



NEWS FROM "THE MILL"

December 1 - 31, 2020

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*
- *Senior Portraits-Make up Dates*
- *PTSA and Booster Club News*
- *Important Dates*
- *Athletic News*
- *Media Center News*

MESSAGE FROM MS. GODDARD, PRINCIPAL

I hope you and your families had a wonderful **Thanksgiving** and are energized for the **busy month of December**. We are proud of the outstanding achievements of our students inside and outside of the Virtual classroom. I am also proud and grateful to have such a talented, energetic staff who have a tireless commitment to students, supportive parents and surrounding community that we couldn't do without. The staff and I are truly grateful to be working in such a wonderful school community. Thank you!

As we move into the month of December and approach Winter Break, the end of the semester will be here before we know it—so it is as important as ever for students to **remain focused and make the most of this 2nd marking period**. **Interim reports** will be published on or around December 21, 2020. The interims will be available in StudentVue/ParentVue. Students please check your Semester 2 schedules!

Please make sure students are taking advantage of the wide range of ways that they can get academic support—whether it is Virtual Village Time, emailing a teacher, CARES Act Tutoring, Graduation Innovation, NHS Student Tutoring or participating in Wolverine Time.

Registration for 2021-2022: This month, details will be shared on our registration process for next school year. Once you have determined the various choices you have to consider, please email the appropriate staff member with all questions you may have. We expect all students to enroll in the most rigorous academic program possible, especially in our **IB** program. Exposure to and successful completion of these courses has a direct correlation to college readiness. Any student, regardless of their perceived abilities, 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.

Watkins Mill Staff Development Teacher and SSL coordinator Kerrin Torres-Meriwether will now serve as acting Assistant Principal. Her duties will include supervision of Science, PE/Health, Art, Music, and the Career Tech Ed departments. She will also be the 10th Grade Administrator. You can reach her at Kerrin_a_torres-meriwether@mcpsmd.org.

Watkins Mill Counselor Krista Jiron will continue in her current role as well as become the SSL Coordinator. All forms and questions related to SSL hours should be directed to Ms. Jiron at krista_l_jiron@mcpsmd.org.

Parent Surveys were emailed directly to parents this month by the MCPS Board of Education and the deadline for completing the survey is December 3rd. Thank you to parents that have completed the survey. If you have not been able to complete the survey yet, please do. We value your opinion and appreciate your time. The survey asks parents to indicate whether your child(ren) will remain exclusively in a virtual learning environment or engage in a combination of in-person and virtual instruction during the second semester. Both options would allow students to participate in in-person athletics and extracurricular activities. Parents will also be asked to indicate if their child needs MCPS-provided transportation.

Sincerely,

Carol Goddard, Principal

NEWS AND HAPPENINGS AROUND THE MILL:

DAILY VIRTUAL SCHEDULE

Our daily virtual schedule can be found on our Watkins Mill High School Website or by clicking on this link [school schedule](#).



Reporting Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes in which they are enrolled. The Maryland State Department of Education has issued an expectation to school districts that daily attendance will be recorded.

A student will be marked present for a class in one of three ways:

- Student attends a live virtual learning class via Zoom
- Student completes an Attendance Check-in on myMCPS Classroom during a live or recorded class
- Student engages in an online discussion thread on myMCPS Classroom during a live or recorded class

SENIOR PORTRAITS – MAKE UP DATES

Lifetouch photographers will be taking Make-up Senior Portraits for the Class of 2021 on December 2, 3 and 4th after school starting at 3:00 p.m. At the following location:

Watkins Mill High School **Auditorium**
10301 Apple Ridge Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20879

If you did not receive the notification of your appointment time from Lifetouch, please call them at 1-800-445-1189. As a reminder, portraits are **by appointment only -- no walk-ins** will be accepted.

WMHS BOOSTER CLUB NEWS

The WM Booster Club is still active and ready to serve our community. We are committed to our Village because we know that it takes a Village to make things happen. We are composed of parents, staff, students, and alumni who support WMHS programs through volunteering, fundraising, and financial support. We help fund equipment, supplies, uniforms, and other capital items to enhance the WMHS experience for our students. We are dedicated to promoting school spirit and supporting the students, coaches, and advisers of WMHS programs. We meet the second Tuesday of every month and since we can't physically meet, we are meeting via Zoom. If you want to join and be part of a group that is making a difference by making an impact in our community, fill out a registration form and join us. As a part of our joint WM PTSA/ Booster Club membership, you get to join in our Zoom meetings, be part of individual committees like fundraising, spirit wear and alum. Whether you are a long-time supporter or considering your first membership, your support is vital for us to fulfill our mission. We offer many ways to support the Booster club, but first and foremost we ask that you become a member. Annual Membership is just \$15 for a parent/guardian, \$10 for a staff member, \$5 for a student, and family membership is \$30. Our goal is to reach **100% participation** from all student-athlete families. Please find the WM PTSA/ Booster Club form by accessing this web site:

https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/siteassets/schools/high-schools/r-w/watkinsmillhs/uploadedfiles/ptsa/rev_wm-ptsaandboosterclubreq-2021-2021-1.pdf

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)

Another one of our goals is to increase communication and awareness of our programs so spread the word. We are here and we can't wait for you to join us in making a successful 2020-2021 school year. One Village. One Family. One Mission. All In!

