



HIGHLAND PREP HONEY BADGER BULLETIN

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR

CLASS OF 2024 ON PACE TO BEAT SCHOLARSHIP RECORD

With approximately 70% of our students already having received acceptance letters from four-year universities and colleges, we are excited to be on pace to beat last year's total scholarship awarded amounts. Currently, we have confirmed that over \$4,200,000 worth of scholarships has been awarded collectively thus far to our students.



We do not plan on slowing down; however, we are only getting started on submitting more applications and working to realize our students' wishes of getting into their dream school or earning scholarships based on merit to reduce expenses.



Message from the Principal

Dear Highland Prep Families,

I hope this letter finds you all in high spirits as we approach the end of the second quarter. I am delighted to announce that Highland Prep has received an outstanding letter grade of 'A' from the Arizona Department of Education. This achievement is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, staff, and parents.

As we approach the holiday season, I urge you all to take a moment to appreciate the achievements and talents of our Highland Prep community. It is through the combined efforts of our students, faculty, staff, and families that we continue to ensure an environment of excellence and growth.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend my sincerest gratitude to our parents and guardians. Your unwavering support and involvement in your student's education contribute greatly to their success. Together, we form a strong partnership that allows us to provide the best possible opportunities for our students.

In closing, I want to wish everyone a joyful and peaceful holiday season. May this time with loved ones bring warmth and happiness to your lives. Thank you for being a part of the Highland Prep community, and I look forward to continued success and growth in the coming year.

Warm regards,
Shane Jones
Principal

School Calendar

DECEMBER 2023

12/11-12/15	Holiday Spirit Week
12/11	Visual Arts Showcase
12/14	Fine Arts Assembly
12/15	Senior Meeting
12/18-1/3	Winter Break

FEBRUARY 2024

2/3	Future Freshmen Placement Testing
2/10	Winter Formal Dance
2/16	NHS Blood Drive
2/22	Spring STEM Showcase
2/28	Spring BBQ

JANUARY 2024

1/10	Academic Awards Assembly
1/13	VEX Robotics Tournament
1/15	Martin Luther King Day (No School)
1/17	Club Rush
1/23	ACT Practice Exam (11th Grade)

MARCH 2024

3/2	Future Freshman Course Registration
3/11	Visual Arts Showcase
3/13	Fine Arts Assembly
3/18-3/22	Spring Break (No School)
3/29	Spring Holiday (No School)

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



GCU HONORS COLLEGE LUNCH

Grand Canyon University Honors College's students admission counselor and honors college representative invited 20 hand-selected seniors for lunch. The students were able to enjoy lunch from Firehouse Subs while getting to know more about what GCU's honor college has to offer and ask any other college-related questions.



SENIOR MEETING

All seniors were called to the Fab Lab to meet with Principal Jones, Assistant Principal Cole, and Academic Coach, Ms. Steele. They met to discuss which schools they had applied to, which scholarships they had received, and which schools they were still waiting to hear back from.

EXTRACURRICULAR

SCHEDULE:

MONDAY

MEDIA AND JOURNALISM, 210
DRAMA CLUB, 102
DANCE CLUB, 203
GAMEDAY OPERATIONS, 101
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY, FAB LAB
VR GAME DESIGN (AND TUESDAYS), 209
ZOOLOGY (AND FRIDAYS), 210
ESPORTS (AND FRIDAYS), FL 205
VR GAME DESIGN (AND FRIDAYS), 209
MATH TUTORING (AND FRIDAYS), 202
YEARBOOK (AND FRIDAYS), 106
PEP BAND (AND FRIDAYS), FL 106
CHOIR (AND FRIDAYS), FL 106
DRONES (AND FRIDAYS), 207

TUESDAY

SEAPERCH ROBOTICS, 210
BOTANY CLUB, FL 206
ENGINEERING, FL 206
AEROSPACE, FL 205
STUDENT COUNCIL, 206
SPANISH CLUB, 103
FASHION CLUB, 108
VEX ROBOTICS (AND THURSDAYS), 208
CHESS (AND FRIDAYS), 110

