



HONEY BADGER BULLETIN

EDITION #56

HIGHLAND PREP'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2025

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR



HOME OF THE HONEY BADGERS

WE WELCOMED OUR INCOMING HPS FRESHMEN FOR TESTING

We recently welcomed our incoming freshmen to complete placement testing. The event marked an exciting milestone for our new students and their families as they transition into high school. With the help of student volunteers, office staff, and faculty members, the testing process ran smoothly.

The success of the event was a testament to the collaborative effort of the entire Highland Prep community. Student volunteers helped check in students, escort them to their assigned testing rooms,

and answer any questions they may have had. Meanwhile, office staff assisted with registration forms and provided support to families as needed.

Our incoming freshmen will next participate in course registration on Saturday, March 1st from 9-11am, where they will have the opportunity to register for honors-level and elective courses. This marks another important transition to becoming a Badger, and the HPS community looks forward to welcoming them to Honey Badger Country.



EDITION #56 / FEBRUARY 2025

Message from the Principal

Dear Highland Prep Community,

I hope this newsletter finds you well!
February has been a fantastic month filled with achievements, new opportunities, and exciting events on the horizon.

First, congratulations to our Varsity Boys Basketball team for making the playoffs! Their hard work and dedication have truly paid off, and we are proud of their accomplishments this season.

Our Juniors and Seniors had the opportunity to visit three in-state universities this month, helping them explore their college options and plan for the future. These experiences are invaluable as they get closer to graduation.

We are also thrilled to announce the addition of Boys Volleyball to our athletics program! This is an exciting expansion, and we look forward to seeing our students compete and grow in this new sport.

Looking ahead, our Garden of Glamour Prom is set for March 29th, promising a memorable evening for our students. On March 1st, we will welcome our incoming freshmen for course registration, marking the beginning of their journey at Highland Prep.

Thank you for your continued support in making Highland Prep a thriving and dynamic community. Let's keep up the momentum!

Kind regards,

Shane Jones
Principal



School Calendar

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

APRIL 2025

4/1 ACT Aspire Assessment (9th Grade)
4/1 AzSCI Assessment (11th Grade)
4/2 Academic Awards Assembly- 3rd Qtr.
4/8 ACT Testing (11th Grade)
4/18 Spring Holiday (No School)

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

MAY 2025

5/9 Senior Trip
5/16 Spring Band & Choir Concert
5/20 Academic Awards Banquet
5/21 Graduation
5/23 Last Day of School

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: ANYSSE SAMEUCHAY-ROJAS

We are proud to highlight senior, Anysse Sameuchay-Rojas, who has been admitted to 18 colleges and universities including the

University of Wyoming, Seattle University, and Oregon Institute of Technology. In addition to her acceptances, Anysse has been awarded a remarkable \$1,234,608 in scholarships! During her four years at Highland Prep, Anysse has been an active member of our community. She has served as President of Gameday Operations, participated in Sports Management for Football, Softball, and Track and Field, and shared her talents with the Choir. This fall, Anysse will be pursuing her passion for Agricultural Science at the University of Wyoming. We are incredibly proud of Anysse and wish her all the best!



NAU CAMPUS TOUR

A group of our juniors and seniors took a trip up to Flagstaff to tour the Northern Arizona University (NAU) campus. The informative and engaging experience allowed our students to get a firsthand look at college life, academic programs, and spark important conversations about unlocking a potential future at NAU in Flagstaff.

EXTRACURRICULAR SCHEDULE:

MONDAY

MEDIA AND JOURNALISM, 210
DRAMA CLUB, 102
GAMEDAY OPERATIONS, 101
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY, FAB LAB
VR GAME DESIGN (AND TUESDAYS), 209
ZOOLOGY (AND FRIDAYS), 210
ESPORTS (AND FRIDAYS), FL 205
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

ATTENDING LEGACY SCHOOL-SURPRISE'S STEM NIGHT

Our Honey Badgers had an absolute blast sharing their knowledge and passion for STEM with the younger generation at Legacy Traditional School-Surprise's STEM Night! This exciting event provided a unique opportunity for our students to showcase their expertise, inspire curiosity, and spark enthusiasm for STEM clubs and courses among the attendees. It was wonderful to see our students share their love for all things STEM.



ENGINEERING SHOE PROJECTS

Our Principles of Engineering students stepped up to the challenge, designing innovative shoes for unique scenarios. From shoes made for small dogs to water-safe shoes, our young engineers collaborated in groups to come up with incredible designs that demonstrated their problem-solving skills and outside-the-box thinking. They had to consider crucial factors such as comfortability, material, and fit. It's exciting to see our students apply engineering principles to real-world challenges and turn their ideas to innovative solutions.

DESIGNING HOUSES BASED ON ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

Our Civil Engineering students showcased their creativity and technical skills by designing houses individually, each adhering to a specific architectural style. The final projects incorporated essential elements characteristic of the group's assigned style, from ornate Victorian details to sleek modern lines and Spanish-inspired arches.



