



HONEY BADGER BULLETIN

EDITION #69

HIGHLAND PREP'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2026

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR



HOME OF THE HONEY BADGERS

WELCOME BACK TO HIGHLAND PREP

Highland Prep is excited to welcome our students and families to the start of the 2026 school year. Whether you are returning for another year or joining our community for the first time, we are thrilled to have you as part of the Badger family. Over the summer, our faculty and staff have worked hard preparing classrooms, planning engaging lessons, and creating a strong foundation for a successful year ahead.

As we prepare for the first day of school, we invite all students and families to join us for Meet the Teacher Night on Friday, August 7th.

This evening will provide an opportunity to meet teachers, explore campus, learn about expectations for the year, and get ready for the exciting months ahead. To ensure each family has time to connect with staff, the event will be held in two sessions: freshmen from 5 to 6 PM and upperclassmen from 6 to 7 PM.

On behalf of our entire faculty and staff, welcome back, Badgers. We are excited for the opportunities ahead and look forward to a year filled with learning, connection, and success!



EDITION #69 / AUGUST 2026

Message from the Principal

Dear Honey Badger families,

I hope you and your families have enjoyed a wonderful, restful, and safe summer. As we prepare to welcome everyone back for another exciting school year, I want to take a moment to share how proud I am of the dedication and enthusiasm our students and staff have shown throughout the summer months.

Although summer is often a time to relax and recharge, many of our students have continued to work hard and pursue their passions. Students participating in Summer School and Future Freshmen Academy have been preparing for a successful academic year, while our football, cheer, girls flag football, basketball, soccer, and volleyball teams have been training and preparing for their upcoming seasons. Our VEX Robotics, Aerial Drones, and Recording Studio Club members have also been sharpening their skills and expanding their knowledge. If you're interested in getting involved in one of our many clubs or extracurricular activities, it's not too late to participate in some clubs! We encourage you to contact our front office for more information about available opportunities.

Please mark your calendars for Student Orientation on Friday, August 7, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Freshmen will attend from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., and upperclassmen are invited from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. During Orientation, students will have the opportunity to pick up their class schedules, meet their teachers, explore the campus, and learn more about our athletic programs and student clubs.

As you embark on this new school year, I encourage every student to establish healthy school habits from day one. Get plenty of rest each night, arrive to school on time, stay organized, ask questions when you need help, and make consistent attendance a priority. Small, positive habits practiced every day can lead to tremendous success throughout the year. Our entire staff is committed to providing a safe, welcoming, and engaging learning environment where every student is supported and challenged to reach their fullest potential.

Thank you for your continued support of our school. We look forward to welcoming everyone back and making the 2026–2027 school year our best one yet!

Mr. Walker M.Ed. Principal



Mark Your Calendars

AUGUST 2026

August 7th	Meet the Teacher Night
August 10th	First Day of School
August 14th	Senior Sunrise
August 20th	Club Rush
August 27th	Yearbook Picture Day

Your First-Week Roadmap

Bell Schedule

Highland Prep runs on a 4x4 schedule: four classes per day across four quarters (about 45 days each).
Core classes run two quarters; electives run one or two.

Attendance matters. Students who miss more than three days in a quarter may receive an 'F' in each affected class. Exceptions require advance notice and documentation, and are approved by administration. If something comes up, reach out early.

Daily Schedule		Early Release
7:30 – 7:55	Breakfast	7:30 – 7:55 Breakfast
8:00 – 9:28	Period 1	8:00 – 9:14 Period 1
9:31 – 11:00	Period 2	9:17 – 10:30 Period 2
11:00 – 11:30	Lunch	10:30 – 11:00 Lunch
11:30 – 12:58	Period 3	11:00 – 12:14 Period 3
1:01 – 2:30	Period 4	12:17 – 1:30 Period 4

Lunch Information

The HP cafeteria serves breakfast before school and lunch during the day, with a variety of nutritious options. Menus are posted on the HP website.

