



THE HORNET HYPE

EDITION #25

HIGHLAND PREP WEST'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2024

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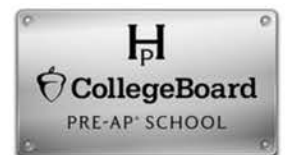


HOME OF THE HORNETS

HPW LAUNCHES WORKSPACE DEDICATED TO STEM CLUBS

Highland Prep West is excited to announce the launch of its new STEM workspace, a cutting-edge facility dedicated to empowering students passionate about STEM fields. This innovative hub is designed to inspire creativity, collaboration, and hands-on learning, providing students with access to robotics and drones equipment, and collaborative workspaces. Our first flight simulator will also be available in this workspace, where any students interested in flying a plane can use. Our Hornets are already planning to utilize the space to prepare for

the 2024-2025 robotics competition later this year. "We plan to set up the new arena for this year and practice strategies in preparation for competition season," said Michael Sullivan, a member of the robotics team. "We'll be way more prepared and at ease for competition, knowing we've had time to practice and fine-tune our robot." As we have now opened the doors to the new STEM workspace, we look forward to witnessing the incredible projects, designs, and memories that will emerge from this new collaborative environment at our school.



EDITION #25 / SEPTEMBER 2024

Message from the Principal

Hello Hive Family,

September has been a busy, but exciting month for us here at The Hive. Fall athletics are in full swing, with boys' soccer, cross country, football, cheer, and girls' volleyball teams giving their all on the field and court. Our school spirit is high, and we are gearing up for some fun.

Homecoming week was a blast, and we're excited that our Hornets had both the dance and pep assembly to celebrate the occasion. Additionally, we are preparing for our Fall STEM Open House this Tuesday, September 24th, where teachers and students will showcase their projects involving 3D printing, decoding, science experiments, and more. Our choir will also

perform, making this a can't-miss event for families. September brings even more excitement as we prepare for our First Annual Golf Tournament at Pebble Creek on Saturday, September 28th. This will be a wonderful opportunity to bring our community together and support our school programs. We're also proud to announce that our National Honor Society students will be hosting our first blood drive on Tuesday, October 29th, another way we are fostering a culture of service and leadership within our students.

Thank you all for your continued support and involvement. Let's keep up the momentum, as we move into October and beyond!

Sincerely,

Sharon Pozzi • Principal



School Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2024

9/2 Labor Day (No School)
9/16-9/20 Fall Spirit Week
9/20 Homecoming Dance
9/24 Fall Open House & STEM Showcase
9/30 Visual Arts Showcase- 1st Qtr.

NOVEMBER 2024

11/11 Veteran's Day (No School)
11/13 No Early Release
11/23 2nd Annual Aerial Drone Qualifiers
11/27-11/29 Thanksgiving Break (No School)

OCTOBER 2024

10/2 Fine Arts Assembly- 1st Qtr.
10/7-10/11 Fall Break (No School)
10/23 Academic Awards Assembly- 1st Qtr.
10/25 Fall BBQ
10/29 Parent Workshop- Understanding GPA

DECEMBER 2024

12/7 2nd Annual VEX Robotics Qualifiers
12/9-12/13 Holiday Spirit Week
12/10 Highland Prep Academies Science Fair
12/16 Visual Arts Showcase – 2nd Quarter
12/16 Fall Band & Choir Concert

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



ACADEMIC AWARDS ASSEMBLY

We proudly honored our sophomores and juniors who received honor roll and principal's list during the 4th quarter of the 2023-2024 academic year. Honor roll recipients were students with a 3.5 GPA and above, while our principal's list were those with a 4.0 GPA and above. Our freshmen also joined in, learning about the criteria and importance of these prestigious academic awards.



EMBRY-RIDDLE PRESENTATION

Our juniors recently had the opportunity of meeting with a representative from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU). During the informative visit, students discovered the diverse range of majors offered by ERAU, spanning across aviation, engineering, business, and more. They also learned about the university's emphasis on hands-on learning experiences and strong industry connections.

