



HONEY BADGER BULLETIN

EDITION #57

HIGHLAND PREP'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR



HOME OF THE HONEY BADGERS

HPS SOFTBALL TEAM OFF TO A FLYING START WITH 3-0 RECORD!

The Highland Prep softball team is off to a stellar start, boasting a 3-0 record that has fans and opponents alike taking notice.

According to senior Maliyah Johnson, the team's success can be attributed to a combination of factors. "Our defense has been locked in, our offense is making smart plays, and our freshman pitcher Sydney Mikkelson has been phenomenal," Maliyah explained. Senior Aneyka Angulo echoed Maliyah's sentiments, adding that the team's connection and

confidence has improved significantly from prior years. Freshman pitcher Sydney Mikkelson has been a standout performer, and she's loving every minute of it. "I've really enjoyed playing with this team. There's great teamwork and friendship among all of us," Sydney said.

As the season continues, we look forward to seeing the great things the team will accomplish. With their strong defense, smart offense, and talented players like Mikkelson, this team is poised for success.



EDITION #57 / MARCH 2025

Message from the Principal

Dear Highland Prep Community,

I am excited to share that February has been an outstanding month for Highland Prep, filled with numerous achievements and milestones that reflect the dedication and hard work of our students and staff.

We are proud to announce that several of our athletes from Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball, and Girls Soccer have received All-Region honors from the AIA, showcasing their exceptional talent and teamwork. Additionally, our Highland Prep Softball team has kicked off the season with a third consecutive victory, making a strong statement and setting the tone for a successful season. In the arts, many of our talented art students will be showcasing

their work at the Surprise Charter Schools Student Art Exhibit. We also had the privilege of taking two exciting field trips to Northern Arizona University (NAU) and Grand Canyon University (GCU).

Looking ahead to March, we are excited for Spring Break, Prom, the upcoming Spring BBQ, and the Prom Pep Rally. We are thrilled about all the exciting events and opportunities for our students to celebrate achievements and enjoy their time at Highland Prep.

Thank you for being part of this journey. We look forward to the many more successes and experiences to come. Go Honey Badgers!

Warm regards,

Shane Jones
Principal



School Calendar

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

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)

SUMMER 2025

6/2-6/26 Summer School-Session 1
6/2-6/26 Future Freshmen Academy-Session 1
7/7-7/24 Summer School-Session 2
7/7-7/24 Future Freshmen Academy-Session 1
8/4 First Day of School

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: MARCEL PRATT

We are proud to highlight senior, Marcel Pratt, who has been admitted to several universities including Florida A&M, ASU Barrett, and the University of

Arizona. During his four years at Highland Prep, Marcel has been an active member of our community. He has participated in various clubs such as Chess, Esports, Game Day, and Yearbook. He is a multi-talented athlete that has been an integral part of the Highland Prep Basketball team and Track & Field team. However, it's in Track & Field where he truly excels to the top. Currently, Marcel holds the title of fastest in the state, a testament to his hard work and dedication. This fall, Marcel is planning to pursue his passion for Architecture at Howard University. We are incredibly proud of Marcel and wish him all the best!



GCU CAMPUS TOUR

Our juniors and sophomores recently embarked on an adventure, visiting the Grand Canyon University campus for a comprehensive tour. This experience provided our students with a firsthand look at the university's facilities, academic programs, and campus life. As they toured the campus, students explored the life of a GCU Lope.

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

PRE-CALC DESIGNS COOL UNIT CIRCLE DISPLAYS

Our Pre-Calculus students got creative as they geared up for their upcoming final exams, designing innovative displays of the unit circle to help them commit this essential concept to memory. By visualizing and illustrating the relationships between angles, radians, and trigonometric functions, students developed a deeper understanding of the unit circle's properties and applications. Great job, Honey Badgers!



HANDS-ON HEART DISSECTION

Our Biomedical Science students delved into the fascinating world of anatomy with a hands-on heart dissection lab. This activity allowed students to explore the intricate structures and functions of the heart, gaining a deeper understanding of the complexities of the human body. As they carefully dissected and examined their hearts, students learned about each different section. This immersive activity not only sparked curiosity and enthusiasm but also provided an opportunity for our students to develop essential skills in biomedical science.



AEROSPACE ENGINEERING FLIGHT SIMULATION

Our Aerospace Engineering students took to the virtual skies, mastering the basics of flight with a flight simulation activity. Students explored the fundamentals of aerodynamics, aircraft design, and navigation, as they piloted virtual planes through various environments. This especially prepares students who anticipate future careers in aviation.



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



MR. CAJTHAML

Mr. Cajthaml teaches English 3, English 5, and Media & Tech at Highland Prep. He holds a Bachelors in Filmmaking and English Literature from Arizona State University. His previous

teaching expertise includes teaching film. He was born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona. Beyond the classroom, he is the club advisor for Film Club and coach for Track & Field. With a deep love for all storytelling, Mr. Cajthaml prioritizes opportunities that engage student interests and cultivate a passion for literature—wherever those avenues may arise. Above all else though, Mr. Cajthaml emphasizes positive communication and aims to give his students writing, speaking, and leadership skills that extend beyond the classroom.

Surprise Charter Schools Student Art Exhibit

R E C E P T I O N

**Wednesday,
April 2
6-7pm**

- Recognition Ceremony
- Snacks
- Free Kids Art Project

at the Surprise City Hall



SURPRISE CHARTER SCHOOLS ART EXHIBIT

10 of our students will be showcasing their art at the Surprise Charter Schools Student Art Exhibit on Wednesday, April 2nd from 6:00-7:00pm! The event will be held at the Surprise City Hall (16000 N Civic Center Plaza). We hope to see you there!