A few things to know:

- Students must show their ID to purchase meals. No ID means going to the end of the line.
- Payments are made in the Front Office before 8:00 a.m. Payments cannot be made during lunch, and missing the morning window may mean no lunch purchase that day.
- Free and reduced meal applications are available in the front office at the start of the year. Household applications and account payments are submitted online through Infinite Campus.

Dress Code Reminders

Highland Prep students, please remember that appropriate attire is required during the school day and at all school-sponsored events.

Key guidelines:

- Clothing with inappropriate language, images, or references to illegal substances is not allowed.
- Sleepwear, blankets, and revealing clothing are prohibited.
- Footwear must be secure—Crocs in sports mode; no flip-flops, Birkenstocks, or slides.
- Hats, hoods, and head coverings cannot be worn inside buildings.

Thanks for representing Highland Prep with pride!

Technology Check Out

Chromebook and TI-84 Calculator Checkout

Please note that all students are required to use a school-issued Chromebook while on campus. There will be no technology checked out during Student Orientation.

Chromebook Rental Details:

- A \$75 deposit is required at checkout.
- A \$75 refund will be issued upon return of the Chromebook in good condition and with its original charger.

Repair/replacement fees may include:

- o Charger: \$25
- o Screen: \$50
- o Full device replacement: \$400

Calculator Rental:

- A one-time fee of \$50 is required to rent a TI-84 calculator.
- Calculators not returned will incur a \$50 replacement charge.

Payments can be made by cash, check, or credit card in person. We also accept credit card payments over the phone.

Device pickup will be available from Monday-Thursday, between 7:30 AM and 4:00 PM

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact the Highland Prep office.



Drop-Off and Pick Up Route

To keep our campus safe and running smoothly during arrival and dismissal, please follow the traffic flow and zone guidelines shown in the map above.

Student Pickup Zone (Yellow Area)

This is the only area where students should be picked up after school.

Please:

- Pull all the way forward
- Stay in your vehicle
- Be ready for a quick and safe pickup

No Drop-Off Zone (Solid Red Area)

This area is not permitted for student drop-off or pickup. It's important to keep this zone clear for safety and traffic flow.

Traffic Flow (Black Arrows)

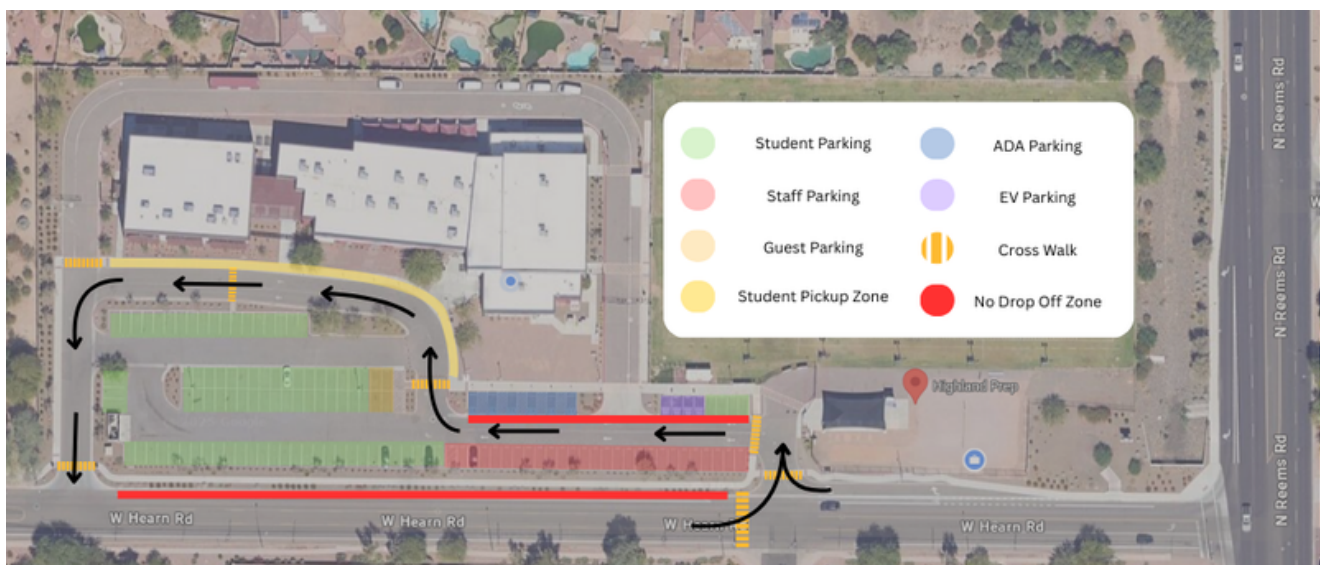
All vehicles must follow the one-way loop as marked. This helps keep traffic moving safely and efficiently.

