



# HIGHLAND PREP HONEY BADGER BULLETIN

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR

## WELL-DESERVED BASKETBALL PROGRAM RECOGNITIONS

Highland Prep's 2023-2024 basketball program has definitely left a precedent for future years to come with their hard work and dedication. Our boys and girls basketball team received a total of 11 honorary recognitions this season. To start off, Kohen Hill was awarded an impressive 2 recognitions with All-Region Player of the Year and All-



Region 1st Team. Darius McKnight was awarded All-Region 1st Team, Paxton Clarke was awarded All-Region 2nd Team, and Josiah Cheeks was awarded All-Region Honorable Distinction. For our girls, Deba Uyi-Ajavi and Trinity Alfaro were awarded All-Region 1st Team, Anahi Nuñez and Kendra Ibeh were awarded All-Region 2nd Team, and Aaliyah Minick was awarded All-Region Honorable Distinction.



# Message from the Principal

Dear Highland Prep Families,

As we approach spring break and enter the final stretch of the 2023-2024 school year, I wanted to take a moment to acknowledge the incredible accomplishments of our students, faculty, and staff.

The third quarter was a whirlwind of success! From the joyous energy of the Hoopcoming dance to the awe-inspiring Astronomy Night, our school community truly came alive. We also witnessed a historic moment for our athletics program, with the Boys' Varsity Basketball team hosting their first home playoff game! But the triumphs don't stop there. As of today, our senior class have achieved a remarkable 100% college acceptance rate, secured a staggering \$7,171,146 in scholarships, and boast an impressive 40 students with full-ride offers.

Looking towards the final quarter, we have exciting events on the horizon, including AP testing, ACT testing, Prom, and of course, Graduation.

On behalf of the entire Highland Prep team, I wish you all a safe and rejuvenating spring break. We look forward to returning with renewed energy and celebrating the fantastic achievements of our students as we close out a truly remarkable school year.

Sincerely,  
Shane Jones  
Principal

## School Calendar

### 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)

### MAY 2024

5/3-5/4 Senior Trip  
5/9 Spring Band & Choir Concert  
5/13 Visual Arts Showcase  
5/20 Academic Awards Banquet  
5/22 Graduation

### APRIL 2024

Academic Awards Assembly  
ACT, 11th Grade  
Prom  
Spring Holiday (No School)  
HP Academies Science Fair

### SUMMER 2024

6/3-6/27 Summer School: Session 1  
6/3-6/27 Future Freshmen Academy: Math  
7/8-7/25 Summer School: Session 2  
7/8-7/25 Future Freshmen Academy: Reading  
8/5 First Day of School

# ACADEMIC BULLETIN



## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: KOHEN HILL

We are proud to announce that Kohen Hill, a four-year student of Highland Prep, has signed to play basketball at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University this fall. We are so proud of Kohen for his hard work, success, and dedication, to not only the basketball program, but his academics. We are excited to watch his journey. Congratulations, Kohen!



## CLASS OF 2024 AT-A-GLANCE

- 100% Admitted to a four year college and university
- \$7,171,146.40 in scholarships thus far
- 40 students have full ride scholarships

## 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

## SPRING OPEN HOUSE & STEM SHOWCASE

We recently opened our doors to current and future Highland Prep families for our spring Open House and STEM Showcase. Families got the opportunity to take a tour around the school and see what happens inside our HP classrooms. Our teachers showcased some of the STEM projects students work on throughout the year as a STEM school. The VEX Robotics room was also open where families could see a real competition field and chat with current VEX robotics students about the club.



## GROSS ANATOMY AUTOPSY SIMULATION

Ms. Chandler had her biomedical science students complete a simulated autopsy lab for their forensic unit. Students learned about heart-related causes of death such as infections, cardiac arrest, and birth defects, and then used that knowledge to identify a normal heart versus one that would have had heart-related problems. They examined several hearts and then came up with their conclusions on the related cause of death for each one.



## CREATIVELY MASTERING THE UNIT CIRCLE

Our pre-calculus students were instructed to show their mastery of the unit circle by efficiently displaying it in a project of their choosing. They had to correctly plot points, radians, and degrees of a unit circle with the most creative project possible. Student's outdid themselves and came up with tons of cool interpretations of the unit circle.



# CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS

## SHAMROCK FARMS FIELD TRIP

Dr. Parkman's AP environmental science students took an insightful field trip to Shamrock Farms. They enjoyed a tour around the farm in the Shamrock Farms tram where they got a chance to see the main barn as well as the milking house. Inside the milking house, their tour guides explained the nutrition and treatment of the cows and explained the process of milking them. The tour also included a lesson on the history behind Shamrock Farms and their efforts to conserve water resources. To conclude the field trip, students had the chance to enjoy some delicious ice cream provided by Shamrock Farms.



## ROMEO & JULIET SCENES

Mr. Caputo's freshmen English class each picked a scene from Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" and performed it in front of their class. They were split into groups and instructed to each have a role in helping out. Although it was Shakespearean English, Mr. Caputo explained he gave students the chance to act the scenes out using their own interpretation of the play because he wanted them to work together as a group and think creatively. When asked about the project, freshman, Brooklyn Garvey shared, "As someone in the director role, I did the best I could and it turned out great. It was fun getting to be super creative and getting to see how all the scenes turned out."

# ATHLETICS

## HIGHLAND PREP CHEER WINS THIRD PLACE

A big round of applause to our Highland Prep Cheer team who took home third place at the Arizona State Cheerleading Tournament. When asked about the win, cheer captain, Samantha Esparza, shared, “We were all really stoked when we heard our school get announced. It was such an amazing feeling seeing our hard work get paid off. The overall tournament was a great learning experience as we watched other teams perform and we are looking to work even harder next season.”



## OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE AT SKYDOME CLASSIC MEET

Our incredible track and field team delivered an outstanding performance in their recent Skydome Classic Meet by beating several school records. We had 3 medal finishes with Jordan Netherly winning gold in the 60m dash and silver in the triple jump and Orion Thomason winning bronze in the high jump. In the 60m, Jordan Netherly, Paxton Clarke, Chris Buenaventura, and Liam Coye - finished in the top 16 out of a total of 75 runners.

## SPORTS SCHEDULE:

|               |           |         |                               |                                   |
|---------------|-----------|---------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Baseball      | 3/11/2024 | 3:15 PM | Palo Verde Magnet             | Victory Lane Complex              |
| Softball      | 3/11/2024 | 3:15 PM | Palo Verde Magnet             | Victory Lane Complex              |
| Softball      | 3/13/2024 | 3:00 PM | Leading Edge Academy- Gilbert | McQueen Park                      |
| Tennis        | 3/19/2024 | 3:30 PM | Lincoln Prep                  | Surprise Tennis & Racquet Complex |
| Tennis        | 3/26/2024 | 3:30 PM | Scottsdale Prep               | Indian School Park                |
| Tennis        | 3/27/2024 | 3:30 PM | Rancho Solano Prep            | Surprise Tennis & Racquet Complex |
| Tennis        | 3/29/2024 | 3:30 PM | Glendale Prep                 | Paseo Racquet Center              |
| Track & Field | 3/30/2024 |         | Greenway Track Invitational   | Greenway High School              |
| Tennis        | 4/1/2024  | 2:30 PM | Veritas Prep                  | Indian School Park                |

# HAPPENINGS @ HP

## HOOPCOMING DANCE

Our Highland Prep Hoopcoming Dance was a night filled with friends, fun, and red heart-shaped glasses! Our honey badgers dressed to impress and enjoyed the splendid evening dancing and singing along to their favorite music with friends. The dance took place in the Fab Lab with nice lights and decorations. Now, students look forward to the Highland Prep Prom taking place on April 20th.



## SPRING BBQ

We hosted our annual Highland Prep Spring BBQ for students and staff to enjoy. Students got to eat burgers with friends and cool off with some shaved ice from the Kona Ice truck. Mr. Laguit also hosted a fun dodgeball tournament where students and teachers, Mr. Cajthaml and Mr. Hoffman were participants. We pied Ms. Plazola in the face from her loss in the recent penny wars we held. Aside from the pie-in-the-face and dodgeball tournament happening in the gym, students also had the chance to play yard games, connect 4, tennis matches, and cornhole.

## Upcoming Dates at Honey Badger Country:

- 3/18-3/22: Spring Break (No School)
- 4/2: ACT Aspire (Freshmen) & AZSci (Juniors) Testing
- 4/9: ACT (Juniors)
- 4/12: NHS Blood Drive



**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                                                                                           |