



HONEY BADGER BULLETIN

EDITION #68

HIGHLAND PREP'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2026

IN THIS ISSUE

Page 1

1st ANNUAL DECISION DAY BASH

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 HOSTS DECISION DAY BASH FOR CLASS OF 2026!

Highland Prep's Fab Lab was transformed into a high-energy celebration as we hosted our first-ever Decision Day Bash for the Class of 2026. The future was officially set as seniors gathered to declare their college commitments, with the halls overflowing with future school spirit and vibrant college gear. To mark this major milestone, students enjoyed a festival-style atmosphere featuring local food trucks, epic photo backdrops for commemorative pictures, and a massive celebration of their hard work and dedication these past four years. The event was a

resounding success, establishing a new tradition that we look forward to hosting for years to come. The Highland Prep community is incredibly proud of this senior class and the diverse collegiate paths they have chosen to pursue. As their high school journey draws to a close, this bash served as a joyful send-off to honor the dedication they have shown throughout the past four years. We feel honored to have supported these scholars on their way to higher education and wish them all the best in their next chapters! Congratulations, HPS Class of 2026!



EDITION #68 / MAY 2026

Message from the Principal

Dear Highland Prep Community,

We are finishing one of the strongest years in our school's history, and I could not be more proud of what our students and staff have accomplished. Our senior class has earned over \$15 million in scholarships, a remarkable achievement that reflects the hard work, persistence, and character of every graduate. To our seniors, you have worked hard and you have made Highland Prep proud. We can't wait to celebrate you.

As we close out this year, there are several summer opportunities available. Summer School is open for students looking to recover credit. Summer Reading assignments have been sent home so students can hit the ground running in August. Summer

Camp options are also available this season, and more information is shared in this newsletter.

Looking ahead to fall, Highland Prep is growing in exciting ways. Our flight simulator is now installed and ready for students, marking a major milestone for our Aviation Academy, which launches this fall with dual-enrollment coursework through Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. We are also launching a Fabrication course for students interested in welding and manufacturing. These are real programs with real career pathways, and they represent exactly the kind of school Highland Prep is becoming.

Thank you for an incredible year.
The best is still ahead.

With gratitude,
Shane Jones • Principal



School Calendar

MAY 2026

5/1	National College Decision Day	5/21	Engineering Proficiency Test: Part I
5/8	Senior Trip	5/22	Engineering Proficiency Test: Part II
5/18	Senior Sunset	5/22	Final Exams
5/18-5/22	Mandatory Attendance Week	5/22	Last Day of School
5/19	Graduation		

SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE:

6/1-6/11	Strength & Conditioning (Session 1)	7/13-7/23	VEX Robotics
6/15-6/25	Strength & Conditioning (Session 2)	7/20-7/30	Cross Country
7/6-7/9	Aerial Drones	7/20-7/30	Cheer
7/6-7/16	Basketball	7/20-7/30	Flag Football
7/6-7/16	Soccer	7/20-7/30	Football
7/13-7/16	Recording Studio/Pep Band	7/20-7/30	Volleyball

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



SENIOR SPOTLIGHTS OF THE MONTH: DAYARA & AMITZA DOMINGUEZ

We are proud to spotlight our Class of 2026 Valedictorians, Dayara and Amitza Dominguez,

who have spent the last four years defining Honey Badger excellence. Dayara earned admissions to dozens of universities nationwide—including Pepperdine—and nearly \$1 million in scholarships. Amitza has been an equally impressive scholar, securing an astounding \$1.6 million in scholarships and acceptance to top-tier schools like Penn State. This fall, both sisters will attend the University of Arizona, with Amitza majoring in Medical Sciences and Dayara in Mechanical Engineering. We are incredibly proud of these sisters and the bright futures they have built!