Crosswalks (Yellow Stripes)

Please yield to students and staff using the crosswalks. Safety is our top priority.

Thank you for your support in keeping our school safe and organized. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to the front office.

Let's work together for a smooth start and end to every school day!



New Programs

AVIATION ACADEMY IN PARTNERSHIP WITH **EMBRY-RIDDLE** Aeronautical University

This year Highland Prep is proud to launch the Aviation Academy, a new pathway that puts our students in the pilot's seat, sometimes literally. Built in partnership with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, the program blends hands-on flight training concepts, aerospace coursework, and real exposure to careers in aviation. With ten seats reserved for HP students, the Academy gives our Badgers an early runway into one of the most exciting and fast-growing fields out there. Interest has already taken off, and we can't wait to watch our first cohort take flight.



AP BUSINESS

The AP Business program offers students an exciting opportunity to explore the principles of business through challenging, college level coursework. Students will develop practical skills in leadership, decision making, and strategic thinking while gaining a deeper understanding of today's business world. This new program provides a strong foundation for future academic and professional success.

FABRICATION AND WELDING

Our Fabrication and Welding program provides students with hands on experience in advanced manufacturing using industry grade equipment and a curriculum developed by Lincoln Electric. Students learn essential skills in welding, cutting, machining, and metal fabrication while completing real world projects from design to finished product. The program prepares students with in demand skills that align with today's manufacturing and skilled trades industries. Whether pursuing certifications, apprenticeships, or careers after graduation, students leave with a strong foundation for future success.



PRINCIPLES OF AI

Our new Principles of AI course introduces students to the fundamentals of artificial intelligence through hands on, real world learning. Students will explore prompt engineering, data literacy, model training, privacy and security, and ethical decision making while building future ready technology skills. Designed to bridge the gap between using AI tools and understanding how they work, this course prepares students for college and careers in a rapidly evolving digital world.

Summer Camp Recap

WORLD CUP SPIRIT

With soccer taking center stage around the world, our campers took the opportunity to develop their own skills this summer. Through teamwork, practice, and plenty of time on the field, they made the most of every session.



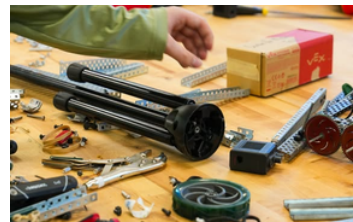
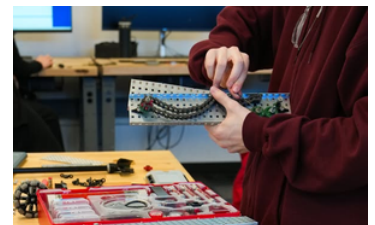
BUILT TO INNOVATE

VEX Robotics camp challenged students to think creatively, work as a team, and bring their ideas to life. Every build, test, and redesign helped campers grow their confidence while exploring the exciting world of robotics.



HOOPS IN ACTION

Camp was full of fast breaks, big shots, and plenty of friendly competition. Whether perfecting their jump shot or celebrating a great play, campers built their skills, worked together, and had a blast on the court. One thing was clear: the future of Badger basketball is looking bright.