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



SEAPERCH TOURNAMENT

Our Highland Prep Academies 2nd Annual SeaPerch Underwater Robotics Competition is almost here! Join us on Saturday, March 29th, 2025, at the Rhodes Aquatic Complex from 8am to 1pm. Come cheer on our teams as they showcase their underwater robotics skills!



LANDSCAPE PAINTINGS

Our talented art students showcased their skills by crafting breathtaking landscape paintings. Employing a range of painting techniques, from subtle blending to bold brushstrokes, our students brought to life serene sunsets on beaches to enchanting moonlit woods. The resulting artwork pieces were impressive to say the least.

ATHLETICS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ALL-REGION HONORS WINTER ATHLETES!

We are proud to announce that several of our winter sports athletes have been recognized for their outstanding performances with All-Region distinctions. These talented student-athletes have demonstrated exceptional skill, dedication, and teamwork, earning them a place among the top performers in their respective sports.



1ST ALL-REGION & 2ND ALL-REGION



HONORABLE MENTION

The accolades include several notable achievements. Seniors, Paxton Clarke and Kendra Ibeh, and freshman Terrance Byrd earned 1st Team All-Region for basketball, while seniors, Tatiana Minick and Aeden Calini, and freshman Madison Lawrence received 2nd Team All-Region for basketball. Additional athletes received Honorable Mention recognition, including freshman, Keyla Avendano for soccer, and seniors, Trinity Alfaro and Marcel Pratt, and junior, Aaliyah Minick for basketball. Let's cheer on our Honey Badgers!



GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL IS ARRIVING TO HIGHLAND PREP!

We're thrilled to announce the introduction of Girls Flag Football as a new fall sport at Highland Prep kicking off this August 2025! Interested athletes, simply scan the QR code above to register and get ready to join the action! To help our players prepare for the season, we're also offering a Girls Flag Football Summer Camp from July 7th-10th. Don't miss this amazing opportunity to be part of this new and exciting program. Register online at <https://highlandprepaz.net/summer-camps/>.

UPCOMING GAMES SCHEDULE:

Boys VB	3/14	4:30 PM	Parker High School	A
Baseball	3/20	3:30 PM	Valley Lutheran	A
Softball	3/20	3:30 PM	Valley Lutheran	A
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
Tennis	3/24	2:30 PM	Veritas Prep	A
Softball	3/24	3:45 PM	Arizona Lutheran	H
Boys VB	3/24	5:30 PM	Cicero Prep	H

HAPPENINGS @ HPS

FUTURE FRESHMEN COURSE REGISTRATION

The countdown to the new school year is on! Our future freshmen have officially completed the final step in the enrollment process: Course Registration. Future freshmen got the chance to select their elective courses, sign up for sports and summer camps, and explore the many school clubs and organizations that will enrich their high school experience. We can't wait to welcome the Honey Badger Class of 2029 to our school community!



SAVING LIVES ONE BLOOD DONATION AT A TIME!

Our National Honor Society recently hosted a blood drive that collected a total of 21 donations! Thank you to all of the students, staff, and community members who selflessly took the time to donate at our school. Your generosity will have a profound impact on our community! We'd also like to shout-out our NHS members who helped check-in donors when they arrived and provided them with snacks when they finished.



Upcoming Dates at Honey Badger Country:

- 3/10-3/14: Mandatory Attendance Week
- 3/13: Proficiency Test- Government
- 3/14: End of Course Test- ELA/Math/Science
- 3/17-3/21: Spring Break (No School)



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

2025

Summer Camps

Football at HPS Field

Mon to Thu • May 26th – June 26th
8:00 am – 11:00 am
The football staff will focus camp activities on conditioning, offensive and defensive skills, and teamwork drills. No equipment will be needed.
Fee: \$75.00

Aerial Drones at HPS Engineering Lab

Mon to Thu • July 7th – 10th
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
The staff will focus activities on technical skills in preparation for the 2025-2026 Aerial Drones competition. No equipment will be needed.
Fee: \$125.00

Women's Flag Football at HPS Field

Mon to Thu • July 7th – 10th
8:00 am – 11:00 am
The women's flag football camp is open to all incoming and current student-athletes. No equipment will be needed.
Fee: \$75.00

Basketball at HPS Gym

Mon to Thu • July 7th – 17th
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm
The staff will focus camp activities on drills and skills in preparation for the 2025-2026 basketball season. No equipment will be needed.
Fee: \$75.00

Recording Studio Pep Band at HPS Music Room

Mon to Thu • July 14th – 17th
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
TBD
Fee: \$75.00

VEX Robotics at HPS Engineering Lab

Mon to Wed • July 14th – 23rd
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
The staff will focus activities on design, programming, and build skills in preparation for the 2025-2026 VEX competition game. No equipment will be needed.
Fee: \$125.00

Women's Volleyball at HPS Gym

Mon to Thu • July 21st – 24th
8:00 am – 11:00 am
The staff will focus activities on conditioning, volleyball skills, and teamwork drills. No equipment will be needed.
Fee: \$75.00

Cheer at HPS Gym

Mon to Thu • July 14th – 17th
8:00 am – 11:00 am
The staff will focus activities on conditioning, cheer and dance skills, and teamwork drills. No equipment will be needed.
Fee: \$75.00

Soccer at HPS Field

Mon to Thu • July 14th – 24th
8:00 am – 11:00 am
The staff will focus camp activities on conditioning, offensive and defensive skills, and teamwork drills. No equipment will be needed.
Fee: \$75.00



HONEY BADGERS



**HIGHLAND
PREP**
SURPRISE, ARIZONA

Registration forms available at: highlandprepaz.org