THURSDAY

DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS, 109
TABLE TENNIS, FL 205
RECORDING STUDIO, FL 106
SPEECH/DEBATE, 102
MATH COMPETITION, 201

FRIDAY

FUTURE MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, 110

STEM DIGEST

VEX ROBOTICS TOURNAMENT

The VEX Robotics Tournament was a tournament our Robotics club had been preparing for tirelessly for a month. They met twice a week, assembling their robots and working on coding. After discussing with several members of the Robotics club, they explained each member had a different job. For example, Elizabeth P. is one of the main coders so she solely took care of the coding, while Ethan Z. handled solely the navigation. Although they were not able to take home any trophies, we are extremely proud of how hard the team worked.



RADC DRONE TOURNAMENT

Highland Prep hosted the RADC Drone Tournament where students from the HP Drones Club competed against other partnering schools in challenges throughout the day. The challenges included guiding a drone through obstacles and even programming the drone to fly autonomously using their coding skills. Thanks to their hard work and dedication, our students were able to win the awards: teamwork champ, inspire award, excellence award, think award, and drone skills (pilot and auto).

CONVERSION FROM ROTATIONAL TO LINEAR

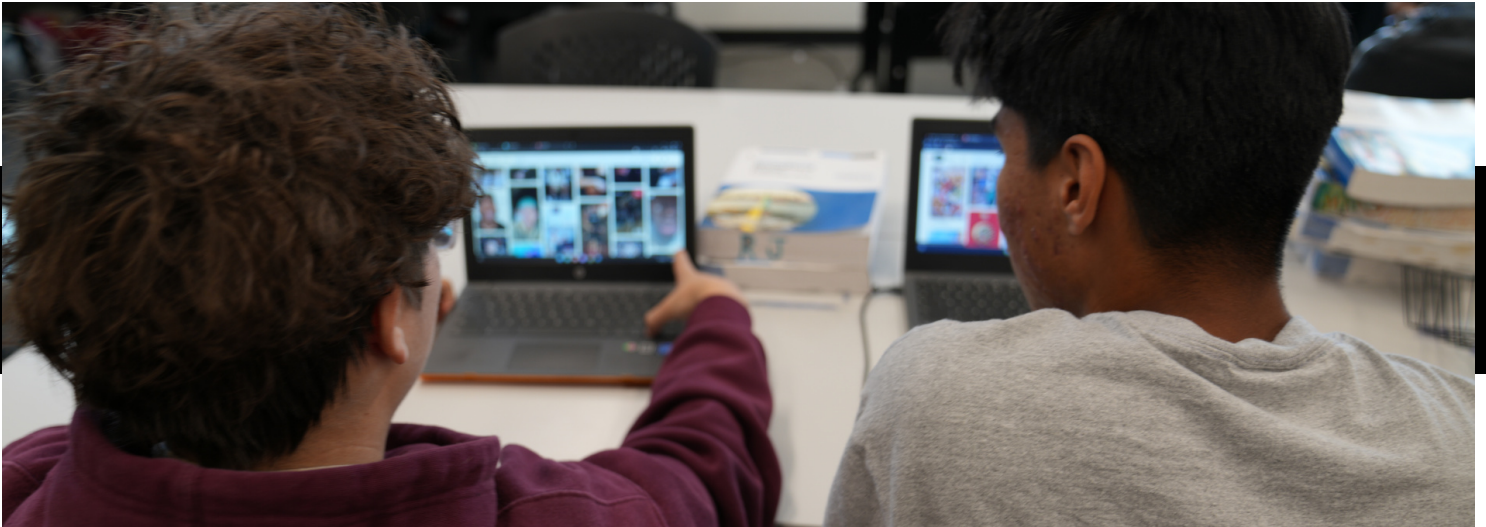
Mr. Harb's Introduction to Engineering Design class worked on building an Automato. This would allow them to see how rotational movement is converted into linear movement and how it assimilates to pistons in an engine. They learned hand skills like using a drill and performed numerous tests to continue improving their project.



CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS

FINDING BIODIVERSITY

Dr. Jacob Parkman, better known as Mr. Parkman, had his AP Environmental Science class that consists of juniors and seniors, complete a class activity outside for their unit on biodiversity. While being outside, students were each given a sheet and instructed to identify and write down the different types of biodiversity they could find in the courtyard. Then, they needed to classify what type of biodiversity it was and why it was able to be considered biodiverse. The last part of the activity was to determine what specific features distinguish plants and animals and how they intermingle in biodiversity.



DESIGNING MAGAZINES

Mr. Cajthaml's Media and Technology class were given the project of creating their very own magazine. They were given the creative control to have the magazine be about anything they had a particular interest in, as long as it was school appropriate. To begin this project, Mr. Cajthaml had students create Pinterest mood boards to determine the aesthetic for their magazine as a whole. After establishing the aesthetic, students created a magazine cover and layout, which then followed the creation of the rest of the magazine. Mr. Cajthaml explained the project's purpose was to introduce students to design coherence when developing media and technology.

ATHLETICS

GREAT START TO BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

The Boys Varsity Basketball has started its season with two big wins and the team is not planning to stop there. Senior, Darius McKnight said, “It felt surreal to be back on the court for senior year”. Captain of the team, Senior, Presley Ibeh remembers the first game of the season, stating, “All the boys were rallied up and ready. This year we are looking to take over the season”. Overall, this seems to be the start of a great season for the Highland Prep Varsity team, and we are excited to see what the boys will be able to accomplish.



ISAIAH GOMEZ SHOUT-OUT

With fall sports at a close and winter sports now in season, we must highlight a player who has been able to participate in both sports and at the same time, work hard in both remarkably. Isaiah Gomez is a senior who stood out to Coach Shaw, the Boys Football coach as being an incredibly valuable player for the football season. He described Isaiah Gomez as being a player who “plays hard every play and sacrifices everything he can for the team”. Gomez played as a linebacker and wide receiver.

SPORTS SCHEDULE:

Basketball - Boy's	JV	12/11/23 4:00 PM	Scottsdale Prep	Soccer - Girl's (W)	V	12/18/23 4:00 PM	Heritage Academy Laveen
Basketball - Girl's	V	12/11/23 5:30 PM	Scottsdale Prep	Basketball - Girl's	V	12/19/23 8:00 AM	Vista Grande
Basketball - Boy's	V	12/11/23 7:00 PM	Scottsdale Prep	Basketball - Girl's	V	12/19/23 4:00 PM	Cinega
Basketball - Boy's	JV	12/12/23 4:00 PM	Mountainside	Basketball - Girl's	V	12/19/23 6:00 PM	ALA - QC
Basketball - Girl's	V	12/12/23 5:30 PM	Mountainside	Soccer - Girl's (W)	V	12/19/23 6:00 PM	Globe
Basketball - Boy's	V	12/12/23 7:00 PM	Mountainside	Basketball - Girl's	V	12/19/23 8:00 PM	ALA - QC
Soccer - Girl's (W)	V	12/15/23 4:00 PM	Anthem Prep	Basketball - Boy's	V	12/27/23 9:00 AM	Mountain View, Mesa
Basketball - Boy's	JV	12/15/23 5:30 PM	Tonopah Valley	Basketball - Boy's	V	12/27/23 1:30 PM	Campo Verde
Basketball - Boy's	V	12/15/23 7:00 PM	Tonopah Valley	Basketball - Boy's	V	12/28/23 12:00 PM	John Paul II (Plano, TX)
Soccer - Boy's (W)	V	12/18/23 3:45 PM	Heritage Academy Laveen	Basketball - Boy's	V	12/29/23 12:00 PM	Red Mountain

HAPPENINGS @ HP

WINTER PEP ASSEMBLY

Highland Prep hosted its winter pep assembly to introduce its winter sports, have a teacher vs. student face-off, and showcase Honey Badger spirit. The winter sports teams that were introduced were Boys and Girls Soccer and Boys and Girls Basketball. Student Council hosted the entire pep assembly by introducing each team and helping coordinate games amongst the different sports teams and classes. Students from winter sports and cheer also participated in a teacher vs. student face-off where they went up against teachers such as Ms. Plazola, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Harb, and Mr. Cajthaml in a game of dizzy soccer.