Our next meeting will be held virtually on Tuesday, December 8th at 7:00 p.m. Please check the website listed above for all Zoom link information.

The following positions in the Booster Club are open; President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. If you are interested in learning more about these positions or want to volunteer your time, please email Lisa Magness at Lisa_Magness@mcpsmd.org. We hope you join our team and continue to grow the Watkins Mill Booster Club.

SAVE THE DATES

Interim Reports available in StudentVue/ParentVue December 21

No School (Winter Break) December 24 – January 1, 2021

No School (Holiday) January 18

End of 2nd Marking Period January 28

No School (Professional Day) January 29

No School (End of Quarter Grading/Planning) February 12

No School (Holiday) February 15

Early Release Day March 12

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 January 29 to opt-out of the exam. You must let your teacher know AND email Danielle_M_Neely@mcpsmd.org by January 29, 2021.

If applicable, complete and SIGN the "AP Exam Fee Assistance Request Form" by January 29. 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 \$15. Fill out this form to receive assistance <https://forms.gle/LZmN2bzRxqbtzxr28> The cost of each exam is \$95, 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 \$15.

Please submit forms and payment by January 29, 2021. To pay online, go online to <https://osp.osmsinc.com/montgomerymd/> and click on Student Debts. A 3.75% fee will be added to the purchase price of a school purchase as a site service fee. This fee is not collected by MCPS but is a processing fee of the company hosting site. Please make checks/money orders payable Watkins Mill High School and include your student's name in subject line. Send your payment to Lisa Holderman at 10301 Apple Ridge Rd, Gaithersburg, MD 20879 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, Danielle Neely [Danielle M Neely@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Danielle_M_Neely@mcpsmd.org)

JUNIOR/SENIOR SPRING BREAK 2022...SPAIN*!

Registration for the 2022 Spring Break trip is underway. Our destination...Spain, including Madrid, Seville, Barcelona, and other locations. Spots are filling fast. Sign up now to reserve your spot on our trip, lock in the lowest possible price, and have over a year to pay for the journey. Juniors and Seniors only! Join our google classroom to get regular updates and read all our travel guides.

Google Classroom Code: 6c2wyi3

Registration information:

www.eftours.com/2399217JV

*This is not a school sponsored event.

COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER NEWS

Achieving Collegiate Excellence and Success (ACES) is a program that provides students with college and career readiness support including college tours, SAT/ACT prep, FAFSA and scholarship application assistance, resume building and interview skills workshops, and much more! ACES is currently recruiting 10th grade students who identify with any of the following categories: historically underrepresented in higher education, first in their family to attend a college or university in the US, has a 504 plan or IEP, from a single parent household, from a low-income household or English language learners. For more information or to apply to ACES, visit acesmontgomery.org. If you have questions, please contact Ms. Maria Abasi, ACES Academic Coach at Watkins Mill via phone: (240) 429-3072 or email: maria.i.abasi@mcpsmd.net

PTA NEWS AND UPCOMING MEETINGS

Watkins Mill High School

PTSA

10301 Apple Ridge Road

Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879

301-840-3959 (P) / 301-840-3980(F)

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/watkinsmillhs

2020-2021 PTSA Meeting Schedule

Meeting times: 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Location: Virtual

Tuesday, December 15th

We will host the December meeting on December 15th virtually. We will be virtual until it is allowed to resume in person. To become a member of the WM PTSA please visit the following links for membership form and payment options.

Membership form: https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/siteassets/schools/high-schools/r-w/watkinsmillhs/uploadedfiles/ptsa/rev_wm-ptsaandboosterclubreg-2021-2021-1.pdf

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)

UPCOMING MEETINGS IN 2021

January 19
February 16
March 16
April 20
May 18

The following positions are open in the PTSA: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, MCCPTA Delegate, and MCCPTA Delegate #2. If you are interested in learning more about these positions or want to volunteer your time, please email Ryan T. Graves at Ryan_T_Graves@mcpsmd.org.

