

**Subject:** Monday Matters: MSRC and communication with students  
**Date:** Monday, August 23, 2021 at 8:01:35 AM Eastern Daylight Time  
**From:** Dodge, Gail  
**To:** Dodge, Gail  
**CC:** Whitfield, Tiffany L., Wallach, Josh, Stephen, Andrea R.

Dear Colleagues:

Student success remains a priority for the coming academic year. All faculty and staff play a critical role in shaping the student experience. One of the ways that we can help our students be successful is to connect them with resources, not just in the first week of class, but throughout the semester. Focus groups have shown that many students do not know where to turn when they start to struggle, despite information in the syllabus. Anecdotally I believe students do not realize they are in trouble early enough. I think it would be helpful to assume that most of our students are motivated to be successful, but don't have the experience, skills, or habits (yet) to support that success. Therefore, telling them that you expect them to come to office hours or to go to tutoring before they are having trouble might be useful. Communicate your expectations early and clearly, rather than assuming that all students in college know what they are supposed to do. If anyone is interested in discussing how to communicate with students to encourage successful study habits, please let me know. We can arrange an occasional discussion forum on these topics. It would be interesting to hear from faculty who have had success in this area. Please share the MSRC information below with students on a regular basis.

The [Math & Science Resource Center](#) (MSRC) offers free tutoring for certain Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics and Psychology courses. We are dedicated to helping students succeed by offering more than one way to connect with a tutor. We offer online & in-person tutoring by appointment as well as drop-in tutoring (no appointment necessary)!

To ensure our services are student friendly and easy to access we have recently updated our website to reflect the new changes for the fall semester. The MSRC services are provided in three separate locations as well as online. Please see what is offered at each location:

- **Biology & Computer Science** tutoring will be offered in our New Location which is **OCNPS Room 214** (Monday-Thursday 10 am-5:00 pm). Also in this location is the **Physics Learning Center** (PLC).
- **Chemistry** tutoring will be offered in the Chemistry Success Center in the new Chemistry Building (Monday-Friday 10 am-7:00 pm)
- **Mathematics & Psychology** tutoring will take place in Perry Library (Learning Commons Room 1312) Sunday 5:00-9:00 pm & Monday-Thursday 10 am-5:00 pm
- **Online Tutoring Appointments** are made via Retain and students can access this service by clicking the following link: <https://odu.retain.io/> Online tutoring hours vary Sunday-Thursday from 8:00 am-9:00 pm.

The MSRC will have an Open House on **Thursday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at the Perry Library (Learning Commons Room 1312) location where we will house our Mathematics & Psychology Tutoring.

The MSRC will open for the fall semester on **Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>**. We are looking forward to serving our students!

Best Regards,

Gail

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