



# NEWS FROM "THE MILL"

May 1 - 31, 2023

**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**

The countdown is on for the 2022-2023 school year. The midpoint of the last marking period signals 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.

**Rock the Block** is back this school year! Rock the Block will be on **Saturday, June 3rd, 2023**, from **3 to 6 pm**. This is a **free family day** of fun for **all ages**. There will be carnival games and prizes, children's activities, community organizations, food, a live DJ, and performances from Watkins Mill student groups and more. I hope to see everyone there!

Our Spring MCAP/IB AP testing is underway. The schedule is linked below.

[IB Testing Calendar](#)

As you know, the **Class of 2023 Graduation will take place at DAR Constitution Hall on Monday, June 12 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 12** due to the commencement ceremony that afternoon. Guests must arrive by 2:20 p.m. The ceremony will begin promptly at 2:30 p.m.

- **Caps and gowns will be distributed** to seniors the week of May 22nd, in the

Auditorium. Students with obligations will not receive the cap and gown until items are resolved.

- **The Graduation rehearsal** will be on Friday, June 9, 2023, at 9:00 am in the main gym. After rehearsal, there will be a picnic for seniors only, in the school stadium. Tickets will be distributed at rehearsal.
- **Graduation tickets** All graduates will automatically receive eight tickets. Every guest must have a ticket (children, babies, and the elderly to enter, and again, there is a limit of eight tickets per graduate). Please plan accordingly. If you still have an obligation, students will **NOT** receive their tickets.
- **Financial obligations** any student with an outstanding obligation will not be cleared to participate in all senior events. Email Ms. Holderman @ [Lisa\\_A\\_Holderman@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Lisa_A_Holderman@mcpsmd.org) to determine if you have an outstanding obligation.
- **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.

Adding to the excitement at the end of the school year, our annual **Senior Awards Night** and scholarship presentations will take place on **May 25 at 7:00 p.m.** This is an unforgettable 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 be notified prior if they are receiving an award.

**Seniors**— Please let Ms. Kessler know about your **college decisions and scholarship awards!** If you receive notice of any awards or scholarships—whether you intend to go to that college or not—please report it to Ms. Kessler 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.

**Looking ahead to the 2023-24 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 Honors, AP, and IB courses, electives, or special programs. Student course requests are available to view in Parent View. If you have any questions about **course selections or placement**, please feel free to call or email appropriate staff with any questions.

Sincerely,  
Carol Goddard, Principal

### **PTSA NEWS:**

At our last PTSA meeting we approved the following funding:

\$315 for research for staff member Ms. Sharon Faber toward her Theater to Heal course for new immigrants

\$300 for meals for cast and crew of the Spring Musical "Rent" during their intense rehearsal weeks

\$300 for the National Honor Society to build a little food pantry and place on the WMHS campus for the neighborhood

\$8,000 to bring back the Rock the Block community-wide event this June!

**YOUR PTSA DOLLARS AT WORK TO BENEFIT OUR COMMUNITY!**

We also met with Senator Nancy King, State Senate Majority Leaders and Senator for district 39, to discuss major renovations/upgrades for our school building.

**WE WILL HOLD OUR ELECTIONS FOR THE 2023-2024 ACADEMIC YEAR THIS COMING MONTH (MAY 16). IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING AN OFFICER ON THE PTSA BOARD, PLEASE EMAIL PRESIDENT NORM GORDON @ ngordon0522@gmail.com.**

Thank you! Go 'Rines!

Norm Gordon, President

WMHS PTSA

### **ANUNCIO DE PTSA**

En nuestra última reunión de PTSA, aprobamos los siguientes fondos:

\$315 para la investigación de la Sra. Sharon Faber, miembro del personal, para su curso Theatre to Heal para nuevos inmigrantes

\$300 para comidas para el elenco y el equipo del musical de primavera "Rent" durante sus intensas semanas de ensayo

\$300 para la Sociedad Nacional de Honor para construir una pequeña despensa de alimentos y colocarla en el campus de WMHS para el vecindario

\$8,000 para traer de vuelta el evento comunitario Rock the Block este junio.

**¡LOS DÓLARES DE SU PTSA TRABAJANDO EN BENEFICIO DE NUESTRA COMUNIDAD!**

También nos reunimos con la Senadora Nancy King, Líderes de la Mayoría del Senado Estatal y Senadora por el distrito 39, para hablar sobre renovaciones/mejoras importantes para nuestro edificio escolar.

TENDREMOS NUESTRAS ELECCIONES PARA EL AÑO ACADÉMICO 2023-2024 EL PRÓXIMO MES (16 DE MAYO). SI ESTÁ INTERESADO

EN SER UN FUNCIONARIO DE LA JUNTA DE LA PTSA, ENVÍE UN CORREO ELECTRÓNICO AL PRESIDENTE NORM GORDON @ ngordon0522@gmail.com.

¡Gracias! ¡Vamos Rines!

