



# The Talon

## **Winters Mill High School**

560 Gorsuch Rd  
Westminster MD 21157  
410-386-1500 (Main Office)  
410-386-1501 (Counseling Office)  
410-386-1513 (Fax)  
[carrollk12.org/wmh/index.htm](http://carrollk12.org/wmh/index.htm)

### **From the Principal**

Happy Summer to all,

I hope this finds all of our Falcon family relaxing and re-charging. We are busy planning next year. The Advisory Council is working on improving the use of Advisory time. Our School Improvement Team is meeting this month to set our academic goals for the school year. In August, we will be rolling out the "Falcon Flight Plan" to help students and their families make the best use of their time at Winters Mill.

There has been a small change in the dress code. Instead of using mid-thigh as a measurement for skirt and shorts, the new standard is finger-tip length. Also, pajama pants are not to be worn to school. Since many of us start shopping now, I wanted you to be aware of the changes. Spaghetti straps, racer-backs and undershirts are still not appropriate.

Please be on the look-out for details for the Back to School Night. Have a great rest of summer!

Sincerely,

Ruthanne Kenney  
Principal

July 2011

### **Vision and Mission Statement**

#### **Vision**

Winters Mill is a school community where all activities focus on learning, achievement, and involvement. Rigor, relevance, and relationships are the foundations for our success. It is a place where involvement breeds excitement for learning as we develop the leaders of tomorrow.

#### **Mission**

The mission of Winters Mill High School, an academy school with diverse learners, is to create a rigorous, supportive learning environment where each and every student and member of the staff can develop their individual potential and prepare for their roles as productive citizens, leaders, and life-long learners.

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**Schools open for students on August 30, 2011!**
  
**School hours for 2011-2012 are 7:40 a.m. -2:30 p.m.**

**Summer Office Hours**
  
 The Main Office is open this summer each weekday,
   
 except July 4th, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

**Detention**

Students that owe detention hours from the past school year are reminded to contact Ms. Kimbrow, Assistant Principal, to make up their detention time over the summer. Students that do not make up their detention time will be conduct ineligible for extracurricular activities and sports and may be assigned Saturday school in the fall.

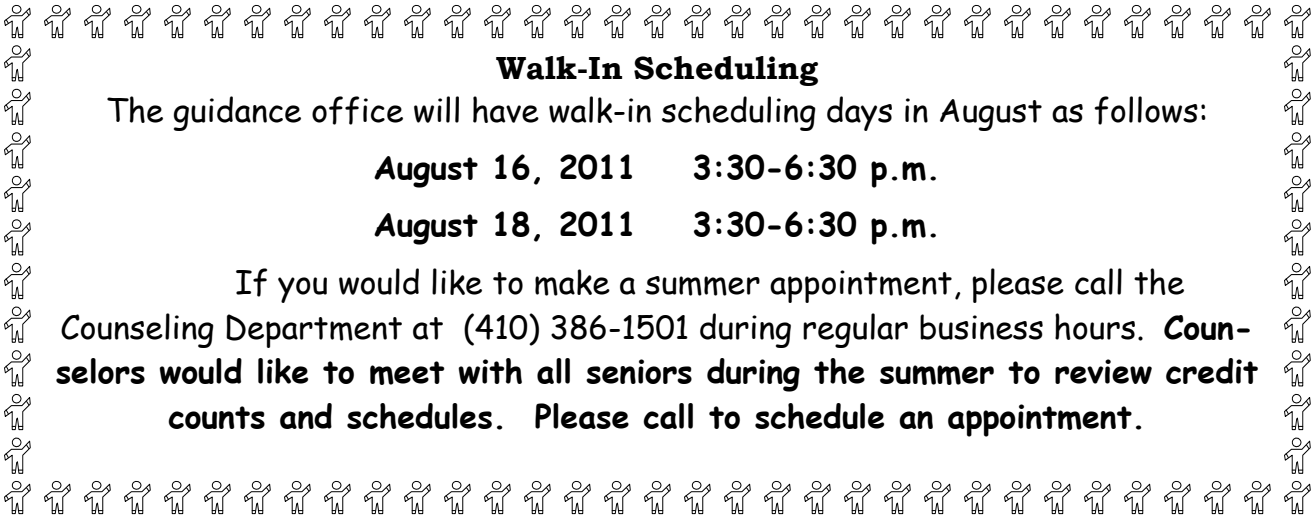
**REGARDING STUDENT RESIDENCY**

Attendance in Carroll County Public Schools is only for bona fide residents if that child actually lives within Carroll County with a parent or other person who has legal custody or legal guardianship. Those families who live outside of the county, or move outside of the county during the school year, may continue to attend Carroll County Public Schools only with approval in advance and upon payment of tuition. In addition, any falsification of residence is subject to referral to the Office of the State's Attorney for prosecution. Questions should be directed to the Office of Student Services (410-751-3120).

