will be asked the total number of people living in the household, how many adults over 65, and how many students.

Date: Saturday February 19<sup>th</sup>  
Location: Watkins Mill High School  
10301 Apple Ridge Road  
Gaithersburg, MD 20879  
Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm  
Contact: [Lora\\_S\\_Johnson@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Lora_S_Johnson@mcpsmd.org)

Future Dates: March 19<sup>th</sup>  
April 23<sup>rd</sup>  
May 21<sup>th</sup>  
June 11<sup>th</sup>

## **NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK OF FEBRUARY 7 – 11, 2022**

Please join me in the celebration of National School Counseling Week 2022. Our High School Counselors will be celebrated on February 7 - 11, to focus public attention on the unique contributions of professional school counselors and highlight the tremendous impact they have in helping students achieve school success, plan a career, and be ready for college!



## **HEALTH AND WELLNESS NEWS**

Happy 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester from the health room staff and Wellness Center. I hope that everyone is well after the Holiday Break and **Covid 19** Omicron surge. The numbers in our county continue to improve, but we are not out of the woods yet. Please continue to be diligent with wearing masks, handwashing, and social distancing when possible. Please remember to **STAY HOME** when you are experiencing Covid-like symptoms. This minimizes the spread of the virus to other students and staff.

I know that the messaging and guidance changes frequently, both locally in the schools as well as nationally through the CDC. Continue to check the MCPS website as well as the CDC for the latest up-to-date guidance.

My message to you today is to **PLEASE GET VACCINATED FOR BOTH COVID 19 & FLU**. This year more than ever it is so important that we keep the cases of influenza at a minimum. The flu causes severe illness and even death each and every year. With the added risk of COVID 19, our health care system continues to be overwhelmed. It is critical that we manage cases of both the flu and Covid 19 with our safe and available vaccines. You can even get them both at the same time. Many area pharmacies and other facilities like clinics and your health care providers office are offering the flu vaccine free of co-pay charges. **STAY TUNED** for news on **COVID VACCINES** being available here at our Watkins Mills Wellness Center coming **SOON!**  
Stay well.

Lisa Frost, RN, BSN  
School Community Health Nurse  
Montgomery County Health & Human Services

Watkins Mill High School Based Health & Wellness Center  
10301 Apple Ridge Road  
Gaithersburg, MD 20886

Health Room (301) 284-4454  
Fax (240) 406-1548  
RN Office (301) 284-4455  
Work Cell (240) 532-1565

[lisa.frost@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:lisa.frost@montgomerycountymd.gov)  
[lisa\\_a\\_frost@mcpsmd.org](mailto:lisa_a_frost@mcpsmd.org)

## **STUDENT SERVICE LEARNING HOURS (SSL)**

MCPS is ***still requiring all students meet their SSL hour requirements for graduation.***

This means, you need to have a total of **75** hours to graduate in June.

There are **virtual and in-person** opportunities available to students.

Students may find SSL opportunities at the following quick links: <https://bit.ly/SSLOpportunities> and <https://bit.ly/VirtualSSL2020>

Students may also access an overview of the current state of the SSL program at <https://bit.ly/SSLOverview2020> and step-by-step directions for viewing their SSL record on StudentVUE at <https://bit.ly/SSLonVUE>.

Do you know how many hours you or your student has earned towards graduation?

Please follow this link to view our WM SSL hour database. You will find upcoming opportunities and the February monthly opportunity newsletter.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cOIeHF3NuyLZX9jNo1-m0NSZYU\\_3VAo3ikazmx4uSMQ/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cOIeHF3NuyLZX9jNo1-m0NSZYU_3VAo3ikazmx4uSMQ/edit)

We will still accept **all** SSL forms. *Don't forget to turn in your forms and get credit for those service hours you did!*

*Krista Jiron*

*School Counselor*

*Watkins Mill High School*

*(301)284-4420*

*An International Baccalaureate World School*

## **SENIOR YEARBOOK ADS**

Attention Senior Parents,

The final deadline to place a senior ad in the yearbook has been extended until Thursday February 17, 2022. This is a great way to write a personal message to your student that will live forever in their yearbook. To purchase the yearbook and/or parent ad, please go to [www.jostensyearbooks.com](http://www.jostensyearbooks.com) . **When you check out, you will have the option to either pay in full or take advantage of 3 monthly payments.**





## **MEDIA CENTER NEWS**

### **Feb. 2022 Media Center Newsletter**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dxe1JCCJvjdagryMpF8PKKkkgCep-m9gOzpIiNoHujo/edit?usp=sharing>

## **WMHS ATHLETICS NEWS**

### **Feb. 2022 Athletic Newsletter**

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1\\_VAF6dIYO6tFiPmJR5IuXLDgHx2O2KOXOW4bQnRGWAw/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_VAF6dIYO6tFiPmJR5IuXLDgHx2O2KOXOW4bQnRGWAw/edit)

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Make sure to follow all things Wolverine Athletics:

- Twitter: @WMRinesSports
- Instagram: @wmrinessports
- Facebook: Watkins Mill Athletics
- Website: [www.watkinsmillathletics.com](http://www.watkinsmillathletics.com)
- Athletic Teams Accounts: <https://watkinsmillathletics.com/athletic-social-media-accounts/>

## **IMPORTANT LINKS**

WMHS Website Home:

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

<https://watkinsmillathletics.com/>

Calendar: [Calendar](#)

Staff Directory:

<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/staff/directory.aspx>

PTSA Information:

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

Booster Club: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/boosters/boostersClub.aspx>

Lunch Pre-Payments: <https://www.mylunchmoney.com/>

Student Service Learning:

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/ssl/> Bullying:

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

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

Free & Reduced Lunches: <https://www.myschoolapps.com/Application>