MEET THE 2026-2027 NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY OFFICER BOARD

We are honored to introduce the new National Honor Society officers for the 2026-2027 academic year: President Perrin Cole, Vice President Patrick Heydenreich, Secretary Keaton Culver, and Treasurer Sofia Dominguez Olivas. We are excited to see the positive influence and dedicated service these four leaders will bring to Highland Prep.

EXTRACURRICULAR SCHEDULE:

MONDAY 2:30 PM

YEARBOOK, MS. HEATH (DURING LUNCH)
NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY, FAB LAB
GAMEDAY OPERATIONS, MR. MERRILL
(AND TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS)
ZOOLOGY, MS. CHANDLER (AND FRIDAYS)
DUNGEONS & DRAGONS, MR. CAPUTO
CHESS, MS. RENCKLY
RECORDING STUDIO, MS. HOLLAND
(3:30PM)(AND FRIDAYS)

TUESDAY 2:30 PM

STUDENT COUNCIL, MR. LAGUIT
VEX ROBOTICS, MS. KOOKLANI
(AND THURSDAYS)
ESPORTS, MR. VAN DEN BRANDE
(AND FRIDAYS)
KEY CLUB, MR. HOFFMAN, MS. MORENO
SPANISH, MS. DUEÑAS
CARD GAME, MR. GULIAN
SEAPERCH ROBOTICS, MS. CHANDLER
(AND THURSDAYS)

THURSDAY 2:30 PM

BOTANY, MS. HANCOCK
ENGINEERING, MS. HANCOCK
MATH DECATHALON, MR. VAN DEN BRANDE
VIDEO GAME DESIGN, MR. GULIAN
TABLE TENNIS, MR. HARB
FILM, MR. CAJTHAML

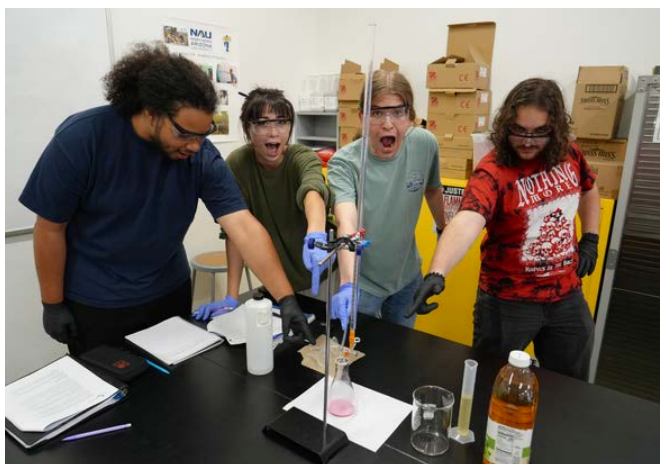
FRIDAY 2:30 PM

DRONES, MR. TAGHIKHANI
FUTURE MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, MS. RENCKLY
GAME NIGHT, MR. MOELLER
SCHOLARSHIP CLUB, MS. KING

STEM DIGEST

AERIAL DRONE TEAMS SHINE AT REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Our aerial drone teams delivered a stellar performance at the Aerial Drone Regional Championship in San Diego. While the teams did not secure a podium finish this year, their hard work and dedication throughout the season were on full display. We are incredibly proud and know this experience has only fueled their drive to return next year and bring home the gold. Go Badgers!



ANALYZING BEVERAGE ACIDITY

Our AP Chemistry recently took their scientific inquiries into the grocery aisle, going behind the nutrition label to analyze the chemical makeup of popular drinks. Using the precision of acid-base titration, students performed detailed lab work to calculate the molar concentration of acids in various beverages, including apple juice, lemonade, and soda. This hands-on experiment allowed students to discover exactly how much citric and malic acid is balanced within their favorite refreshments.

ENGINEERING STUDENTS BUILD AUTOMATA PROJECTS

Our engineering students built automatas as they serve as an introduction to mechanical physics. Students must calculate how the shape of a cam affects the timing and height of the follower's movement. It's a challenging project that requires students to transform wood into a synchronized system where every gear and lever must work in perfect harmony to bring the automatas to life.



