



HIGHLAND PREP WEST THE HORNET HYPE

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR

ROBOTICS TEAM WINS JUDGES AWARD AT COMPETITION

Our VEX Robotics team was recognized with the Judges Award at their latest VEX Robotics competition. The team consists of freshman, Wyatt Pifer and sophomore, Jenson Mallinger. After asking them how they felt after their win, Jenson says, "We were just really excited since it is the first ever VEX Robotics award our school has received."



And then seeing that we were able to go from having a broken bot our last competition to winning our next one, it made us feel really good and proud of ourselves." Wyatt adds, "It was a super cool feeling. While we were driving home, we got more and more excited about it."



Message from the Principal

Dear HPW Families,

This third quarter is off to an excellent start, as the students are easing smoothly back into their academic routines. Teachers and staff alike are thrilled to reconnect with the students and resume the learning journey. The brief break of the holidays provided a chance for everyone to rest and reflect.

There was a lot to celebrate this month. Our cheerleaders placed third in the Junior State Championship. Our Aerial Drone teams won the Teamwork Champion Award and the Judges Award. Winter athletics finished their season strong with some exciting games and incredible wins. We celebrated together with another awards ceremony, spirit week, a winter assembly, and a winter formal dance.

Spring promises exciting events as we head toward break. This week, students will try out for baseball, softball, and track teams to kick off the spring sports season. On February 17th, future freshmen will visit for placement tests so we may prepare their schedules for next school year. The Student Council is also planning the Winter BBQ for March 1st. Together, we embark on the second half of the school year with optimism, joy, and Hornet pride.

Sincerely,
Sharon Pozzi
Principal

School Calendar

FEBRUARY 2024

2/2	Winter Athletics Pictures
2/8	Spring STEM Showcase
2/8	NHS Induction Ceremony
TBD	Spring Athletics Pictures
2/17	Future Freshman Placement Testing

APRIL 2024

4/2	ACT Aspire Test (9th Grade)
4/13	Glendale SeaPerch Competition
4/19	Spring BBQ
4/26	Spring Holiday (No School)
4/30	HP Academies Science Fair

MARCH 2024

3/1	Winter BBQ
3/4	Visual Arts Showcase
3/11-3/15	Spring Break (No School)
3/23	Future Freshman Course Registration
3/27	Academic Awards Assembly

MAY 2024

5/9	Spring Band & Choir Concert
5/13	Visual Arts Showcase
5/20	Academic Awards Banquet
5/22-23	Finals
5/23	Last Day of School

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



ACADEMIC AWARDS ASSEMBLY

We held an academic awards assembly to honor our students who received honor roll and principal's list for the second quarter. Honor roll was earned by students who received a GPA of 3.5 or above, while principal's list was earned by students who received a GPA of 4.0 or above. All awarded students were recognized with a certificate.



LEGACY AVONDALE NIGHT

Jenson, Aliya, and Taisoni, as seen in the picture above, travelled alongside principal, Ms. Pozzi to a future freshmen night at Legacy Avondale. As student ambassadors, they shared their experience as a student at Highland Prep West and answered any questions students had about the school.

EXTRACURRICULAR SCHEDULE:

MONDAY

CHESS, C111

YOUTH ALIVE, C206

STUDENT COUNCIL, C107

TUESDAY

PERSONAL FITNESS, C102

SEAPERCH, C104

YEARBOOK, C205

THURSDAY

NHS, C210

SPORTS CLUB, GYM

ART CLUB, C111

YEARBOOK, C109

SHOW CHOIR (AND
TUESDAYS), C202

CROCHET CLUB, C206

FRIDAY

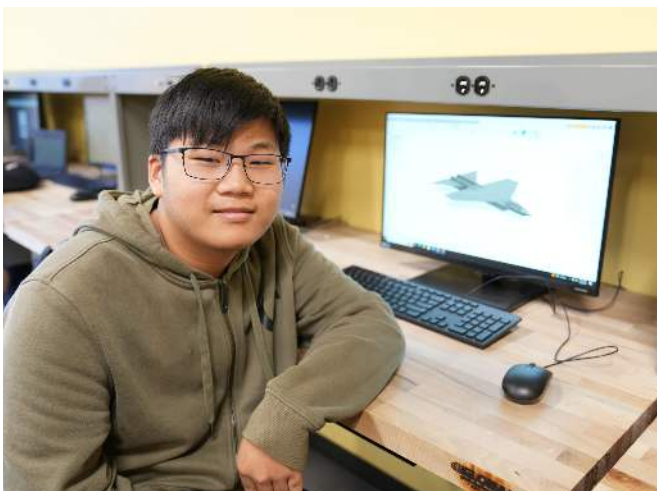
BOOK CLUB, C110

ANIME CLUB, C106

STEM DIGEST

AERIAL DRONE TEAM WIN TWO AWARDS

Our aerial drone team brought home the Teamwork Champion award as well as the Judges Award in their last competition of the season. When asked about how she felt about the win, Jaylen Chase says, “We had struggled to win in other competitions, but this last one we really stepped it up and did good.” The team also wanted to shout-out Amanda Nuñez because eventhough her partner, Ruby was absent for this competition, she still managed to win the Judges Award.



