



HONEY BADGER BULLETIN

EDITION #54

HIGHLAND PREP'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024

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HOME OF THE HONEY BADGERS

HIGHLAND PREP VEX ROBOTICS TEAM QUALIFIES FOR STATE!

Our Highland Prep VEX Robotics Team has earned a spot at the 2025 AIA Arizona VEX V5 Robotics Competition! This accomplishment is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and teamwork this group of seniors has shown for the past four years. The team's perseverance and commitment to excellence have earned them this opportunity and we couldn't be prouder of their achievement. This year's challenge, "High Stakes," is an exceptionally difficult one. The objective is to place small plastic rings onto stakes, requiring precision, strategy, and

skill. Our team has demonstrated exceptional problem-solving and creativity in designing and building their robot to tackle this complex challenge. They have been putting in extra hours, arriving early before school and staying late after school, to refine their designs, test new strategies, and fine tune their robot. Their hard work has already paid off, with multiple awards won at previous competitions, but by getting ahead and staying focused, they'll be more than ready to take on the best teams in the state. We can't wait to cheer on our Honey Badgers!



EDITION #54 / DECEMBER 2024

Message from the Principal

Dear Highland Prep Community,

I am thrilled to share that Highland Prep has once again earned an outstanding 'A' letter grade from the Arizona Department of Education! This achievement is a true reflection of the dedication and hard work of our incredible Highland Prep students, staff, and parents.

The holiday season is upon us, and it's a wonderful time to celebrate the many accomplishments and talents within our Highland Prep community. Our VEX Robotics and Aerial Drone teams have been dominating their tournaments, bringing home numerous awards, while our HPS Cheer Team shines with the "Loud and Proud" and "Love Like Tamie" awards

from their latest competition. Our collective efforts – students, faculty, staff, and families – create an environment where excellence and growth thrive.

To our parents and guardians, thank you for your unwavering support and involvement in your student's education. Your partnership is invaluable in providing the best possible learning experience for our students.

I wish you all a joyous holiday season filled with warmth, laughter, and cherished moments with loved ones. I am incredibly proud to be a part of the Highland Prep community and look forward to continued academic success and exciting athletic competition in the new year!

Kind regards,

Shane Jones Principal



School Calendar

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)

FEBRUARY 2025

2/13 Fall Open House & STEM Showcase
2/13 Spring NHS Induction Ceremony
2/18 NHS Blood Drive
2/26 Spring Sports Pep Rally
2/28 Spring Sports Picture Day

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

MARCH 2025

3/1 Incoming Freshmen Course Registration
3/10 Visual Arts Showcase- 3rd Qtr.
3/12 Fine Arts Assembly- 3rd Qtr.
3/17-3/21 Spring Break (No School)
3/28 Spring BBQ

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: ISAAC HABERKORN

We are proud to highlight senior, Isaac Haberkorn who has been admitted to four fantastic colleges: Northern Arizona

University, Central College (Iowa), Coe College, and Wartburg College! Isaac has been a dedicated member of the Highland Prep community for the past 4 years, excelling both inside and outside the classroom. During his time here, he has been an active participant in Cross Country, Track, National Honor Society, and Zoology Club, showcasing his diverse interests and commitment to personal growth. Isaac's hard work has paid off, earning him an impressive total of \$232,752 in scholarship offers! He plans to pursue his passion for Computer Science in the fall.

FAFSA NIGHT

Dec. 12th @ 5pm

JOIN US FOR GCU X FAFSA NIGHT!

Seniors, join us for FAFSA Night on Thursday, December 12th at 5:00 pm in the Fab Lab! A representative from Grand Canyon University will be on-site to guide students and parents through the FAFSA application process. Please bring previous tax records to ensure a smooth application process. We look forward to seeing you there!

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

AERIAL DRONE TEAMS SOAR TO VICTORY

Congratulations to our talented Highland Prep Aerial Drone teams on their impressive performance at the MHP 3rd Annual Aerial Drone Competition! “The Jeezi” took home the biggest award of the day, earning the coveted “All-Around Champions” award and “The Dreadnoughts” earned the prestigious “Airmanship Award”. We are incredibly proud of our aerial drone students’ skills, teamwork, and innovative flight spirit!



