



HONEY BADGER BULLETIN

EDITION #59

HIGHLAND PREP'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025

IN THIS ISSUE

Page 1

HIGHLAND PREP TRACK AND FIELD

Page 2

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Page 3

ACADEMIC BULLETIN

Page 4

STEM DIGEST

Page 5

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS

Page 6

ATHLETICS

Page 7

HAPPENINGS @ HPS

Page 8

ACADEMIC CALENDAR



HOME OF THE HONEY BADGERS

HIGHLAND PREP TRACK TEAM CONCLUDES INCREDIBLE SEASON!

Our track athletes delivered outstanding performances at the recent state competition. The competition was fierce, but our athletes rose to the challenge, setting multiple new school records.

Janaviah Gilmore blazed through the 200m, while Mercy Biyi-Daniels dominated the 300m Hurdles. Marcel Pratt also excelled in the 300m Hurdles, and relay teams led by Kennedy Pratt, Janaviah Gilmore, Mercy Biyi-Daniels, and Kylie Purtell, as well as Collin Clarke, Zhyion Newby, Marcel Pratt, and

Paxton Clarke, set records in the 4x100m relay.

The season was filled with remarkable accomplishments, including 13 school records broken, numerous medals won, and countless personal records set. Marcel Pratt stood out with first place in the 300m Hurdles and third place in the 110m Hurdles. Paxton Clarke also scored points with an eighth place finish in the 200m. The 4x100m relay team of Collin Clarke, Zhyion Newby, Marcel Pratt, and Paxton Clarke secured sixth place.



EDITION #59 / MAY 2025

Message from the Principal

Dear Highland Prep Community,

As we close out another remarkable school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on all that we've accomplished together and to express my sincere gratitude for the dedication, energy, and heart that make Highland Prep such a special place.

Our boys' basketball team made it to the playoffs for the third consecutive season, showing grit and growth on and off the court. Our track and field athletes reached new benchmarks, with several qualifying for state competitions including Marcel Pratt, who ran the second fastest time in Arizona for the 300m hurdles and earned a spot at the New Balance National and Nike National competitions. In academics and

extracurriculars, our VEX Robotics team earned a place at the state championships, and our Key Club launched new service projects. The Botany Club, in partnership with our engineering students, began building a new garden space. Perhaps most impressively, our Class of 2025 earned \$12.8 million in merit-based scholarships, the highest total in school history and received offers of admission from 122 different colleges and universities.

As we head into summer, I want to thank our students, parents, teachers, and staff for making this year one of success, dedication, and community. I hope you all have a safe and joyful summer.

With gratitude,

Shane Jones
Principal



School Calendar

MAY 2025

5/2	Student Council Elections	5/20	Academic Awards Banquet
5/9	Senior Trip	5/21	Graduation
5/13	Spring Athletics Awards Ceremony	5/22	PLTW Final Exams
5/16	Senior Sunset	5/23	End-of-Course Tests
5/19	Visual Arts Showcase- 4 th Qtr.	5/23	Last Day of School

SUMMER SCHOOL & SUMMER CAMPS 2025

5/26-6/26	Football Camp	7/7-7/10	Aerial Drones Camp
6/2-6/26	Summer School-Session 1	7/7-7/10	Women's Flag Football Camp
6/2-6/26	Future Freshmen Academy-Session 1	7/7-7/17	Basketball Camp
7/7-7/24	Summer School-Session 2	7/14-7/17	Recording Studio Pep Band Camp
7/7-7/24	Future Freshmen Academy-Session 2	Visit highlandprepaz.net for more!	

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: CAMI SHEEKS

We are thrilled to highlight our talented senior, Cami Sheeks. She plans to attend Arizona State University and major in Art. At Highland Prep, Cami was a

multifaceted student, excelling in Art, Choir, and Tennis. Most recently, she won first place in the Congressional Art Competition for her artwork called "Train on the River". Thanks to this accomplishment, her family will be flown out to D.C. this summer, to honor her in an awards ceremony where her artwork will be on display at the US Capitol. And to top it off, she's receiving a \$5,000 scholarship from Ottawa University! Congratulations, Cami! We wish you all the best in your future endeavors!



OUR NEW 2025-26 NHS OFFICERS

Congratulations to our outstanding new National Honor Society (NHS) officers for the 2025-2026 term! We're thrilled to welcome our Treasurer: Emma, Vice President: Andrew, President: Logan, and Secretary: Johnny. We're excited to see the impact they will make in our community.

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

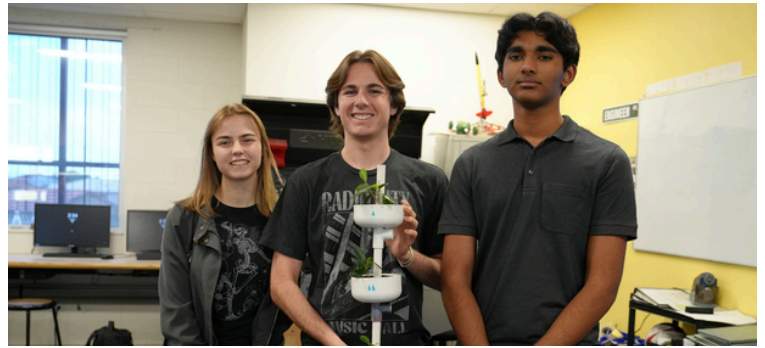
FRIDAY

FUTURE MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, 110

STEM DIGEST

ENGINEERING DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT INVENTIONS

In our Engineering Design and Development course, students showcased their ingenuity and creativity with impressive capstone presentations, highlighting innovative solutions to real-world challenges. Through teamwork and problem-solving, students brought their inventions to life, including an automatic door closer, a self-watering plant system, and a stool-to-backrest converter.



