



HONEY BADGER BULLETIN

EDITION #53

HIGHLAND PREP'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR



AP 2024 SCHOOL HONOR ROLL GOLD HIGHLAND PREP



88% percent of students in the graduating class took an AP exam at any point in high school.



45% percent of students in the graduating class scored 3+ on any AP Exam in high school.



16% percent of students in the graduating class took 5 or more AP Exams in high school, where at least 1 exam was taken in 9th or 10th grade.



HOME OF THE HONEY BADGERS

COLLEGE BOARD RECOGNIZES HPS AS A “GOLD” AP SCHOOL

Highland Prep has earned its recognition as a Gold level school on the AP School Honor Roll for the 2023-2024 school year. This prestigious distinction, awarded by the College Board, acknowledges the school's unwavering commitment to academic excellence and college readiness. In addition, and equally exciting, Highland Prep was recognized with the AP Access Award for providing all students the chance to participate in AP courses, including students of underrepresented populations. By achieving all criteria set forth by the College Board,

Highland Prep continues to demonstrate its dedication to providing students with rigorous academic opportunities. Remarkably, 88% of Highland Prep's graduating class from 2024 took an AP exam, 45% scored a 3 or more on any AP exam, and 16% took 5 or more AP exams, with at least one being taken in 9th or 10th grade. These impressive statistics showcase the hard work, determination, and preparedness for success seen in Highland Prep students. This esteemed accomplishment solidifies Highland Prep's reputation as a leader in education.



EDITION #53 / OCTOBER 2024

Message from the Principal

Dear Highland Prep Community,

It's hard to believe that the first quarter of the school year has already come to a close! It was an incredibly successful one, and we're looking forward to even more academic growth and exciting events in the coming months.

Our freshmen, sophomores, and juniors all participated in the PSAT/NMSQT testing in October, and many seniors opted to take the SAT for college admissions. We were honored to host the Dean of the Honors College at Grand Canyon University (GCU). Over 50 of our seniors attended this informative session to learn firsthand about the opportunities available at GCU.

The Halloween BBQ was a spooky success! It was wonderful to see our students and staff embrace the Halloween spirit and enjoy fun outside the classroom.

We are pleased to announce a dynamic lineup of events! Mark your calendars for the VEX Robotics Competition on November 16th, where our talented students will showcase their engineering skills. On November 22nd, join us for an enchanting evening of music at the Fall Band Concert. Athletics are also in full swing! Our Honey Badgers basketball and soccer teams are ready to take the field and court. Let's show our school spirit and support our student athletes.

As always, thank you for your continued support of Highland Prep. We are proud to be part of such a vibrant community.

Kind regards,

Shane Jones Principal



School Calendar

OCTOBER 2024

10/8 Visual Arts Showcase- 1st Qtr.
10/14-10/18 Fall Break (No School)
10/21 Fall Sports Picture Day
10/25 Cap & Gown Picture Day
10/30 Academic Awards Assembly- 1st Qtr.

DECEMBER 2024

12/10 Highland Prep Academies Science Fair
12/14 3rd Annual VEX Robotics Qualifiers
12/16 Visual Arts Showcase- 2nd Qtr.
12/20 2025-2026 Enrollment Packets Due
12/23-1/3 Winter Break (No School)

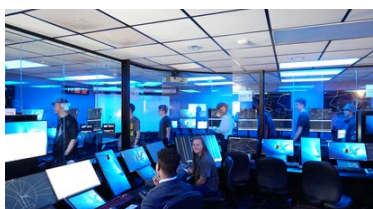
NOVEMBER 2024

11/11 Veteran's Day (No School)
11/16 3rd Annual Aerial Drone Qualifiers
11/19 NHS Blood Drive
11/21 Fall Band & Choir Concert
11/27-11/29 Thanksgiving Break (No School)

JANUARY 2025

1/15 Academic Awards Assembly- 2nd Qtr.
1/16 Parent Workshop: FAFSA
1/21-1/24 Winter Formal Spirit Week
1/24 Winter BBQ
1/25 Winter Formal Dance

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



EMBRY-RIDDLE FIELD TRIP

Our Highland Prep juniors and seniors were given the opportunity to travel to Prescott to explore Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU)! They received a warm welcome and an extensive tour of the university's cutting-edge facilities, showcasing innovative technology and hands-on learning environments. A highlight of the trip was running into our brilliant alumni, now ERAU students, who shared their experiences and insights about the university.