Yearbooks are still available to purchase!
   
 \$75.00 each in the Main Office

**Eligibility Statement**

Eligibility: Students entering grade 9 for the first time are automatically eligible. Pupils who failed any courses during the fourth marking period of the 10-11 school year are ineligible for the first marking period of 11-12.


  
**Walk-In Scheduling**
  
 The guidance office will have walk-in scheduling days in August as follows:
   
**August 16, 2011      3:30-6:30 p.m.**
  
**August 18, 2011      3:30-6:30 p.m.**
  
 If you would like to make a summer appointment, please call the Counseling Department at (410) 386-1501 during regular business hours. **Counselors would like to meet with all seniors during the summer to review credit counts and schedules. Please call to schedule an appointment.**

Please call the Guidance Office prior to coming in for the issuing officer's signature on a **work permit**.  
Only a limited number of staff have been trained to sign the work permits.

**Counselor Assignments for  
2011 - 2012**

Winters Mill has four full-time counselors. Students are assigned to these counselors alphabetically by their last name.

Marissa Terrano      A-D  
Seth Budai            E-K  
Christina Mohlhenrich L-R  
Heidi Kohls            S-Z

**CONCURRENT  
ENROLLMENT**

**Attention seniors that are planning to do concurrent enrollment for the FALL 2011 semester.**

All paperwork must be completed by August 5th. After August 5th, concurrent enrollment requests will be moved to the spring semester.

**SAT Dates and Registration Deadlines**

**SAT Dates:**

October 1, 2011  
November 5, 2011  
December 3, 2011

**Deadline:**

September 9, 2011  
October 7, 2011  
November 8, 2011

Registration is done online at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

**PSAT – Test Date — Wednesday, October 12, 2011**

Juniors need to sign up in guidance

**ACT Dates and Registration Deadlines**

Test Date	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
September 10, 2011	August 12, 2011	August 13—26, 2011
October 22	September 16	Sept 17—30
December 10	November 4	November 5—18
February 11, 2012	January 13, 2012	January 14—20, 2012
April 14	March 9	March 10—23, 2012
June 9	May 4	May 5—18, 2012

### **TRANSCRIPT FEE CHANGE**

Please be aware that effective immediately, the fee for high school transcripts of previous students is \$5.00 each. This change in policy has been posted on the CCPS website, <http://www.carrollk12.org/>. If you have any questions regarding this change, please contact the WMHS Counseling Office at (410)386-1501.

### **Eight Semester Waiver:**

- Student and parent(s)/legal guardian(s) shall meet with the principal and school counselor to discuss the request for a waiver and to develop a plan, if appropriate. This meeting should occur in the spring of the Junior year.
- A letter outlining the plan, requesting the waiver, and identifying the reasons for the request shall be submitted to the Principal by the student and parent(s)/legal guardian(s).
- The letter shall be signed by the student and the parent(s)/legal guardian(s).
- The counselor will complete the 8th semester checklist form and attach all required documents (Waiver of Enrollment/Credit Requirements Checklist)
- A letter from the college, vocational, technical, post-secondary school, accuplacer results for nonremedial course work or military indicating the student's acceptance shall be included in the required documents.
- The counselor shall submit the parent/student letter, 8th semester waiver checklist and the attached documents to the Principal (or designee)
- The Principal shall review the request and, if in agreement with it, forward it to the Superintendent of Schools for final approval. If the Principal does not agree with the request, the Principal may deny the request. If denied, the Principal shall notify the parent/legal guardian, in writing, of the denial and the reasons for it. The Director of High Schools will serve as the hearing officer should the parent(s)/legal guardians appeal the Principal's decision. The Superintendent or his designee will approve/deny the requests forwarded by the Principal then notify the Principal, who in turn, will inform the student, parent(s)/legal guardian(s), and the counselor. If those circumstances which are extenuating and do not meet the above administrative guidelines, an individual student's plan can be submitted to the principal for consideration.