FAMILY FOOD MARKET:

We had another great turnout from the community for November's Family Food Market. As a reminder, due to Covid restrictions, the food market has a slightly different format. The food market takes place at **Montgomery Village Middle School** during the mid-day meal distribution. Families will receive a pre-sorted box of non-perishable goods and a bag of fresh produce. 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: Monday, December 7th, 2020
Location: Montgomery Village Middle School
19300 Watkins Mill Road
Montgomery Village, MD 20886
Time: During the Lunch & Wellness Break (11:15 – 12:30)
Contact: [Lora S Johnson@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Lora_S_Johnson@mcpsmd.org)

YEARBOOK NEWS

Watkins Mill High School

1. CHOOSE PHOTOS 2. WRITE THE WORDS 3. BEAM WITH PRIDE

Recognition yearbook ad – it’s easy. Show your pride in your graduating student with an ad – something they’re sure to treasure forever.



GET STARTED



MEDIA CENTER NEWS


For this month’s Media Center Newsletter please click on the Google link below:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sL4tazmIf3B9beJCA9GqDEb5FMuqYXV0PwtpeRN3Oac/edit?usp=sharing>

WOLVERINE TIME

Watkins Mill High School Wellness Center

Wolverine 2020 Time

Join us on Zoom! 


Contact us:
240-600-7061 or 240-380-8714

NOS VAMOS A REUNIR DE LUNES A JUEVES. DE 2:45PM-3:20PM COMENZANDO EL 5 DE OCTUBRE, 2020

Excelente manera de conectarse y conocer nuevos amigos mientras aprende haciendo y participando en nuevas y divertidas actividades. Tendremos ayuda para tus clases. Tendremos tambien sesiones de ejercicios los miercoles para mantenernos activos. y Clases de arte los martes. Tendremos Premios, rifas. etc...

Zoom Meeting ID:
524 966 4058

Password:
2020



Made with PosterMyWall.com



Virtual Spring Sports Registration

Virtual Spring Sports Registration opened on Monday November 23rd at 12am and will close on Thursday December 10th at 11:59pm. The English link to register can be found [here](#) and the Spanish link can be found [here](#). You only need to fill out one of the links to participate. All student-athletes wishing to participate need to sign up and have an active physical on file with the school. You must register every season, therefore if you signed up for Fall and/or Winter you must register again using the link(s) above. If you are unsure if you have a physical on file with the school, please email Ms. Magness, Athletic Specialist, at Lisa.Magness@mcpsmd.org. During the virtual season there are no cuts and student-athletes can participate in only one sport per season. The sports we will offer during the Spring virtual season will be: Allied Softball, Baseball, Boys and Girls Lacrosse, Outdoor Track, Softball, Boys and Girls Tennis, Boys and Co-Ed Volleyball. More information regarding virtual sports can be found on our athletic website under the title "[Virtual Sports Q&A](#)." Coaches of the individual sports will be sending emails to the student-athletes and parents the weekend after registration closes. We look forward to seeing many of our Wolverines take advantage of our virtual Spring season. Feel free to reach out to [Ms. Magness](#) with any questions.

Winter Virtual Sports

Our first ever virtual Winter sports season wraps up on Friday December 4th. We had 79 student-athletes participate in the 7 different sports that we offered. Our Wolverine coaching staffs did a phenomenal job of keeping our student-athletes engaged with a wide variety of activities. We also had our school psychologist, Ms. Margo Neff, come and give a talk about "Performing Under Pressure-Mental Health During Covid-19", we had Ms. Jackie Boswell from Stevenson University come and talk to our student-athletes about the "In's and Out's of NCAA Compliance, a special session for our Basketball Teams with Mr. Alan Stein, Watkins Mill Alum and Keynote speaker with a "Fireside Q&A finally we wrapped up with a special session for our Winter sport student-athletes with Mr. Adam Bradley, Watkins Mill Alum and Lead 'Em Up owner with a "Leading with Passion" session. Even though we are not in person, our Wolverine student-athletes and coaches are using this time to improve off their playing surfaces so that when we do return in person, our mental toughness and team chemistry is stronger than ever!

Holiday Shopping

With the Holiday's right around the corner, now is a great time to add some new Wolverine gear to your wardrobe. We have a [store](#) that is open 24/7 and the items get shipped directly to your house. There is always some sort of "deal" going on, so be sure to check it out! The Athletic Department does get a percentage of the sales two time per year. These funds will be used to make enhancements to our athletic facilities along with purchasing wish list items for our athletic teams.

Baseball and Softball Scoreboards

Great news! When we return in person, our baseball and softball teams will be able to benefit from having working scoreboards again. A huge thank you to Daktronics for helping us make this happen.



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

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/ss/> 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>