UPCOMING COLLEGE VISITS

11/6	Mississippi State University
11/7	Creighton University Field Trip
11/8	California Aeronautical Univ.
11/13	Texas Tech University

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

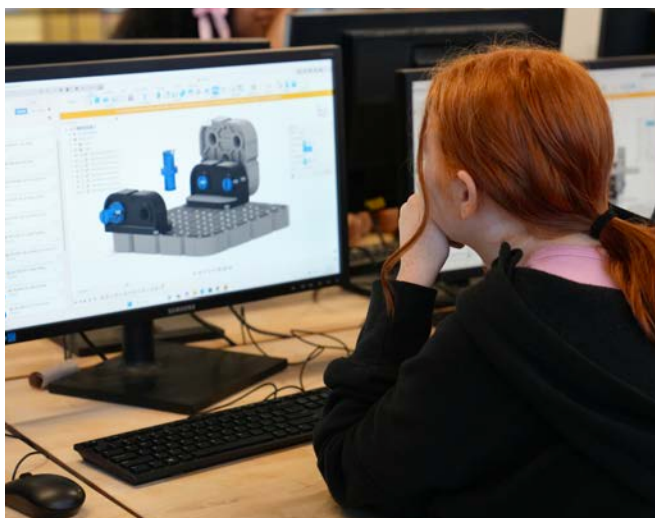
AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE MOCK TRIALS

We warmly welcomed families from our school community to our Fall Open House and STEM Showcase! This engaging event offered a unique opportunity for families to explore our campus, learn about academic programs, and witness the incredible STEM talents of our students. Our Honey Badgers stole the show by displaying previous STEM projects such as their water bottle helicopters and civil engineering houses.



THE ENGINEERING DESIGN OF A WORM GEAR MECHANISM

Our aerospace engineering students took to the skies with a glider design project. They started by using AERY software to optimize the aerodynamics and performance of their glider. They then crafted their digital models into wooden reality, testing their creations for distance, accuracy, and structural integrity. This hands-on project bridged the gap between theory and practice, equipping students with invaluable experience in design, build, and test cycles- essential skills for future aerospace engineers.



EXPLORING CROP DIVERSITY GROUP PRESENTATIONS

Our Engineering Design and Development (EDD) students dove into their first class of the year by examining design processes, prototyping and testing, and problem-solving strategies. In this course, students spend the year using the Engineer Design Process to solve a problem. It is a 5th period course that students attend every Tuesday.



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



MS.DUEÑAS

Ms. Dueñas is our Spanish 1 and AP Spanish teacher here at Highland Prep. Dueñas received her bachelor's degree in education from the Universidad Del Desarrollo Professional. Ms. Dueñas has taught everything from kindergarten through high school since 2012. She has taught both English and Spanish. She innovatively bridges language gaps using real-world applications to make her teaching relatable to students. Leading the Spanish club with enthusiasm, Ms. Dueñas fosters a supportive classroom culture emphasizing growth, encouragement and celebration. Her dedication inspires teachers and students alike, making language learning engaging and meaningful.



KEY CLUB LEND A HAND

Key Club made a meaningful impact at the 51st Annual Kiwanis Kids Day at the Arizona State Fair! Volunteering their time and energy, these dedicated students ensured a safe and enjoyable experience for all attendees. Their selfless service embodied the spirit of community, reflecting Key Club's mission.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



CAP AND GOWN PHOTOS

Our recent senior cap and gown photo shoot was a memorable milestone. Seeing our accomplished Honey Badgers dressed in regalia sparked immense pride and nostalgia. It is thrilling yet bittersweet to envision our talented seniors embarking on their next journey.