### **Community Service Learning Hours (CSL)**

Students are required to perform and log at least 75 hours of service learning in order to meet graduation requirements. Seniors for the 2011-12 school year must have 55 community service learning hours in order to gain senior status!! Failure to have 55 hours coming into your senior year will result in loss of privilege to participate in senior related events.

Summer is the perfect time to perform service learning activities and turn them into the counseling office by **August 16, 2011!!!** Forms to document these hours are available in the school counseling office.

Awards are given at graduation for outstanding service, as demonstrated by documented hours, so don't stop submitting those CSL hour forms when you reach 75!!! Ms. Sheri Hobson, in the Counseling Office, is the Service Learning Coordinator at Winters Mill.

## July Newsletter Career Connections

Career planning is a process. Summer is a great time to check out the Winters Mill web page Counseling Center- Career Connections. In that section of the web page are all kinds of links to find out about internships, college information and use the Bridges Program to assess your career aptitude. The password for access to the Bridges Program is listed on the web page.

If you have a portfolio, it is a great opportunity to pull your best works of the past year and make a goal of adding those artifacts to your portfolio along with written rationales that explains the importance of the artifacts and what you learned from that experience.

Investigate and observe careers outside of school that may give you an idea of what you might want to do. Training is necessary to obtain the skills for that particular career.

Write a list of goals relating to what you want to accomplish the next school year to obtain the coursework and training for a career. Remember the Program of Studies Book contains all the career options and what courses you need for those completers or career majors that you may be interested in. It is the best guide to follow when making course selections!!

We will have 4 summer interns and 21 interns for the fall! Make a connection with your completer or career major; experience real life learning through an internship!! Contact Sarah Totten [satotte@carrollk12.org](mailto:satotte@carrollk12.org) for more information.

## Class of 2012—Graduation Information

The dress code for graduation is detailed below. Students who choose to participate in graduation must meet the school dress code for both the Farewell Ceremony and Graduation.

### **Appropriate Dress to Wear Under Caps and Gowns**

**To coordinate with their burgundy graduation gowns, gentlemen must wear the following to the Farewell Ceremony and the Graduation Ceremony:**

White dress shirt

Dark tie (bow ties won't work because of the way the gowns are cut)

Navy blue or black dress slacks (No tan or khaki-colored trousers)

Dark brown or black dress shoes or dress boots. Dress shoes/boots are those which must be polished and have a hard leather sole. (Boots must be non-military style.)

Dark socks

Jewelry is permissible as long as it is not worn on or above the gown itself.

Service awards and honor pins may be worn on the gown. Only school issued awards are permissible.

**To coordinate with their burgundy graduation gown, women must wear the following to the Farewell Ceremony and the Graduation Ceremony:**

Dark dress shoes. No flip flops of any style.

An appropriate dress or shirt/skirt (Please make sure your dress is shorter than the gown and does not show at the collar.)

Jewelry is perfectly permissible as long as it is not worn on or above the gown itself

Service awards and honor pins may be worn on the gown. Only school issued awards are permissible.

Rather than spend a significant amount of money on the appropriate graduation attire, please consider other means to find the items you may need. Older relatives, friends, and neighbors are good sources for some of these items, especially dress shoes. **If you are borrowing a gown from a previous graduate, do not use the Class of 2006. The color of these gowns was different than all other years.**

**FALL 2011 SPORTS TRY-OUTS**

Please remember that all try-outs for fall sports begin **Saturday, August 13th.**

Any student trying out must have a current completed physical on file in order to participate and also completed the concussion testing. (Please see below for information regarding the baseline concussion testing)

Please plan your doctors appointments and vacations accordingly.

Thank you!

**IMPACT Baseline Concussion Testing**

As a new way of better protecting our Carroll County Public Schools students, WMHS is now required to ensure that all athletes take part in the county-wide IMPACT Baseline Concussion Assessment. The idea behind this program is to make certain that all student-athletes are symptom-free of concussion-related injuries and as healthy as possible to participate on our CCPS sports teams.