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



MR. CAPUTO

Mr. Caputo teaches 9th, 10th, and 11th grade English at Highland Prep. He holds a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction, Master of Arts in Media Studies and a Bachelor's in

Film Studies. Mr. Caputo's teaching expertise includes teaching English Language Arts for more than a decade, as well as several years of instruction in screenwriting and playwriting. He was born and raised in Glens Falls, New York. Beyond the classroom, he is the club advisor for Dungeons & Dragons. Mr. Caputo is a true pillar of excellence; he consistently upholds professional obligations with dedication and integrity. His students don't just improve—they thrive, demonstrating remarkable academic growth.



OUR SENIORS COMPLETE CPR TRAINING

Our seniors are officially CPR certified! Through this valuable CPR training, they've gained hands-on experience and knowledge of the lifesaving procedure, empowering them to respond quick and confidently if an emergency situation arises.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



SEAPERCH TOURNAMENT

Get Ready to Dive Into Underwater Robotics! Join us for our Highland Prep Academies 2nd Annual SeaPerch Underwater Robotics Competition! It will take place on Saturday, March 29th, 2025, at the Rhodes Aquatic Complex from 8am to 1pm. We hope to see you there!



FINGERPRINT ANALYSIS

Our Biomedical Science students are delving into the world of forensic science, mastering the intricacies of fingerprint analysis. From carefully dusting surfaces to reveal hidden prints to meticulously analyzing unique patterns, our students learned about the entire process of fingerprint analysis. Great job, future CSI detectives!

ATHLETICS

BITTERSWEET GOODBYE TO WINTER SPORTS SENIORS

The winter sports season has come to a close, and we proudly salute our exceptional senior athletes of Girls Soccer and Boys and Girls Basketball! Their remarkable dedication, perseverance and teamwork have forever left their mark on the HPS legacy. These incredible individuals have embodied the Honey Badger spirit, inspiring us all.



Alexis Rodda



Shirley Ann De La Cruz



Melanie Ortega



Trinity Alfaro



Angie Leyva Cardenas



Kendra Ibeh



Taniyah Marquez



Tatiana Minick



Aeden Calini



Marcel Pratt



Paxton Clarke



Anysa Samauchay-Rojas

While we bid farewell to our senior athletes, the excitement continues for our Boys Basketball team as they gear up for their first playoff match on Friday, February 14th at 7pm at Thatcher High School. We invite everyone to come and support!

SPRING SPORTS ATHLETIC UPDATES:

Planning to try out for a Spring sport?

- All students interested in participating in Spring Athletics must be cleared through Register My Athlete BEFORE tryouts. No exceptions!
- Visit the link: (registermyathlete.com) to complete your registration and upload all required documents. Questions? Contact our Director of Athletics, Mr. Aaron Frank, at afrank@highlandprepaz.org.

UPCOMING GAMES SCHEDULE:

Baseball	2/26	3:45 PM	Payson	H
Softball	2/26	3:45 PM	Payson	H
Baseball	2/28	6:00 PM	Madison Highland	A
Softball	2/28	6:00 PM	Madison Highland	A
Softball	3/3	3:45 PM	Dysart	A
Baseball	3/4	3:45 PM	Odyssey Institute	H
Softball	3/4	3:45 PM	Odyssey Institute	H
Tennis-B	3/6	3:00 PM	Leading Edge Academy	A
Tennis- G	3/6	4:00 PM	Leading Edge Academy	H
Baseball	3/11	3:30 PM	Odyssey Institute	A
Softball	3/11	3:30 PM	Odyssey Institute	A
Tennis-B	3/19	3:45 PM	Chino Valley	H
Tennis-G	3/19	3:45 PM	Chino Valley	H
Baseball	3/20	3:30 PM	Valley Lutheran	A
Softball	3/20	3:30 PM	Valley Lutheran	A

HAPPENINGS @ HPS

HONEY BADGER SPIRIT AT OUR WINTER PEP ASSEMBLY

Our Winter Pep Assembly was an absolute blast! The energy in the gym was electric as students participated in a series of fun games, including a hilarious Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes cup game, a thrilling potato sack race, and a spirited battle of school spirit between classes. The excitement was palpable as students cheered on their peers and showed off their Honey Badger pride. It was the perfect way to kick off our BBQ!



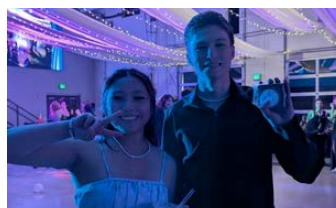
ANOTHER MEMORABLE WINTER BBQ IN THE BOOKS

We hosted an unforgettable BBQ! Our Honey Badgers had a great time hanging out with friends, indulging in treats from the popular Snowy Churro truck, and going head-to-head in the highly anticipated dodgeball tournament. The excitement was contagious and the sense of community was incredible to see. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make this Winter BBQ one for the books- we're so grateful for our amazing Honey Badgers!



DANCING THE NIGHT AWAY AT WINTER FORMAL

The dance floor was electrified as our students danced the night away at Winter Formal! The atmosphere was vibrant and festive, complete with dazzling lights and winter wonderland magic. Our talented student DJ, Nic, spun the best tracks, keeping the energy high and the crowd moving. It was an unforgettable night of making memories.



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
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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