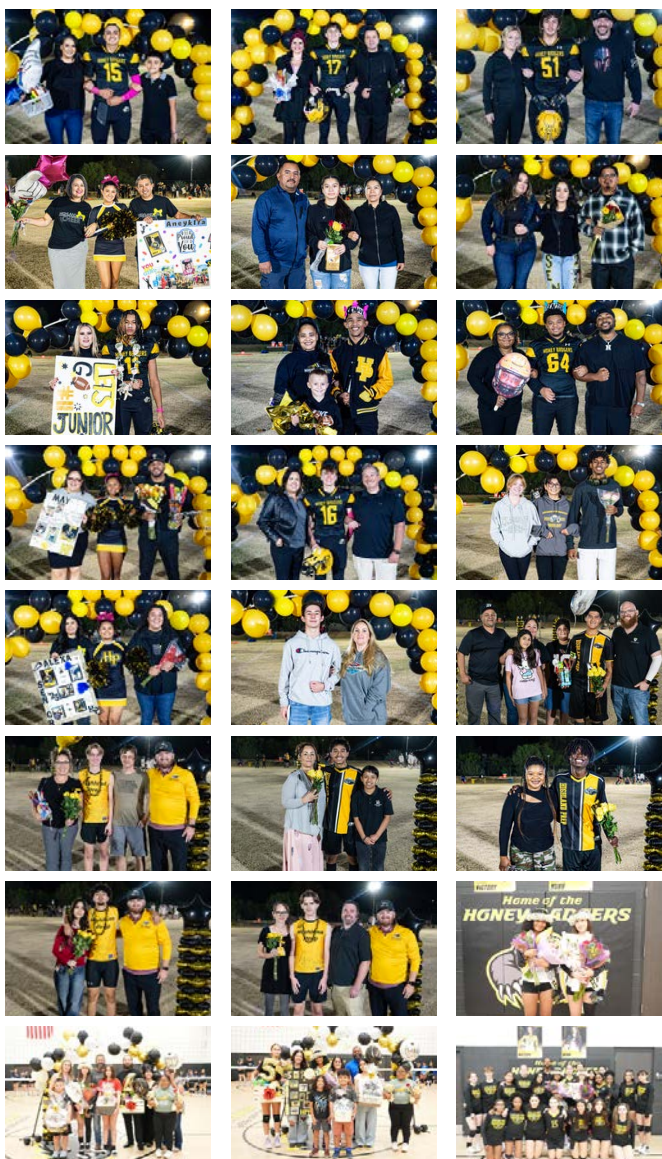
COLLAGE CREATIONS

Our Beginning Visual Arts students unleashed their creativity, crafting vibrant collages inspired by personal passions. From beloved artists to iconic TV shows, each piece reflected individual tastes and interests. Witnessing our students' personalities shine through their artwork was truly captivating!

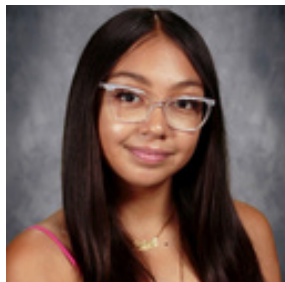
ATHLETICS

A HEARTFELT FAREWELL TO OUR SENIOR FALL ATHLETES

The fall sports season has come to a close, and we proudly salute our exceptional senior athletes! Their remarkable dedication, perseverance and teamwork have forever left their mark on Highland Prep's legacy. These exceptional individuals have embodied the Honey Badger spirit, inspiring us all.



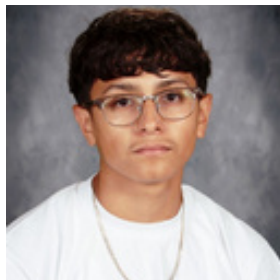
ATHLETE SPOTLIGHTS OF THE MONTH



PILAR MARTINEZ

Junior, Pilar Martinez is a standout athlete for our Highland Prep cross country team. Head Cross Country Coach Mr. Heinz praises Pilar's exceptional work ethic, saying, "She embraced the essence of cross country, striving to improve daily and working twice as hard as everyone else."

Pilar's work ethic extends beyond athletics; she grew as a person and leader. Pilar's impact on her teammates is undeniable. Her selflessness, encouragement and passion have fostered a supportive team culture. She strives those behind her but also influences top runners ahead of her. She was the second fastest runner at our sectional meet, being only six spots away from making it to state. Mr. Heinz shares, "She may not be the most athletically successful, but she is definitely the most hardworking."



ISIAH DE LA ISLA

Junior, Isiah De La Isla, #14, is the standout left-back from our Highland Prep boys soccer team this season. Isiah walked onto the team a few days into tryouts and immediately made an impact with his infectious positivity and goofy attitude. He quickly became an asset to the team, earning a captain's badge in the second half of the season. As a dominant player, his leadership and teamwork elevated the team. Isiah motivated everyone with his joy and encouragement, yet knew when to get serious on the field. Coach Klein praised Isiah, saying, "His communication and leadership, both on and off the field, helped strengthen the team, and we are so grateful to have had him with us this season! Great job, Isiah!"

HAPPENINGS @ HPS

HALLOWEEN BBQ

Our Halloween BBQ was an unforgettable celebration! The atmosphere vibrated with incredible music, while creative costumes made for a spook-tacular gathering. The highlight-our thrilling costume contest- brought laughter and excitement! We had our Honey Badgers in costumes ranging from Jack Sparrow to Emperor's New Groove. Huge shout-out to blank, whose show-stopping attire earned the top prize for Best Costume! We had an absolute blast!