Each session runs for approximately one hour, including student log-in and the actual test. 15 athletes can be assessed in a given session. They will take place in the WMHS Computer Lab. The school's Athletic Trainer, Coaching Staffs, and Athletic Director will all be involved in overseeing the process. It is a controlled, but stress-free environment.

Since this has now become a CCPS requirement, **almost all student-athletes will have to complete this program before being permitted to tryout and play for WMHS**, with the exception of only Cross Country, Golf, the non-jumping Indoor and Outdoor Track & Field events, Tennis, and Corollary Athletics Teams, for whom testing is optional. Currently, we are focusing on our Fall Season students. Once passed, the test is current for two years. Further information regarding this entire process can be found on the Fact Sheet (yellow) available and the corresponding Consent Form (green), both available in our WMHS Main Office. Each student will have to obtain two of the informational sheet (one to be signed and returned, the other for families to keep) and one of the release forms, also to be returned to the school. **No athlete will be allowed to complete the assessment without all forms submitted.**

We thank you very much in advance for your cooperation with this new project. Again, initiatives like these have been designed for the purpose of serving your children in the safest way possible during their experiences as members of the Carroll County Public Schools System, while here with us at Winters Mill High School.

**Athletic Schedule**

Go to [www.HighSchoolSports.net](http://www.HighSchoolSports.net) and select our school. When looking for a sport's schedule, be sure to check the school year at the bottom of the screen. This will be automatically updated when there are changes.

**New Athletic Admission Price**

\$5.00 is the new adult admission price for athletic events.  
Students and Senior Citizens will remain at \$2.00

**CONGRATULATIONS!!**

**The following students are the winners of the WMHS  
Athletic Boosters Scholarships:**

- Jill Benko
- Kaitlyn Shimek
- Brian Martin
- Ryan Spangler

**Golf Try-Out Information**

Westminster National GC

Monday, Aug. 15 - 3:30pm

Tuesday, Aug. 16 - 3:30pm

Wed., Aug. 17 - 3:30pm

Must have your own equipment. Proper golf attire is required. First match is Aug. 23.

**Field Hockey Try-Out Information**

August 13—August 20

All 10:30—12:30 Practice

J.V. 10:30 am

**Victor O'Neill Studios will take Class of 2012  
Senior portraits on  
July 25th, 26th & 27th, 2011 in the WMHS Auditorium**  
Individual mailings will be sent to all seniors with their  
appointment date & time and all necessary information.

***Making a Difference Together***

Volunteering is an excellent way for parents and family, community members, and business partners to build and strengthen ties with the Carroll County Public School System. Volunteers offer their time, effort, and/or talents to benefit all students in the school system. CCPS Volunteer Program Guidelines outline consistent standards for volunteers. **Level I Volunteers** (guest readers, concession stand operators, business representatives, event ticket collectors, guest speakers, etc.) **must annually register at a school site before volunteering.** **Level II Volunteers** (classroom helpers, tutors,

chaperones, mentors, etc.) **are required to attend an annual training session at least seven (7) school days prior to volunteering.**

Volunteer training sessions are held at schools and regional locations throughout the school year. **Volunteer training, obtained during the 2010-2011 school year, is only valid through September 30, 2011.** As plans for the 2011-2012 school year are developed, volunteer training may be included as part of a scheduled school event or activity. **Attending required annual volunteer training prior to October 1, 2011 will maintain your eligibility to volunteer and alleviate gaps in your volunteer service.** By late summer, a comprehensive list of volunteer training sessions will be available by accessing the CCCPS website (<http://www.carrollk12.org>), Channel 21, and local newspapers. Additional information may also be obtained by contacting Jane Farver, CCPS Volunteer Program Coordinator at 410-386-1536 or [efarve@k12.carr.org](mailto:efarve@k12.carr.org).

**Volunteers make countless educational endeavors happen!**

Books from the Media Center may be checked out for the summer starting on June 1. All books will be due August 30, the first day of school for 2011-2012. The Media Center will be open on Tuesday, July 19th from 10:00am-12:00pm and Thursday, August 11th from 1:00-3:00pm for checkouts or returns.