TABLE TENNIS EVENT

We would like to congratulate our Highland Prep Table Tennis team for their outstanding performance in the exhibition match against St. John Paul II High School. The match was an incredible showcase of talent, skill, and sportsmanship. The competition was intense, with both teams demonstrating their dedication for the sport. Our team gave it their all, displaying their exceptional table tennis abilities and representing our school with pride.

BAND & CHOIR CONCERT

Our band and choir students gave a spectacular performance for Highland Prep families and friends in the Fall Band & Choir Concert. Students performed a wide array of holiday-themed songs with the guidance of their teacher, Mr. Judge.



Highland Prep
2023-2024 Academic Calendar

July	August	September	October
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1	1 2 3 4 5	1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	8 9 10 11 12 13 14
9 10 11 12 13 14 15	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	15 16 17 18 19 20 21
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	22 23 24 25 26 27 28
23 24 25 26 27 28 29	27 28 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	29 30 31
30 31			

November	December	January	February
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4	1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	4 5 6 7 8 9 10
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	11 12 13 14 15 16 17
19 20 21 22 23 24 25	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	21 22 23 24 25 26 27	18 19 20 21 22 23 24
26 27 28 29 30	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29
	31		

March	April	May	June
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2	1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4	1
3 4 5 6 7 8 9	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	2 3 4 5 6 7 8
10 11 12 13 14 15 16	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	9 10 11 12 13 14 15
17 18 19 20 21 22 23	21 22 23 24 25 26 27	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	16 17 18 19 20 21 22
24 25 26 27 28 29 30	28 29 30	26 27 28 29 30 31	23 24 25 26 27 28 29
31			30

First Day of Quarter
Finals/Last Day of Quarter
Holiday/Break
Graduation

First Quarter		Days 48
August	01	First Day - First Quarter
September	04	Labor Day
September	29	Last Day - First Quarter
October	09-13	Fall Break
Second Quarter		Days 41
October	16	First Day - Second Quarter
November	10	Veterans Day
November	22-24	Thanksgiving
December	15	Last Day - Second Quarter
Dec / Jan	18-02	Winter Break
Third Quarter		Days 51
January	03	First Day - Third Quarter
January	15	Martin Luther King Day
February	19	Presidents Day
March	15	Last Day - Third Quarter
March	18-22	Spring Break
Fourth Quarter		Days 42
March	25	First Day - Fourth Quarter
March	29	Spring Holiday
April	26	Spring Holiday
May	22	Graduation
May	23	Last Day - Fourth Quarter
		Instructional Days 182
School Events		
August		Parent Academy
September		Fall Open House

Teacher Start/End Dates					
July	25	Teachers Start Date			
May	31	Teachers End Date			
In-service - No Students			Days		
	All Staff In-service		5		
Early Release Days - 1:30 pm			Days		
	Professional Learning Community (PLC)		26		
	Teacher In-service/Work/Grades		4		
Student Coursework Testing Days			Days		
	Midterms		4		
	Progress Reports		4		
	*Finals		4		
	*Finals/Last Day of Quarter		4		
Blackout/Mandatory Attendance Dates					
	October	02-06		March	11-15
	December	11-15		May	20-23
See Student Handbook					
State Testing Dates					
Please see Assessment Calendar available on Canvas. HP School Calendar will be modified to accommodate State Testing Calendar.					
Special Dates					
	40th Student Day -		September	26 2023	
	100th Student Day -		January	18 2024	