EXTRACURRICULAR **SCHEDULE:**

MONDAY 2:30 PM

CHESS/GAME CLUB, C206
STUDENT COUNCIL, C205

MONDAY 3:30 PM

YOUTH ALIVE, C201
GARDENING CLUB, C210

TUESDAY 2:30 PM

PERSONAL FITNESS, C102
AERIAL DRONES, 106
VEX ROBOTICS, C104

SEAPERCH, C104

TUESDAY 3:00 PM

BOOK/CRAFT CLUB, C110

TUESDAY 3:30 PM

YEARBOOK, C109
TENNIS CLUB, COURTS

THURSDAY 2:30 PM

CYBERSECURITY, C211
SPORTS CLUB, GYM

THURSDAY 3:30 PM

SHOW CHOIR, C202
YEARBOOK, C109

FRIDAY 2:30 PM

SPORTS FILM CLUB, C108

FRIDAY 3:00 PM

SPEECH & DEBATE, C209

STEM DIGEST

DESIGNING CABINS

Our civil engineering students embarked on an exciting project, designing luxurious cabins. Students started by sketching a plan of what they wanted the interior and exterior of their cabin to look like. Using their online design software, students brought their creations to life, crafting cozy living rooms, fully-equipped kitchens, multiple bedrooms and bathrooms, and even spacious garages. This project enabled students to practice skills such as architectural design, spatial planning, and problem-solving.

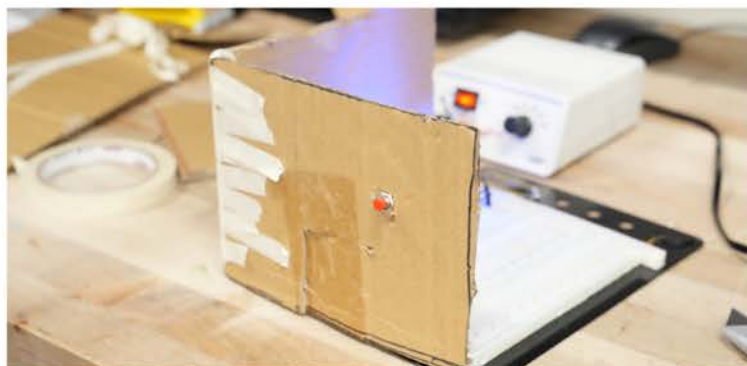


DIALYSIS TUBING IN BIOLOGY

Mr. DeDecker's biology students modeled the cell membrane by using dialysis tubing to investigate how different molecular movement is across a semipermeable membrane. In this case, students created a membrane, filling the dialysis tubing with a mixture of starch and glucose. Since starch is much larger than glucose, they observed it was not be able to pass through. To detect the presence of starch, students used Lugol's iodine solution. The solution then turned from yellow to black, indicating to students that starch was present outside the membrane.

PROGRAM TO LOCK A VAULT

Our principles of engineering students achieved impressive results in their latest project, building a breadboard circuit to control a lock's opening and closing mechanism. This challenging project demonstrated students' grasp on circuitry and troubleshooting techniques. By working in pairs, students were able to program a lock on a vault.



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



MR. SANTANDER

Mr. Santander teaches Geometry, Algebra 2, and AP Statistics at HPW. He holds a Bachelor's in Mathematics from Ottawa University. He was born and raised in San Diego, CA, but moved to Arizona to be with his wife of 3 years. Mr. Santander's interests vary as he wishes to do a lot in his life, from water activities and climbing mountains to painting and making music. Another interesting fact is that Mr. Santander speaks 5 different languages and hopes to continue adding more to his repertoire. In only his first few months at the Hive, he has founded the HPW Tennis Club and has formed great relationships with his students. Students and colleagues praise Mr. Santander for his dedication and support at HPW.



PSYCHOLOGY IN FITNESS

In a fun and engaging experiment, our psychology students investigated how positive and negative reinforcement influenced an individual's ability to workout. Students tested the fitness performance of their peers by recording their time and pace while shouting words of encouragement and compared it to shouting words of discouragement.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



9/11 HONOR TRIBUTE

The morning of September 11th, our students came together to hang American flags along our fence line, in honor and remembrance of the lives lost 23 years ago.



GARDENING CLUB

Our HPW Garden Club planted their first plants of their year by doing a heartfelt project to teachers. Garden club members carefully planted a variety of flowers and herbs in mini pots, which they then personally delivered to teachers throughout the campus. This thoughtful gesture brought smiles and warmth to our teachers.

ATHLETICS



UNDEFEATED BOYS' SOCCER SEASON

In its inaugural varsity season, our Highland Prep West boys' soccer team has achieved an undefeated record so far. Under the guidance of Coach Blain, the team has demonstrated exceptional skill, teamwork, and camaraderie. Coach Blain attributes the team's success to the instant chemistry among players. "This group has gelled incredibly well, and it's been a pleasure to watch them grow together." Captains Davon Morris and Aidan Chacon have provided outstanding leadership, setting the tone for the team's success. Meanwhile, freshman phenom Daniel Fonseca has emerged as the team's leading scorer, showcasing his exceptional skills and potential. This unforgettable start to the season lays the foundation for a bright future in our soccer program. As the team celebrates their current undefeated record, they also look forward to the continued wins and chance at the playoffs.



