



NEWS FROM "THE MILL"

February 1 - 28, 2023

Watkins Mill High School

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

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MESSAGE FROM MS. GODDARD, PRINCIPAL

Welcome to the halfway point of the academic year! Semester 2 began, Monday, January 30th. I encourage students to think back to their excitement and focus when the school year began in August, and to use that energy and to 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 students' 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.

Congratulations to **Julien Payen** who was awarded a full tuition Posse Scholarship for students with extraordinary academic and leadership potential! He will be attending the University of Wisconsin this fall.

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 scheduled for Monday, June 12, 2023 at 2:30 pm at DAR Constitution Hall. Graduates must arrive by 2:00 pm.

Report cards will be available to students and parents through StudentVUE and ParentVUE by February 6. Parents that have not activated their ParentVUE account will receive a paper copy in the mail. The third marking period began on January 30 and ends on March 30, 2023.

Sincerely,

Carol Goddard, Principal

NEWS AND HAPPENINGS AROUND THE MILL:

WMHS PTSA & BOOSTER CLUB NEWS

FOR PTSA NEWSLETTER (ENGLISH & SPANISH)

Look where your dollars have gone so far in 2023!

- \$250 for lighting and sound production for the next Kpop Dance Team Showcase!
- \$500 to the Star Vogue Fashion Club to prepare for their upcoming fashion show!
- \$250 for equipment to house our annual clothing drive!
- \$500 to the O'Shea Players drama club for a badly needed new refrigerator!

Who's next? What idea/event/project/capital investment do you have to benefit Watkins Mill? All you have to do is be a PTSA member (\$5/student, \$10/parent or staff, \$15/family) and apply for a PTSA Small Grant here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1pAmo5_EMH5SyLtjgODS8Zpy2Ym-cyQbBm50ZMNIH74M/edit

Seniors: if you want to be eligible for a PTSA scholarship, sign up now to be a PTSA member - \$5!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8g7iW44hsl04n4-IPHnh5AT6qInfN_7TUvyzQ2SLDBL82g/viewform

Your PTSA is working for you!

¡Mire a dónde se han ido sus dólares hasta ahora en 2023!

¡\$ 250 para la producción de iluminación y sonido para el próximo Kpop Dance Team Showcase!

¡\$ 500 para el Star Vogue Fashion Club para prepararse para su próximo desfile de moda!

¡\$ 250 para el equipo para albergar nuestra campaña anual de ropa!

¡\$500 para el club de teatro O'Shea Players por un refrigerador nuevo que tanto se necesita!

¿Quién sigue?

¿Qué idea/evento/proyecto/inversión de capital tiene para beneficiar a Watkiins Mill? Todo lo que tiene que hacer es ser miembro de la PTSA (\$5/estudiante, \$10/padre o personal, \$15/familia) y solicitar una pequeña subvención de la PTSA aquí:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1pAmo5_EMH5SyLtjgODS8Zpy2Ym-cyQbBm50ZMNIH74M/editar

Seniors: si desea ser elegible para una beca de la PTSA, regístrese ahora para ser miembro de la PTSA: ¡\$5!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8g7iW44hsdl04n4-IPHnh5AT6qInfN_7TUvyzQ2SLDBL82g/viewform

¡Su PTSA está trabajando para usted!

IMPORTANT DATES

Report card distribution – February 6, 2023

No school (Holiday), February 20, 2023

Early release day for students – March 3, 2023

Early release day for students – March 15, 2023

Early release day for students – March 30, 2023

Professional day for teachers, no school – March 31, 2023.

COURSE REGISTRATION for 2023-2024

2023-2024 registration took place and was completed in January. If a student did not complete course selection at that time, students must contact counselors. Please contact your child's school counselor if you have any questions regarding scheduling for next year.

AP EXAM INFORMATION

Your enrollment in an AP course imparts your desire to earn college credit; thus, we expect you to take the exam. If that is not your intent, you have until February 24 to opt out of the exam. You must let your teacher know AND email

Amy_A_Crumrine@mcpsmd.org by February 24, 2023.

If applicable, complete and SIGN the "AP Exam Fee Assistance Request Form" by February 26. If you qualify for free/reduced lunch, receive medical assistance through Medicaid, or receive assistance through the Social Security Act, then you qualify for a fee waiver to reduce your exam fee to \$16. Fill out this form to receive assistance

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1TIqwwM4X89XmdJo-zV9VUinR6GeDn4DwQke2b7NSvpk/edit>

The cost of each exam is \$101, unless you qualify and submit the assistance fee request form. You MUST submit the signed "AP Exam Fee Assistance Request Form." if you qualify for your exam to be \$16.

Please submit forms and payment by February 24, 2023. To pay online, go online to the Watkins Mill High School website. Scroll down (on the left) to "School Cash On-line". Register for "School Cash Online". You will then get an email with detailed instructions. Follow instructions and make the payment online. To pay by check, make checks/money orders payable **Watkins Mill High School** and include your student's name in the subject line. Send your

payment to Lisa Holderman in the Financial office. Please remember to pay your exam fees as this fee will impact financial obligations if you do not.