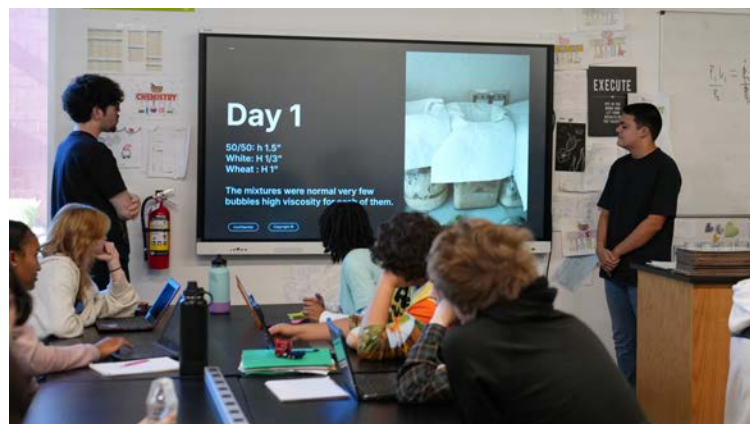
LAUNCHING ROCKETS IN AEROSPACE ENGINEERING

Our students recently embarked on an exciting adventure in Aerospace Engineering, designing, assembling, and launching their very own rockets! The activity began with students carefully assembling their rockets, applying aerodynamics and engineering principles to ensure a successful launch. After completing the rockets, students tested their rockets’ flight capabilities, observing their trajectories and analyzing the effects of design choices on the rockets’ flight performance.



ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE YEAST PROJECT

Our Environmental Science students conducted a fascinating yeast project, exploring the science of creating sourdough. Over the span of five days, students carefully mixed and monitored different yeast concoctions, tracking growth patterns and noting their observations. To compile their findings, they created engaging PowerPoints.



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



MS. HANCOCK

Ms. Hancock is our Civil Engineering and Cybersecurity teacher here at Highland Prep. She received her bachelor's degree in Business Administration

from McMurry University in Abilene, Texas. As a dedicated club advisor for the Botany Club and Engineering Club, Ms. Hancock goes above and beyond to foster a supportive learning environment. She takes the time to build meaningful relationships with her students, making each one feel valued and supported. Her exceptional teaching approach is characterized by her willingness to roll up her sleeves and work alongside students, providing guidance and encouragement every step of the way.



ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

Our Economics students presented their own entrepreneurial ideas in a Shark Tank-inspired pitch. With confidence, students presented their business plans, products, and services to their peers, demonstrating their understanding of key economic concepts and their ability to be creative.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



DIA DE LOS MUERTOS ALTAR

Our Spanish classes created a beautiful Dia de los Muertos altar, paying tribute to the Mexican holiday. Dia de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is celebrated to honor loved ones who have passed away. The ancient tradition acknowledges the cycle of life and death.



CYBERSECURITY WINNERS

Our Chief Science Officers (CSO) hosted an engaging Cybersecurity Week, where students participated in exciting challenges to test their cybersecurity skills! The highlight of the week was a scavenger hunt for hidden 3D-printed "viruses" around the school. For each virus found, students received a sweet reward- a candy!

ATHLETICS

CHEER TEAM DOMINATE WINSLOW COMPETITION

Our Highland Prep Cheer Team is on fire! Congratulations to these hardworking ladies on their outstanding performance at the Winslow Arizona High School competition, where they took home the prestigious “Loud and Proud” award and “Love Like Tamie” award. This impressive win comes on the heels of their 1st place victory at the HPA Cheer Classic. What an amazing season it’s been so far for this team and we can’t wait for what is yet to come!



BACK-TO-BACK WINS FROM GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

Our varsity girls basketball team have tipped off the season with an impressive back-to-back wins! They dominated their first game against Odyssey Institute with a score of 44-11, followed by a strong performance against Chino Valley, securing a 35-21 victory. The future looks bright for these talented athletes, and we cannot wait to see them in action on the court for the rest of the season! Congratulations to the team and coaches on this fantastic start! Keep it up, Honey Badgers!