Athletics Events

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS AT HIGHLAND PREP



SPORT	OPP. TEAM	DATE	TIME	PLACE
 BOYS FOOTBALL	MADISON HIGHLAND PREP	 AUG. 21	 7:00 PM	 HIGHLAND PREP
 GIRLS VOLLEYBALL	BASIS - FLAGSTAFF	 AUG. 28	 5:30 PM	 HIGHLAND PREP
 BOYS FOOTBALL	CHINO VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL	 AUG. 28	 7:00 PM	 HIGHLAND PREP

HONEY BADGER PRIDE!

TRYOUT INFORMATION

Register My Athlete must be completed for any student interested in participating in athletics.

All documents and current physical must be uploaded prior to tryout dates.



FOOTBALL

Walk-On Window:

Aug 3 - Aug 14

Times:

Aug 3-Aug 7

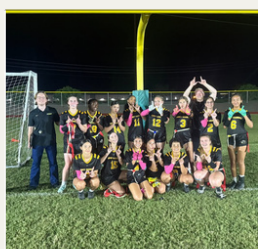
4:30-6:30 PM

Aug 10-14

3:30 PM-5:30 PM

Location:

Football Field



FLAG FOOTBALL

Tryouts:

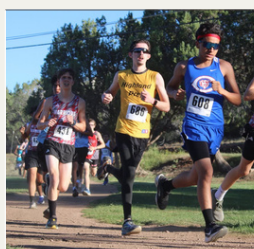
Aug 12 - Aug 14

Times:

3:30 PM-6:00 PM

Location:

Room 109



CROSS COUNTRY

Tryouts:

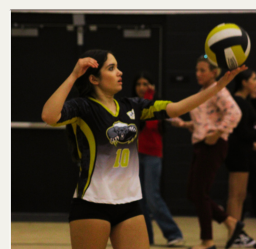
Aug 13 - Aug 14

Times:

5:30-7:00 AM

Location:

Front Lobby



GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Tryouts:

Aug 13 - Aug 14

Times:

3:30 PM-5:30 PM

Location:

Gym



CHEER

Open Cheer Clinics:

Aug 10-12

Times:

3:30 PM-4:30 PM

Location:

FabLab

Tryouts:

Aug 13

Times:

4:00 PM-6:00 PM

Location:

FabLab

MEET YOUR TEAM



AARON JONES *AVIATION ACADEMY INSTRUCTOR*

Leading the Academy at Highland Prep is Aaron Jones, and our students could not ask for a better guide. Aaron is a commercial pilot and U.S. Marine Corps veteran whose aviation career spans the cockpit, the control tower, and the classroom. He has flown as a First Officer for American Eagle Airlines and piloted everything from Learjets to business jets, and he has managed airport operations and security at major airports across the country. Just as importantly, Aaron has spent years teaching the next generation, serving as a professor in Embry-Riddle's College of Aviation and previously preparing high school students for aviation careers. He is currently completing his PhD in Aviation and Space Education. With real-world experience at nearly every level of the industry, Aaron brings the expertise and passion to help our students turn a fascination with flight into real skills and a real future.



ANDREA CLINE *PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER & ATHLETIC DIRECTOR*

Ms. Cline joins Highland Prep as our Athletic Director and physical education teacher. She holds an Associate of Arts from Arizona Western College, a Bachelor of Science in Sports Management from Eastern New Mexico University, and a Master of Business Administration in Sports Leadership from Adams State University. A former collegiate athlete herself, she has coached and recruited at the college level as an assistant softball coach at Howard College in Texas, and she has taught in both the college classroom and the elementary classroom. She brings that full range of experience to Highland Prep, where she will also coach softball and cross country and build a program rooted in accountability, work ethic, and team-first values.