If you have any questions or concerns about this process or payments, please email the AP Coordinator, Amy Crumrine [Amy A Crumrine@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Amy_A_Crumrine@mcpsmd.org).

SPRING BREAK TRIP 2024 COSTA RICA

Attention current Juniors and Sophomores:

You can still sign up for our Spring Break Trip in 2024 to Costa Rica.

Our group still has around 10 open spots, so register ASAP to secure your spot on our most adventurous tour so far. You'll visit both the East and West Coast beaches, the tropical rainforests, and volcanoes of the central highlands, and participate in amazing outdoor adventures. You'll snorkel in the crystal blue and green waters, go whitewater rafting down jungle rivers, and fly through the trees on our zipline adventure.

So if you're going to be a junior or senior in 2024...JOIN US!

You can use the link below to register or see Mr. Sneddon in B-112 for more details.

<https://www.eftours.com/tour-website/2586185WN>

THOMAS SNEDDON
Watkins Mill High School
Social Studies (IB History/IB Film/Military History)

News from the College & Career Center

SOPHOMORES & JUNIORS:

Summer Rise Program Info

Summer RISE is an initiative led by the MCPS Department of Partnerships in collaboration with businesses, government agencies, higher education institutions, and nonprofit organizations. The program is for rising juniors and seniors to participate in a career-based learning opportunity during the summer. Students will engage in hands-on learning opportunities related to their field of interest.

The annual MCPS program will run for 5 weeks from June 26 to July 28, 2023, with a minimum of 50 hours of either in-person, virtual or a combination of the two experiences. An information session will be held in the WM Career Center during STEP on **February 7**. More information and registration info [HERE](#).

ALL STUDENTS:

The 2023 MCPS HBCU (**Historically Black Colleges & Universities**) Fair will be held on Friday February 17 from 6:00-8:30 PM in-person at the Universities at Shady Grove in

Rockville. Students and parents in grades 9 - 12 are invited to attend. Buses from Watkins Mill will be available. For more information and to register visit the [MCPS HBCU webpage](#).

Seniors: The HBCUs listed below will offer virtual on-the-spot interviews for 12th grade students during the week of February 13th. Seniors interested in interviewing must register in Naviance in the “2023 HBCU Fair on the Spot Interviews” survey, colleges include: Alabama A & M University, Alabama State, Benedict College, Bluefield State University, Chowan University, Coppin State University, Florida Memorial University, Jarvis Christian University, Lincoln University, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, University of Baltimore, Trinity Washington University, and West Virginia State.



The **ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude & Battery)** will be offered at Watkins Mill on Thursday February 16th. The ASVAB is a multiple-aptitude test that measures developed abilities and helps predict future academic and occupational success in the military. ALL students interested in the military, or who would like to find out more about their skill level related to various careers, are welcome to take the test. Parent permission is required, students may obtain a form in the counseling office.

Please refer to the [WM College & Career website](#) for more information and email Sarah_H_Kessler@mcpsmd.org with any questions.

Twitter: @WMHS_CCIC
Watkins Mill HS uses RepVisits

FAMILY FOOD MARKET:

The next family food market being held at Watkins Mill High School will be on:

- Date: Saturday, February 18th.
- Location: Watkins Mill High School
10301 Apple Ridge Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
- Time: 10:00am – 12:00pm (or until supplies run out).
- Contact: Mr. Wiggins
- Future Dates:
 - March 18th
 - April 22nd
 - May 20th
 - June 10th

NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK – FEBRUARY 6 – 10, 2023

Please join me in the celebration of National School Counseling Week 2023. Our High School Counselors will be celebrated on February 6 - 10, 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 February and Heart Health month from the health room staff and Wellness Center.

We have some good news on both the Flu and Covid fronts at this time. Flu activity in our state is currently at a low level and although Covid 19 cases in our county are at a Medium

level, this is much improved from last year at this time. This doesn't mean we should let our defenses down however, and it is not too late to get your flu and/or Covid vaccines. Please visit <https://www.marylandvax.org> for locations near you.

Continue practicing these measures to keep yourselves healthy including washing your hands thoroughly and often, avoid touching your face with unwashed hands, and covering your coughs and sneezes. Do not forget to **STAY HOME WHEN YOU ARE SICK!**

This month brings awareness about the silent killer – heart disease. If you didn't already know, heart disease is the leading cause of death for men and women.

In observation of American Heart Month, here are some essential tips for a healthy heart at any age:

1. Do not smoke. Do NOT even start.
2. Diet and exercise are crucial, even for younger people. You are never too young to establish healthy habits.
3. Prevention is key and regular check-ups can be lifesaving.
4. Lastly, here is an easy and FUN intervention that can help with heart health: Laughing may increase overall health. Research suggests a good laugh can increase your blood flow by 20%. The positive effects of this can last for 24 hours. [American Heart Association]

Let's get busy laughing 😄

Lisa Frost, RN, BSN

School Community Health Nurse
Montgomery County Health & Human Services

STUDENT SERVICE-LEARNING HOURS (SSL)

MCPS **requires all students to meet their SSL hour requirements for graduation.** This means, you need to have a total of **75** hours to graduate in June.