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT **OF THE MONTH**



MR. HARB

Mr. Harb teaches Aerospace Engineering, Introduction to Engineering, and Computer Science at Highland Prep. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Toledo and a Master's degree of Mechanical Engineering from McNeese State University. Mr. Harb has been a dedicated educator who prioritizes the growth of his students by teaching them the importance of collaboration and problem-solving. As he prepares to retire at the end of this year, we celebrate his lasting impact on our community. We are happy for him as he begins this new chapter and will always be grateful for the dedication and heart he brought to Highland Prep.



INTRODUCING THE REDBIRD FMX TO CAMPUS

Highland Prep has officially added the Redbird FMX full-motion simulator to our campus to support our new flight program launching for the 2026–2027 year. This state-of-the-art training platform features fully enclosed cockpit configurations, wrap-around visual screens, and electric motion simulation. The new technology ensures our students gain critical, real-world flight experience in a safe and controlled environment.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



CLUB OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to junior, Kyra Pearson for her remarkable achievement in being named the Key Club Officer of the Year. This prestigious award recognizes Kyra's exceptional leadership and her relentless commitment to organizing meaningful service projects.



VALERIA A. RECOGNIZED BY CONGRESSMAN GOZAR

Congratulations to senior, Valeria Alvarado for receiving an Honorable Mention from Congressman Gosar for her artwork, Eyes of Vitality. This recognition was earned through the Congressional Art Competition, celebrating student artists in our district.

ATHLETICS

HPS CELEBRATES SOFTBALL & BASEBALL SENIOR NIGHT

We celebrated a memorable Senior Night, honoring the incredible leadership and growth of our baseball and softball seniors. At the ballpark, we recognized Elijah, David, and Max, whose journey from ambitious freshmen to inspiring leaders has been a true privilege to witness. On the softball field, we honored our standout senior Alani, whose dedication has left a lasting legacy that will define the program for years to come.



TENNIS SENIOR NIGHT

Tennis Senior Night was filled with pride as we honored five remarkable seniors—Samantha, Zeah, Brooke, Brea, and Luis—for their dedication and passion for the game. These athletes have served as true leaders, fostering a team culture built on sportsmanship, laughter, and a genuine love for the sport. The legacy they have established on the courts will remain a permanent part of our program's history, and while we will miss them, we are eager to see the great things they will achieve.

SIGN UP FOR OUR 2026 SUMMER CAMPS!

Our summer camps are almost here, and now is the time to secure your spot! With a diverse lineup ranging from basketball and cheer to flying drones and pep band, there truly is something for everyone. We are also thrilled to debut our new Strength & Conditioning camp with two sessions available. Don't wait—head to the front office today to drop off your registration forms and fees.



HAPPENINGS @ HPS

A NIGHT IN PARIS PROM

A Night in Paris Prom 2026 was a spectacular success, transporting our Honey Badgers to a world of elegance and charm for an unforgettable evening at the Goodyear Ballpark. From the stunning themed decor to the energy on the dance floor, the night was filled with laughter and memories that will last a lifetime. It was a beautiful celebration of our student body and a perfect way to honor the close of the year in style.



PROM PEP ASSEMBLY

We gathered for an electric Prom Pep Assembly! The event featured several competitions, including a strategic round of Human Tic-Tac-Toe, the challenging Stacking Boxes race, and a hilarious, fast-paced Mattress Relay. Amidst the games, we officially introduced our Prom Court, with nominees making a grand entrance to the cheers of their peers. It was a fantastic way to build energy and school spirit across the student body as our juniors and seniors prepared for Prom the night after.



END-OF-THE-YEAR BBQ

Our End-of-the-Year BBQ served as the ultimate celebration, bringing our Honey Badgers together for an afternoon of sun, snacks, and fun. Students enjoyed cooling off with Kona Ice and competing on the volleyball court and legendary water balloon fight. This festive afternoon provided the perfect opportunity for students to relax and bond one last time before the long summer break.