Norm Gordon, Presidente WMHS PTSA

**PRESENTING -“RENT” School Edition** is a poignant tribute to the human spirit and a powerful reminder of the importance of love, friendship, and community in the face of adversity.

### **Watkins Mill HS-Auditorium**

Play dates: May 5,6,12,13<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, and a matinee on the 12<sup>th</sup> at 2pm

### **Cluster Project's Weekly Newsletter**

English Version:

**WCP Newsletter:** <https://shorturl.at/vFLZ7>

Spanish Version:

**WCP Boletín:** <https://shorturl.at/jP037>

### **GRADUATION INFORMATION**

Attention Watkins Mill Families of Graduating Seniors (Class of 2023),

This year's Graduation Ceremony is **scheduled for Monday, June 12, 2023, 2:30 pm at Constitution Hall (DAR)**. DAR Constitution Hall follows all DC Health Department guidelines. You can find all information regarding Graduation on the Watkins Mill HS Seniors page. See link below

### **Senior Page**

<https://sites.google.com/mcpsmd.net/wmhs-seniors-class-of-2022/home>

Prom and graduation will be here before you know it. Please make sure you have taken care of your obligations, i.e.:

1. Cap and Gown fees
2. AP Exam Fees
3. IB Exam Fees
4. Class Fees if you are taking the Hospitality and Tourism Class
5. And any obligation from previous years

Please see Ms. Holderman in the Financial Office if you have any questions or email her at:

[Lisa\\_A\\_Holderman@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Lisa_A_Holderman@mcpsmd.org)

### **FREE MATH HOMEWORK HELP**

[Math HW help English](#)

[Math HW Help Spanish](#)

### **FREE HOMEWORK HELP**

**Free Homework Help Service Now Available** - TutorMe.com, a new, free student online tutoring and homework help service, is now available in any subject for students in grades 3-12. TutorMe.com is a secure, online resource easily accessible through MCPS student Canvas and StudentVUE accounts and offers on-demand assistance. The TutorMe.com service provides assistance that aligns with the MCPS curriculum, including knowledge of new curriculum tools being implemented. The service maintains rigorous standards providing high-quality, diverse tutors, screened for excellence (including a criminal background check). The service is available 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. Learn More here: <https://news.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/quicknotes/tutorme-free-service-is-now-available-2/>

### **BAND AND ORCHESTRA CONCERT**

“The Watkins Mill High School Spring Instrumental Music Concert will be on **Thursday May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 7:00pm** in the O’Shea Theater featuring The Watkins Mill High School Symphonic Band and Symphonic Orchestra. Admission is **FREE.**”

### **FOOD PANTRY COMING SOON!**

[Food pantry announcement](#)

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VXO4\\_7a3\\_AvZBu7D6g6pyFehNPsoeQG3oquJaUlibLA/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VXO4_7a3_AvZBu7D6g6pyFehNPsoeQG3oquJaUlibLA/edit?usp=sharing)

### **YEARBOOK NEWS**

**GET YOUR YEARBOOK BEFORE THEY ARE GONE!**

Yearbooks will be arriving soon! We have a limited number of books available for sale on a first come, first served basis. Order today at [Jostens.com](https://www.jostens.com) or by clicking [HERE](#). Payment plan options available at checkout. Once we have sold out, there will be a wait list option on [Jostens.com](https://www.jostens.com) where you can add your name in case a book becomes available, but that is not a guarantee so order today!

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Family Food Market **May 20**

Awards Night **May 25**

Cap and Gown pickup **May 22-26**

Last day for Seniors **May 26**

Memorial Day Schools and Offices closed **May 29**

Graduation Rehearsal **June 9**

Graduation Ceremony **June 12**

Last day of school for students; early release day **June 16**

### **TESTING INFORMATION**

See testing information link below.

[WMHS Spring Testing Bonanza 22-23 Community](#)

### **IB EXAM INFORMATION**

11th and 12th grade IB DP/CP Program and course students who are registered to take IB exams are asked to read all information in the email [letter](#) they received.

- Students and parents can access the full IB Test [Calendar here](#).
- Failure for students to take any exam component or dropping the testing subject will result in the forfeit of any waivers and/or financial assistance and will incur a charge for the full exam fee (\$124 per exam).
- Exams cannot be rescheduled. Students need to sit for the exam on the scheduled date and time.
- There will be no refunds for missed exams or incorrect test selection.

IB Exam fees (including any fee adjustments due to waivers or financial assistance requests) have been added to student accounts. If you have not paid for your IB exam, please do so as soon as possible.

1. Pay by credit, debit cards, and eCheck using [SchoolCash Online](#) (Recommended); payment can be total or increments.
  - [Registration instructions in English](#) // [Instrucciones de registro en español](#).
  - PIN Issues: If your student was enrolled in MCPS by July 1, you should have received an email from [SCOPinProcess@mcpsmd.org](mailto:SCOPinProcess@mcpsmd.org) with instructions and a PIN number. If you did not receive that email

or can't find it, please contact Lisa Holderman at [lisa\\_a\\_holderaman@mcpsmd.org](mailto:lisa_a_holderaman@mcpsmd.org) or 301-284-4416.