Students may find SSL opportunities at the following quick links: [WM Opportunities Page](#)

<https://bit.ly/SSLOpportunities> and <https://bit.ly/VirtualSSL2020>

SENIORS!

Any **high school senior** who has submitted documentation to show the completion of **240 SSL hours or more** by March 30, 2023, will earn the Certificate of Meritorious Service along with a purple tassel for graduation. The required deadline for all documentation that qualifies seniors for the Certificate of Meritorious Service and middle school students for the Superintendent's SSL Award is **March 30, 2023**.

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

Krista Jiron

Resource Counselor (H-Kpz)

SSL Coordinator

[Opportunities to Earn Hours](#)

Watkins Mill High School

(301)284-4420

An International Baccalaureate World School

WMHS ATHLETICS NEWS

As we approach the second half of the athletic and academic school year, the Athletic Department wants to thank everyone for their unwavering support. Winter sports are nearing the end with playoffs beginning at the end of this month and the beginning of March. Be sure to check our website for playoff updates for your favorite Watkins Mill teams.

Spring sports registration opened on Monday January 23rd. Spring sports begin on Wednesday March 1st. Anyone interested in trying out for a spring sport should read [this link](#) to be sure everything is complete. A few key reminders:

- All those wishing to try out need to register on ParentVue, have a valid SR-8 physical and be academically eligible.

In preparation for spring sports, we have hired the following coaches:

- JV Boys Lacrosse-Mr. Justin Davis
- V Girls Lacrosse-Mrs. Lindsey Hendrigan
- JV Softball-Ms. Heather Bond
- Allied Softball-Ms. Caitlin Fasano

We are excited to have them as part of our Wolverine Athletic Family. We are still in need of the following positions for spring:

- Girls Tennis
- JV Girls Lacrosse

If you know someone who may be interested, please contact them and have them email Lisa_Magness@mcpsmd.org.

The Wolverine Athletic Department is currently selling croc charms. There is a WM logo and a Wolverine logo. The cost is \$10 for one charm or \$15 for both charms. To purchase please visit [this link](#). Then stop down during lunch or after school to see Ms. Magness in G003 to pick up your order. There is a limited supply so be sure to buy them soon.

As always, the Athletic Department is happy to answer any questions you may have, please email Lisa_Magness@mcpsmd.org. We appreciate your continued support. Go 'Rines!

MEDIA CENTER NEWS-February -2023

Media Center Newsletter Link

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1LBXOISnBNfAbaZ4hc-1S7rYzDIC6694qqV2WAOaGYBI/edit>

WMHS Media Center February 2023 Newsletter

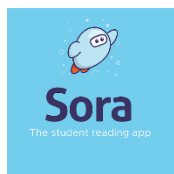
[Celebrate Black History Month](#) ←click here



[Slide Show](#)

[Video](#)

Stop by the media center to read more about influential African Americans or select an eBook from SORA!



Log into the **[SORA](#)** reading app to borrow eBooks and audiobooks

- Click **[here](#)** to learn how to sign into SORA

- Click [here](#) for video demonstrating SORA tips and special features
- Click [here](#) for titles that are [Available Now](#), with no holds or wait times. Titles include many bestsellers and new releases.

Contest

The media center has set-up a classroom in MyMCPS Canvas for teachers and students to access resources for learning, research, and pleasure reading!

Please access your [MyMCPS Classroom dashboard](#) to view the media center classroom.

Student Member of the Board (SMOB)

The Student Member of the Board (SMOB) process is underway. On Wednesday, February 15, Watkins Mill HS is hosting the nominating convention. As a student of Watkins Mill, you are invited to register as a delegate representing our school to attend the convention. You will be expected to listen to all of the candidates and make an informed decision. If you are interested in being selected for the delegation, please complete [this form](#). Submissions will be accepted until Friday, February 3 at 3 pm. See [Ms. Squier](#) with questions. You will be notified on Monday, February 6 if you are selected for the delegation.

Summer RISE Program

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s) of Current Sophomores and Juniors:

We are pleased to inform you of a unique opportunity for your child this summer. Summer RISLE is an initiative led by the Montgomery County Public Schools Department of Partnerships in collaboration with businesses, nonprofit and government agencies to provide school year 2023-2025 rising juniors and seniors with an enriching career-based learning opportunity from June 26 to July 28, 2023. See the link below for more information.

[Summer RISE 2023 Participant Information](#)

Upcounty Hub Drive-Thru Food Distributions

See Food Hub Distribution Calendar linked below

[Food Hub](#)

Social Media

Make sure to follow all things Wolverine Athletics:

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

IMPORTANT LINKS

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

Athletics: <https://watkinsmillathletics.com/>

Calendar: <https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/calendar-index/>

Staff Directory:

<https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs/staff/directory/>

PTSA Information: <https://sites.google.com/mcpsmd.net/watkins-mill-high-school-new-s/home?pli=1>

Lunch Pre-Payments: <https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/getmain?requestAction=home>

Student Service Learning:

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

Bullying:

<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/bullying/>

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