WATER BOTTLE HELICOPTERS

Our Introduction to Engineering and Design students took their skills to new heights by building a functional helicopter using only a water bottle, motor, and switch! Through this project, they applied key engineering principles, such as design, prototyping, and problem-solving to ensure their design was efficient. By experimenting and assembling their materials, our students gained valuable experience in the engineering design process that will help them for years to come.

BIOMEDICAL STUDENTS PERFORM PIG DISSECTION

In a hands-on lab, our Biomedical Science students dove into the intricacies of anatomy and body systems through performing fetal pig dissections. By exploring organ structure and function up close, students gained a deeper understanding of how the body works as a whole. These aspiring healthcare professionals and scientists are already making strides towards their future careers!



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



MR. MOELLER

Mr. Moeller teaches AP English Literature, AP English Language, English 3-4, and Psychology at Highland Prep. He holds a Master of Arts degree in Education from Concordia

University and a Bachelor of Arts in Teaching from the University of Northern Iowa. Mr. Moeller was born and raised on a rural dairy farm in Readlyn, Iowa. Beyond the classroom, he serves as the advisor for Game Night Club and works doing statistical work for the MLB. Mr. Moeller is truly a standout educator. He has the ability to bring lessons to life with real-world examples, helping students see the relevance of the course material in their everyday lives. We're incredibly fortunate to have him a part of the team.



INTRODUCING OUR 2025-26 STUDENT COUNCIL BOARD

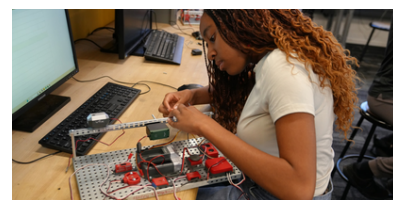
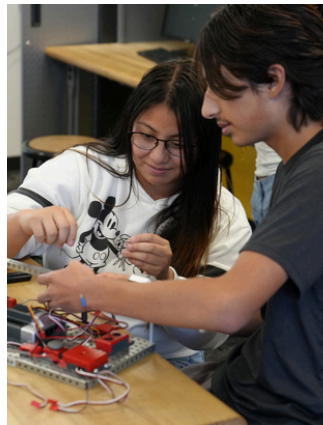
We're excited to introduce our 2025-26 Student Council Board, led by President Kylie Purtell, Vice President Addison Busher, and Historian Brynna Potter. Congratulations, ladies! We can't wait to see the spirit and new ideas you will bring.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



PLTW DISTINGUISHED H.S.

We are thrilled to announce that Highland Prep has once again been named a PLTW Distinguished High School! This national recognition honors schools for their outstanding implementation of hands-on, engaging STEM curriculum through Project Lead The Way.



BUILDING VEX TEST BEDS

In our Principles of Engineering classes, students gained hands-on experience with VEX test beds, designing and testing them to perform various functions such as turning on lights and rotating wheels. Working in pairs, students collaborated to connect wiring and write code, developing essential skills in engineering and teamwork.

ATHLETICS

MARCEL PRATT IS THE 300M HURDLES STATE CHAMPION!

We are proud to congratulate Marcel Pratt on being the Division IV 300m Hurdles State Champion! Marcel broke his own school record with an impressive personal best time of 38.06 seconds, solidifying his position as a top-tier track and field athlete. This outstanding achievement has earned him a spot at the New Balance National and Nike National competitions. We can't wait to see what the future holds for this talented athlete!



FRESHMAN ATHLETE SYDNEY MIKKELSON HONORED BY AIA

Sydney Mikkelson, a talented softball athlete, has made a significant impact on the team as a skilled pitcher, earning her Honorable Mention for AIA All-Region Honors. Despite only being a freshman, Sydney has demonstrated exceptional skill, showcasing her impressive abilities on the field. Her outstanding performance is thanks to her hard work and dedication, setting a promising trajectory for her softball career.

SPRING ATHLETICS AWARDS CEREMONY



HAPPENINGS @ HPS

CLASS OF 2025 FUN WITH SENIOR TRIP & SUNSET

Our seniors capped off the year with an unforgettable adventure to Disneyland for their senior trip, creating lifelong memories with friends. The excitement of the trip was perfectly complemented with their final high school sunset at the park, where they reflected on cherished memories and looked forward to the bright futures ahead. These senior events celebrate and mark the end of one chapter and the beginning of another.



TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK IN FULL BADGER PRIDE!

Teacher Appreciation Week was a huge success! We showered our amazing teachers with sweet treats, including pastries and goodie bags filled with snacks. The week was filled with delicious meals, featuring a Cinco de Mayo lunch, brisket lunch and an ice cream bar. But the highlight of the week was definitely challenging our teachers to an off-campus escape room adventure. A huge thank you to everyone who made this week possible.



KEY CLUB RECOGNIZED FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE WORK

We're incredibly proud of the Highland Prep Key Club for their outstanding commitment to service and leadership. The club recently showcased their impressive service projects of the year at Kiwanis Student Night, where our key club president, Helena, was awarded a well-deserved \$2,000 scholarship. Keep up the great work, Key Club!



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
School Events		Instructional Days 182
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

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