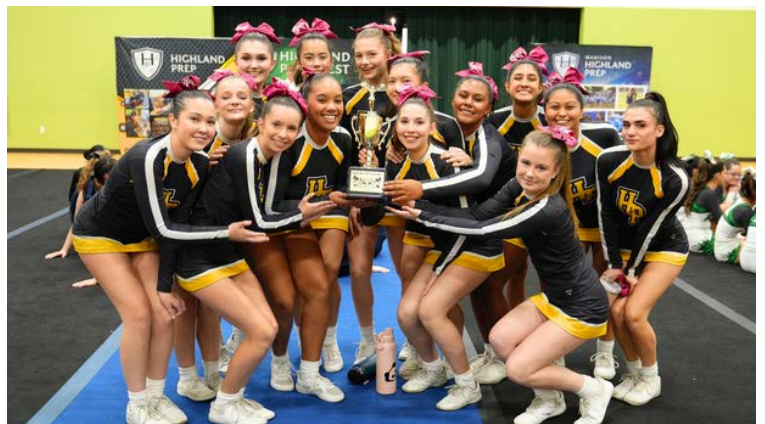


TRUNK OR TREAT AT HPS

Our Highland Prep Trunk or Treat event was a fun evening of candy and community! Families and community members either hosted creatively decorated trunks or brought little ones to trick-or-treat. Meanwhile, our National Honor Society transformed school hallways into a chilling haunted house, impressing all with their spooky decorations and eerie ambiance. Witnessing our community come together for fall festivities filled our hearts with warmth and appreciation!

CHEER WINS 1ST PLACE IN HPA CHEER CLASSIC

Our Highland Prep Cheer Team soared to victory at the inaugural Highland Prep Academies Cheer Classic! Facing friendly competition from sister schools Highland Prep West and Madison Highland Prep, our talented cheer squad delivered an exceptional routine that left judges blown away! We're beyond proud of our cheerleaders!



The image displays a 4x3 grid of monthly calendars for the 2020-2021 school year. Each calendar is a 6x7 grid with days of the week (S-M-F-S-T-F-S) in the header. Days are color-coded: green for the first day of the quarter, red for the last day of the quarter, black for holidays/breaks, and pink for graduations. Graduation dates are circled in red. The legend at the bottom explains the color coding.

Month	Day	Color	Event
July	1	Green	First Day of Quarter
August	1	Red	First Day of Quarter
September	1	Red	First Day of Quarter
October	1	Red	First Day of Quarter
November	1	Red	First Day of Quarter
December	1	Red	First Day of Quarter
January	1	Red	First Day of Quarter
February	1	Red	First Day of Quarter
March	1	Red	First Day of Quarter
April	1	Red	First Day of Quarter
May	1	Red	First Day of Quarter
June	1	Red	First Day of Quarter

Legend:

- Green: First Day of Quarter
- Red: Finals/Last Day of Quarter
- Black: Holiday/Break
- Pink: Graduation

Teacher Start/End Dates			
July	29	Teachers Start Date	
May	30	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	07-11	
	March	10-14	
	December	16-20	
	May	19-23	
<i>See Student Handbook</i>			
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	30 2024
	100th Student Day -	January	17 2025

Open Enrollment

For Incoming Freshmen 2025-2026



2025-2026 Incoming Freshman Open Enrollment Deadlines

Pre-Enrollment Period: September 2, 2024 - November 29, 2024

Incoming Freshmen must complete and submit the Intent to Enroll form to begin the enrollment process for the 2025-2026 school year. The Intent to Enroll form is located and can be submitted through the HPS website at www.HighlandPrepAZ.net. The Intent to Enroll form is also available in the school office.

Enrollment Packets Due: Friday, December 20, 2024

Incoming Freshmen must complete and submit the Enrollment Packet to secure enrollment in the Class of 2029. Enrollment Packets may be returned to the school office, via facsimile, or via email to: tcline@highlandprepaz.org.

Placement Testing Date: Saturday, February 1, 2025

Incoming Freshmen must complete the 9th grade placement tests in Reading and Mathematics. Placement testing will be held on the HPS campus at 9:00 a.m. Incoming Freshmen that do not complete the placement testing may not receive an enrollment seat for the 2025-2026 school year.

Course Registration Date: Saturday, March 1, 2025

Incoming Freshmen must register for Fall 2025 honors-level and elective courses. Course registration will be held on the HPS campus from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Incoming Freshmen that do not complete the course registration may not receive an enrollment seat for the 2025-2026 school year.

If you have any questions please contact the HPS office at: 623-300-8385

Highland Prep

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