JAY PARIHAR *ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE*

Mr. Parihar brings an engineer's perspective to the classroom. He earned his Bachelor of Engineering in Aeronautical Engineering from Gujarat Technological University and his Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Arizona State University. He has two years of high school teaching experience along with industry work as a manufacturing engineer, and he draws on that hands-on background to show students how classroom concepts translate to real technical work. He is eager to contribute to Highland Prep West's growing STEM program, and you will also find him on the field this season coaching boys soccer.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Q: What are you doing now, and what has your journey looked like since graduating from Highland Prep?

A: Since graduating from Highland Prep, I went to NAU to major in Secondary Education of English. I recently graduated from that program in May 2026 after student teaching at Highland Prep Surprise. Now, I am getting ready for my first year of teaching at Highland Prep Surprise where I'll be teaching Senior and Junior English!

Q: How did your experience at Highland Prep help prepare you for college, your career, or life after graduation?

A: Highland Prep did a great job preparing me for college. They helped me with everything from applications to writing an essay to applying for scholarships. Thanks to the help I received from Highland Prep, I was able to graduate from college debt-free in four years.

Q: Was there a teacher, class, or opportunity at Highland Prep that had a lasting impact on you? If so, how?

A: Before high school, I had little aspiration to become a teacher. It wasn't until I came to Highland Prep and I saw the tremendous impact a teacher could have in my own life that I decided this was the career for me.

Q: What advice would you give to current Highland Prep students who are working toward their future goals?



ISAIAH SPARKS

A: My biggest piece of advice would be to make the most of your time in high school. The four years in high school will go by in the blink of an eye, and you'll look back wondering where the time went.

Q: Looking back, what is one thing you appreciated most about your time at Highland Prep that you didn't fully realize as a student?

A: The thing I appreciated most about Highland Prep was the sense of community. Because Highland Prep is a smaller school, it was able to foster a community where I knew the name of every student in my graduating class. This led to Highland Prep being a place I enjoyed going to every morning.

Highland Prep
2026-2027 Academic Calendar

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

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

First Quarter	Days	44
August	10	First Day - First Quarter
September	07	Labor Day
October	09	Last Day - First Quarter
October	12-16	Fall Break

Second Quarter	Days	41
October	19	First Day - Second Quarter
November	11	Veterans Day
November	25-27	Thanksgiving
December	18	Last Day - Second Quarter
Dec / Jan	21-01	Winter Break

Third Quarter	Days	48
January	04	First Day - Third Quarter
January	18	Martin Luther King Day
February	15	Presidents Day
March	12	Last Day - Third Quarter
March	15-19	Spring Break

Fourth Quarter	Days	49
March	22	First Day - Fourth Quarter
March	26	Spring Holiday
May	26	Graduation
May	28	Last Day - Fourth Quarter
Instructional Days 182		

School Events	
August	Parent Academy
September	Fall STEM Night / Open House
February	Spring STEM Night / Open House

Teacher Start/End Dates	
August	03 Teachers Start Date
June	04 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 05-09	March 08-12
December 14-18	May 24-28
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 -	October 05 2026
100th Student Day -	January 25 2027



HIGHLAND PREP

SURPRISE, ARIZONA

2026-2027 SUPPLY LIST

PERSONAL SUPPLIES (DAILY USE)

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION
4	1 INCH BINDERS
4	COLLEGE-RULE SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS
1 Pack	BLACK PENS
1 Pack	BLUE PENS
1 Pack	RED PENS
1 Pack	HIGHLIGHTERS
1 Pack	#2 PENCILS
1	12 INCH, CLEAR RULER (INCHES & CENTIMETERS)
1 Pack	EXPO, FINE-TIP, DRY ERASE MARKERS
1 Minimum	HP PE Shirt
1	TI-84 Calculator

***ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES MAY BE IDENTIFIED ON STUDENT'S COURSE SYLLABUS**

CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (PROVIDED TO 1ST PERIOD TEACHER)

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION
1	CLOROX WIPES CONTAINER
1	BOX OF TISSUES
1	REAM OF COPY PAPER (500 SHEETS)



Meet the *Teacher* Night

Friday August 7th

5-6 PM Freshman
6-7 PM Upperclassmen