DESIGNING GAMES FOR A CARNIVAL

Our engineering students were given the task of designing carnival games. Students were given creative control on what kind of game they wanted to make, as well as what rules they wanted to have. The group of girls seen here, described their game saying, “We decided on a cup-stacking game since it was different than any other team’s ideas.”



CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS

DEBATES IN HONORS ENGLISH

Ms. Benavidez' Honors English class had a debate on if technology is a good or bad thing by only using textual evidence from credible sources. Students were allowed to use logical evidence, database evidence, or evidence from personal experience. When asked about what her students thought about the activity, Ms. Benavidez shared, "The students really enjoyed the challenge of having to find better claims than the opposing team and then proving their point during the debate. It gave students the chance to hear different perspectives of the argument and defend their claim accordingly."



SeaPerch Competition (Source:seaperch.org)

SEAPERCH IS BACK

SeaPerch season has officially returned for the year. Students are invited to join SeaPerch as meetings after school will begin to be held. Similar to VEX Robotics, SeaPerch deals with building robots that compete in courses; the main difference is that it is all done underwater. SeaPerch students work as a team to build and modify the robot in order to have it complete the obstacle and mission courses within the competitions. This year, Highland Prep Academies will be hosting its very own competition on April 13, 2024. In addition to that, students will also have the chance to travel to San Diego for another competition on April 7, 2024.

ATHLETICS

CHEER WINS 3RD PLACE AT JR. STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Our Hornet cheer team won third place at their latest competition, the Junior State Championship. When asked about the competition, captain of the cheer team, Natalie Palomino said, “Although we really hoped we could have won first place, we are still extremely proud winning third place, considering we were up against all D1 schools. I am really glad with how the season ended. The beginning of the season was a lot different from the end and that makes me very proud, knowing the girls each improved on their skills so much.”



GREAT SEASON FOR JV BOYS BASKETBALL

Our JV boys basketball team had an incredible season with almost an undefeated season. When asked about the season, Colin Aska shared, “It was a good season. Coach Blain will definitely expect a lot from us next year and we’re going to have to put in the work to be where he wants us to be.” Van Michael Smith added, “I would like to give a shout-out to Bishop. He improved a lot this season and is playing really well on the court.”

HARD WORK FROM GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

Our girls basketball team ended the season with a 3-winning streak. Captain, Makayla Sison says, “I am very proud of these girls. They really helped me find my passion for this sport and I am so thankful for them.” Valentina Garcia added, “Shout-out to Ms. Roberts because she helped us a lot when we had a rocky start to the season.”



HAPPENINGS @ HPW

WINTER PEP ASSEMBLY

We held our Winter Pep Assembly to recognize the end of the winter sports season and showcase performances from show choir and cheer. Show choir performed two songs while cheer performed the routine from their competition. We began by bringing out our boys and girls basketball teams and our girls soccer team. Student council later brought out the fun by preparing two fun games for students to participate in. The first game was a student vs. teacher's game of basketball where the teachers ended up winning, while the second game was played between numerous pairs of students and it was called "head, shoulders, cup!"



WINTER FORMAL

Students dressed to impress at our annual Highland Prep West Winter Formal. Our boys and girls basketball team helped organize the Winter Formal while Highland Prep staff helped chaperone for the night. We held the dance at the gymnasium from 7:00-10:00 p.m. Students got the chance to snap a picture with their friends at the winter formal photobooth, request their favorite songs from the DJ, and even take a snack break and grab a bite of pizza.

WINTER SPIRIT WEEK FOR 1/29-2/2:

Monday



Pajama Day

Tuesday



Twin Day

Wednesday



Crazy Hair Day

Thursday



Hornet Spirit

Friday



Valentine's Spirit

Highland Prep West
2023-2024 Academic Calendar

July 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 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	September 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 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
November 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	December 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 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	February 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
March 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	April 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	May 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	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

First Quarter Days 43

August	01	First Day - First Quarter
September	04	Labor Day
September	29	Last Day - First Quarter
October	02-06	Fall Break

Second Quarter Days 46

October	09	First Day - Second Quarter
November	10	Veterans Day
November	22-24	Thanksgiving
December	15	Last Day - Second Quarter
Dec / Jan	18-03	Winter Break

Third Quarter Days 46

January	03	First Day - Third Quarter
January	15	Martin Luther King Day
February	19	Presidents Day
March	08	Last Day - Third Quarter
March	11-15	Spring Break

Fourth Quarter Days 47

March	18	First Day - Fourth Quarter
March	29	Spring Holiday
April	26	
May	23	Last Day - Fourth Quarter

School Events

August	Parent Academy
September	Fall Open House
February	Spring Open House

Teacher Start/End Dates

July	25	Teachers Start Date
May	31	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

September	25-29	March	04-08
December	11-15	May	20-23

See Student Handbook

State Testing Dates

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

Special Dates

40th Student Day -	September	26 2023
100th Student Day -	January	18 2024