Highland Prep
2025-2026 Academic Calendar

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

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

First Quarter Days 49

August	04	First Day - First Quarter
September	01	Labor Day
October	10	Last Day - First Quarter
October	13-17	Fall Break

Second Quarter Days 41

October	20	First Day - Second Quarter
November	11	Veterans Day
November	26-28	Thanksgiving
December	19	Last Day - Second Quarter
Dec / Jan	22-02	Winter Break

Third Quarter Days 48

January	05	First Day - Third Quarter
January	19	Martin Luther King Day
February	16	Presidents Day
March	13	Last Day - Third Quarter
March	16-20	Spring Break

Fourth Quarter Days 44

March	23	First Day - Fourth Quarter
April	03	Spring Holiday
May	20	Graduation
May	22	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	28	Teachers Start Date
May	29	Teachers End Date

In-service - No Students Days

All Staff In-service	5
----------------------	---

Early Release Days - 1:30 pm Days

Professional Learning Community (PLC)	28
Teacher In-service/Work/Grades	4

Student Coursework Testing Days Days

Progress Reports	4
*Finals	4
*Finals/Last Day of Quarter	4

Blackout/Mandatory Attendance Dates

October	13-17	March	09-13
December	15-19	May	18-22

See Student Handbook

State Testing Dates

Please see Assessment Calendar available on Canvas.
MHP School Calendar will be modified to accommodate State Testing Calendar.

Special Dates

40th Student Day -	September	29 2025
100th Student Day -	January	16 2026

2026 BADGER SUMMER CAMPS



STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

(SESSION 1)

Mon to Thu • June 1st - June 11th

11:30am - 2:00pm

Focusing on building a physical and mental foundation

Fee: \$100 | HPS Gym

(SESSION 2)

Mon to Thu • June 15th - June 25th

11:30am - 2:00pm

Fee: \$100 | HPS Gym

AERIAL DRONES

Mon to Thu • July 6th - July 9th

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Focusing on skills in preparation for 2026-2027 aerial drone season

Fee: \$75 | HPS Engineering Lab

SOCCER

Mon to Thu • July 6th - July 16th

4:00pm - 7:00pm

Conditioning, offensive and defensive skills, and teamwork drills

Fee: \$125 | HPS Field

BASKETBALL

Mon to Thu • July 6th - July 16th

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Conditioning, offensive and defensive skills, and teamwork drills

Fee: \$125 | HPS Gym

RECORDING STUDIO/ PEP BAND

Mon to Thu • July 13th - July 16th

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Building skills essential for both studio work and live sound instruments

Fee: \$75 | HPS Music Room

VEX ROBOTICS

Mon to Thu • July 13th - July 23rd

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Designing, programming, and building skills in preparation for 2026-2027 robotics season

Fee: \$125 | HPS Engineering Lab

CROSS COUNTRY

Mon to Thu • July 20th - July 30th

6:00am - 8:00am

Conditioning, running skills, and teamwork drills

Fee: \$100 | HPS Field

CHEER

Mon to Thu • July 20th - July 30th

8:00am - 11:00am

Conditioning, cheer and dance skills, and teamwork drills

Fee: \$125 | HPS Gym

FLAG FOOTBALL

Mon to Thu • July 20th - July 30th

4:00pm - 7:00pm

Strength and conditioning, team building, and football skills and drills

Fee: \$125 | HPS Field

FOOTBALL

Mon to Thu • July 20th - July 30th

4:00pm - 7:00pm

Strength and conditioning, team building, and football skills and drills

Fee: \$200 | HPS Field

VOLLEYBALL

Mon to Thu • July 20th - July 30th

4:00pm - 7:00pm

Conditioning, volleyball skills, and teamwork drills

Fee: \$125 | HPS Gym



HIGHLAND
PREP
SURPRISE, ARIZONA

Registration forms available at highlandprepaz.net