2. Cash, check, or money order at the Finance office at WMHS during lunchtime
  - o Check Payable to: WMHS (add student's ID number in the memo section)  
10301 Apple Ridge Rd. Gaithersburg, MD 20879

Any questions or concerns please contact:

[Reina Flores \(she/her\)](#)

**International Baccalaureate DP/CP Coordinator**

[Watkins Mill High School](#)

[10301 Apple Ridge Rd.](#)

[Gaithersburg, MD 20879](#)

[Phone: \(301\) 284-4375](#)

### **FAMILY FOOD MARKET:**

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

Date: Saturday May 20th

Location: Watkins Mill High School

10301 Apple Ridge Road

Gaithersburg, MD 20879

Time: 9:00am – 12:00pm

Contact: [marcus\\_d\\_wiggins@mcpsmd.org](mailto:marcus_d_wiggins@mcpsmd.org)

Future Dates: June 10th **(The last one of this school year)**

**Rock the Block** is back this school year! Rock the Block will be on **Saturday, June 3rd, 2023**, from **3 to 6 pm**. This is a **free family day** of fun for **all ages**. There will be carnival games and prizes, children's activities, community organizations, food, a live DJ, and performances from Watkins Mill student groups and more. Rock the Block allows us to bring together community stakeholders, including school personnel, parents, community resources, and local business owners to celebrate unity and show Montgomery Village the progress and development that Watkins Mill High School is currently experiencing.

[Rock The Block Website](#)

[\\Wm545-data1\staffhome\MARTIJ53\Documents\Rock the Block 2023 Poster - may newsletter 23.png](#)

Regards.



Kristina Smyrk (She/Her/Hers)



Health Education  
Community Engagement & School Spirit Coordinator  
Watkins Mill High School

### **JUNIOR/SENIOR SPRING BREAK 2024 \*\*\*COSTA RICA!!**

**WE ARE BACK! Our wolverines traveled to France for this year's spring break...and we are currently accepting enrollment for next year, COSTA RICA!**

The 2024 Spring Break Trip destination will be...COSTA RICA! The trip will include a tour of both the East and West Coasts and locations in the interior of the country, such as Monteverde and Arenal! This is our most adventurous trip yet, you'll zip-line through the jungle, go whitewater rafting down rivers, and snorkel along the amazing coastal beaches.

Registration has already started, and SPACE IS LIMITED, 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!

*This trip is for next school year's Juniors and Seniors Only!*

Visit the following website or call to register...

**[eftours.com/2586185WN](http://eftours.com/2586185WN) or call (800) 665-5364**

See Mr. Sneddon in the Social Studies Office or Room B-112 at STEP if you have any questions.

PURA VIDA!

"The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only one page." – Saint Augustine



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

MCPS **requires 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 many opportunities available to students. Check out the WM Opportunities page: [WMHS SSL Opportunities](#)

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

If you want to access an overview of the current state of the SSL program at <https://bit.ly/SSLOverview2020> and step-by-step directions for viewing your SSL record on StudentVUE at <https://bit.ly/SSLonVUE>.

*Krista Jiron*

*Resource Counselor (H-Kpz)*

*SSL Coordinator*

*[Opportunities to Earn Hours](#)*

*Watkins Mill High School (301)284-4400*

## **COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER NEWS:**

**Seniors:** Please let Ms. Kessler know about your college decisions and scholarship awards! If you receive notice of any monetary awards or scholarships—whether you intend to go to that college or not—please report it so you can be recognized. The **Senior Survey** is now live and can be accessed on the Naviance homepage in the “About Me” tab under “Surveys from your School.” The survey is an important tool for MCPS to track student data and outcomes; caps & gowns will not be distributed to any senior who has not completed the survey. Congratulations to the Class of 2022 on their many successes!

Check the Friday e-Bulletins from the College & Career Center for information on job opportunities, college visits, educational programs, testing, and more! Please email [Sarah\\_H\\_Kessler@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Sarah_H_Kessler@mcpsmd.org) to be added to the Naviance list serve.

Please follow the WM College/Career Center on Twitter [@WMHS\\_CCIC](#) for news & updates.

## **STAY INFORMED**

Important updates related to college, careers, scholarships, programs, and more are sent every Friday to the MCPS Gmail accounts of Juniors and 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) if you would like to receive these emails or have any questions.

Follow the WM College/Career Center on Twitter [@WMHS\\_CCIC](#) for news & updates.

## **MEDIA CENTER NEWS**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gZSEdcal0tzxvzHt5ob8zCAX6BBUQdR7DX5jjueXw2Q/edit?usp=sharing>

## **WMHS ATHLETICS NEWS**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mZ5BKSKGWiGHvOsfprZ3UNu4NW2Jansh/edit?usp=sharing&oid=114296969853407972122&rtpof=true&sd=true>

## **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>