## **BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT & NEW STUDENT - FRESHMAN ORIENTATION**

The **"Back to School"** night for Winters Mill High School for the 2011-2012 school year is scheduled for **Thursday, August 25th** prior to the first scheduled school day of the year. **New Student and Freshman Orientation** will be held the same night. More information in our next newsletter!

### **Welcome Class of 2015!!!**

Looking for school clothing or supplies??

Come to the school store located on Main Street between the gym and cafeteria. We have t-shirts, hoodies, sweats, hats, gloves, binders, and more! Start the school year dressed in style! We will be open on back to school night,

August 25.

Hope to see you then!



### **Instrumental Music Department Information**

Please be on the lookout for emails from Ms Gottlieb regarding dates for next year and supplies needed for class. This information can also be found on the WMHS school website under "Students" and then "Music". Two dates to add to the list: Music Banquet May 29, Graduation June 6th at 7 pm. Please contact Ms Gottlieb at [kegottl@carrollk12.org](mailto:kegottl@carrollk12.org) with questions.

### **Parent Involvement Opportunities**

Many opportunities exist for parent involvement at Winters Mill High School. One of the easiest is through involvement in one of the booster organizations. Each organization has a standard meeting date throughout the year. I encourage you to attend music booster meetings if your son or daughter is involved in either the chorus or the instrumental music program. If your child is interested in trying out for an athletic team, you should consider the athletic boosters.

Each group works to plan and fund extra opportunities that enhance the basic music and athletic programs. They provide assistance to many clubs, classes, and activities, and plan a variety of informational meetings for the parent community at large.

Each of these organizations needs the support of new parents that enter our school community.

Music Booster meeting: First Thursday of the month 7 pm Chorus Room

Athletic Booster meeting: Third Monday of the month 7 pm Media Center

Class of 2012, 2013, 2014 & 2015 Boosters: (TBA during the school year)

**Mark Your Calendar...**

**JULY**

4 Schools/Offices closed for Independence Day

25 Senior Portraits Class of 2012 (by appointment) - Auditorium

26 Senior Portraits Class of 2012 (by appointment) - Auditorium

27 Senior Portraits Class of 2012 (by appointment) - Auditorium

29 Falcon Open Golf Tournament—7:30 am—Westminster National Golf Course

**AUGUST**

13 First Day of Sports Try-outs

16 Walk-in Scheduling—3:30—6:30 pm

17 Auditions for the Fall Drama Production—6:00—9:00 Auditorium

18 Auditions for the Fall Drama Production—6:00—9:00 Auditorium

18 Walk-in Scheduling—3:30—6:30 pm

25 Back to School and New Student Orientation

30 Schools Open - First Day for Students

**Homecoming Week — 2011**

September 19—24

Homecoming Game with South Carroll High—September 23

Dance—September 24

**NOTICE**

Anyone needing special accommodations in order to attend any of the meetings referred to in this newsletter, should notify the school at (410) 386-1500, or the Office of Community and Media Relations (410) 751-3020 or TDD (410) 751-3034 no later than one week prior to the event.  
Auxiliary aids and/or services will be provided.

The Board of Education of Carroll County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in employment or provision of services, programs or activities. Information concerning the Americans with Disabilities Act is available from the Director of Facilities, (410) 751-3177. Persons needing auxiliary aids and services for communication should contact the Office of Community and Media Relations at (410) 751-3020, TTY (410) 751-3034, or write to Carroll County Public Schools, 125 North Court Street, Westminster, Maryland 21157 at least one (1) week in advance of the date the special accommodation is needed.

# Winters Mill High School



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING WMHS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

The monthly Winters Mill newsletter (Guidance Gazette & Talon) is posted every month on our school website at, [www.carrollk12.org/wmh/parents/newsletters](http://www.carrollk12.org/wmh/parents/newsletters). In our efforts to 'go green' we are now sending the newsletter out via the AlertNow e-mail system (this will go to the parent(s) e-mail address entered on your student's Emergency Procedure Card).

If you would like to continue to receive the monthly newsletter via U.S. Mail please complete this form and return to:

**WMHS  
Attn: Newsletter  
506 Gorsuch Road  
Westminster, MD 21157**

Thank you for your help in our efforts to 'GO GREEN'.

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I would like to continue receiving a paper copy of the monthly WMHS newsletter for the 2011-2012 school year.

Names & Grades of all students at  
WMHS: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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