ATHLETE SPOTLIGHTS OF THE MONTH



**BRAYDEN
PATTON**

Junior, Brayden Patton (#11) has been a valuable asset to the HPW Football team this season. Playing multiple positions- running back, receiver, and safety- Brayden has consistently delivered top performances, scoring on offense in every

single game. His remarkable versatility and skill have earned him the top spot on the team in touchdowns. Brayden's ability to excel on both offense and defense is a testament to his exceptional athleticism, work ethic, and dedication to his craft. As team captain, Brayden's leadership extends beyond his impressive stats. His natural leadership abilities and passion for the game have made him a respected voice on the field. He inspires his teammates with his work ethic, mental toughness, and unwavering commitment to excellence.



**ANAELE
NKEZE**

Junior, Anaelle Nkeze (#9) has stepped up her game, leading by example with her talent and work ethic. The talented outside hitter has significantly improved her game, demonstrating impressive growth and dedication. Coach Mahogany recognizes Anaelle's

coachability, teamwork, and tireless work ethic. Her newfound confidence on the court has positively impacted not only her own performance, but also inspired her teammates. Anaelle has become an inspiring leader and role model for younger players on her team. Her passion and kindness have made her a beloved teammate on the court. "Anaelle, you have made more of an impact than you know," says Coach Mahogany. "Continue growing and being great- we love you kiddo!"

HAPPENINGS @ HPW

COUNTRY MOONLIGHT DANCE

Our Country Moonlight Homecoming dance was an unforgettable night of rustic charm and fun! Students arrived in style, so much as stepping out of a limousine and strutting their finest country attire- complete with cowboy hats, flowing dresses, and western boots. Inside, the energetic DJ kept the dance floor packed, while the photobooth captured the best memories. It was an amazing night filled with friends and country flair.



HOMECOMING PEP ASSEMBLY

Our Hornets brought the best energy at the Homecoming Pep Assembly as they gathered to commemorate the homecoming week. The excitement began by bringing out our fall sports teams. Cheer's electrifying routine and show choir's incredible performance then followed. To round off the afternoon, we had a hilarious dodgeball game, Hornet shirt giveaway, and school spirit face-off.

SPIRIT WEEK RECAP

Monday



Sports Jerseys
vs Jersey Shore

Tuesday



BBQ Dad vs
Soccer Mom

Wednesday



Wild West
Wednesday

Thursday



Decade
Day

Friday



Class Color
War

Highland Prep West
2024-2025 Academic Calendar

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

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

First Quarter	Days	44
August 05	First Day - First Quarter	
September 02	Labor Day	
October 04	Last Day - First Quarter	
October 07-11	Fall Break	

Second Quarter	Days	46
October 14	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	43
January 06	First Day - Third Quarter	
January 20	Martin Luther King Day	
February 17	Presidents Day	
March 07	Last Day - Third Quarter	
March 10-14	Spring Break	

Fourth Quarter	Days	49
March 17	First Day - Fourth Quarter	
April 18	Spring Holiday	
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

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	
Sep/Oct 30-04	March 03-07
December 16-20	May 19-23
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 30 2024
100th Student Day -	January 17 2025

Open Enrollment

For Incoming Freshmen 2025-2026



2025-2026 Incoming Freshman Open Enrollment Deadlines

Pre-Enrollment Period: September 2, 2024 - November 29, 2024

Incoming Freshmen must complete and submit the Intent to Enroll form to begin the enrollment process for the 2025-2026 school year. The Intent to Enroll form is located and can be submitted through the HPW website at www.HighlandPrepWest.org. The Intent to Enroll form is also available in the school office.

Enrollment Packets Due: Friday, December 20, 2024

Incoming Freshmen must complete and submit the Enrollment Packet to secure enrollment in the Class of 2029. Enrollment Packets may be returned to the school office, via facsimile, or via email to: ssroupe@highlandprepaz.org.

Placement Testing Date: Saturday, February 8, 2025

Incoming Freshmen must complete the 9th grade placement tests in Reading and Mathematics. Placement testing will be held on the HPW campus at 9:00 a.m. Incoming Freshmen that do not complete the placement testing may not receive an enrollment seat for the 2025-2026 school year.

Course Registration Date: Saturday, March 22, 2025

Incoming Freshmen must register for Fall 2025 honors-level and elective courses. Course registration will be held on the HPW campus from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Incoming Freshmen that do not complete the course registration may not receive an enrollment seat for the 2025-2026 school year.

If you have any questions please contact the HPW office at: 623-274-2540

Highland Prep West

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