SPORTS SCHEDULE:

Soccer- Girls	V	12/9/2024 5:00 PM	Rancho Solano Prep	Basketball- Boys	JV	12/16/2024 4:00 PM	Bourgade Catholic
Basketball- Boys	JV	12/9/2024 5:30 PM	Rancho Solano Prep	Basketball- Girls	V	12/16/2024 5:30 PM	Bourgade Catholic
Basketball- Boys	V	12/9/2024 7:00 PM	Rancho Solano Prep	Basketball- Boys	V	12/16/2024 7:00 PM	Bourgade Catholic
Basketball- Boys	JV	12/10/2024 4:00 PM	River Valley High School	Basketball- Boys	JV	12/18/2024 4:00 PM	Tonopah Valley
Basketball- Girls	V	12/10/2024 5:30 PM	River Valley High School	Basketball- Girls	V	12/18/2024 5:30 PM	Tonopah Valley
Basketball- Boys	V	12/10/2024 7:00 PM	River Valley High School	Basketball- Boys	V	12/18/2024 7:00 PM	Tonopah Valley
Basketball- Boys	JV	12/12/2024 4:00 PM	Wickenburg High School	Basketball- Boys	JV	12/19/2024 4:00 PM	Fountain Hills High School
Basketball- Girls	V	12/12/2024 5:30 PM	Wickenburg High School	Basketball- Girls	V	12/19/2024 5:30 PM	Fountain Hills High School
Basketball- Boys	V	12/12/2024 7:00 PM	Wickenburg High School	Basketball- Boys	V	12/19/2024 7:00 PM	Fountain Hills High School

HAPPENINGS @ HPS

WINTER PEP ASSEMBLY

Our recent Winter Pep Assembly was an electrifying event that showcased our talented winter sports teams! Two of our student council members started by introducing each of our sports teams, and things only got more exciting from there. A fun-filled game of musical chairs basketball got everyone on their feet, cheering on their favorite athletes. But the real climax of the assembly was the class spirit competition, where the freshmen claimed victory once again!



NHS BLOOD DRIVE

Our NHS Blood Drive had a great turnout! We are grateful to the students, staff, and parents who rolled up their sleeves to donate, as well as those volunteered their time to help the event run smoothly. We had a total of 27 donors, with an impressive 13 of them being first-time donors! Thanks to their generosity, we were able to collect 30 units of blood, which will undoubtedly make a significant impact in the lives of those in need. Thank you again to everyone who participated in the blood drive!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TURKEY TROT WINNERS!

We're thrilled to announce that our Turkey Trot was a huge success! Congratulations to our top three finishers, who took home fantastic prizes: a \$30 Dutch Bros gift card for 1st place, a delicious roast turkey for 2nd place, and a yummy pumpkin pie for 3rd place. As a special treat, every participant earned an extra 30 minutes of lunch.



Highland Prep
2024-2025 Academic Calendar

July 0 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	August 20 S M T W T F S 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	September 20 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	October 9 9 S M T W T F S 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
November 17 S M T W T F S 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	December 15 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	January 19 S M T W T F S 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	February 19 S M T W T F S 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28
March 10 6 S M T W T F S 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	April 21 S M T W T F S 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	May 17 S M T W T F S 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	June S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

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

First Quarter			Days 49
August	05	First Day - First Quarter	
September	02	Labor Day	
October	11	Last Day - First Quarter	
October	14-18	Fall Break	
Second Quarter			Days 41
October	21	First Day - Second Quarter	
November	11	Veterans Day	
November	27-29	Thanksgiving	
December	20	Last Day - Second Quarter	
Dec / Jan	23-03	Winter Break	
Third Quarter			Days 48
January	06	First Day - Third Quarter	
January	20	Martin Luther King Day	
February	17	Presidents Day	
March	14	Last Day - Third Quarter	
March	17-21	Spring Break	
Fourth Quarter			Days 44
March	24	First Day - Fourth Quarter	
April	18	Spring Holiday	
May	21	Graduation	
May	23	Last Day - Fourth Quarter	
Instructional Days 182			
School Events			
August		Parent Academy	
September		Fall Open House	
February		Spring Open House	

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
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	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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