



THE HORNET HYPE

EDITION #26

HIGHLAND PREP WEST'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2024

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR



HPW CHEER WINS 1ST PLACE AT DESERT KICKOFF COMPETITION

Our Highland Prep West cheer team soared to victory at the Desert Kickoff competition, securing 1st place. This triumph marks a remarkable improvement from last year's 5th place finish, showcasing the team's dedication, hard work, and perseverance. Their impressive performance demonstrated exceptional teamwork, skill and spirit, earning them top honors. The team's progress is a testament to their tireless efforts and commitment to excellence. Junior, Meadow Wingfield attributed their success to an unwavering work ethic. "We

were determined to win," she emphasized. "Everyone, especially new team members, put in immense effort." Meadow praised Head Cheer Coach Siera's exceptional choreography and leadership, pivotal to their triumph. The team's momentum continues as they recently also earned 2nd place at the 1st Annual Highland Prep Academies Cheer Classic! Congratulations to our talented cheer team on their well-deserved victories! With this impressive start to the competition season, we eagerly anticipate their future achievements.



EDITION #26 / OCTOBER 2024

Message from the Principal

Hello Hive Family,

As we turn the page to November, I want to reflect on a fantastic October filled with meaningful events and milestones. This month included our Fall BBQ, bringing staff and students together for a great day of food, fun, and community building. Our students are well into their fall ECAP meetings, setting academic and career goals for high school and beyond. This is always a pivotal step in helping them make intentional choices for their futures.

October was also filled with academic and athletic achievements. Our students successfully completed their fall PSAT exams and wrapped up a season of impressive performances in fall sports.

I couldn't be prouder of the dedication and spirit our students continue to show in every endeavor.

Looking ahead, November promises new and exciting opportunities. We're preparing for our first Aerial Drone and VEX Robotics tournaments of the year, which will undoubtedly showcase the skills and innovation our students are building. Winter athletics are gearing up, and as the holiday season approaches, I look forward to the celebrations and gratitude that will fill our campus.

Thank you all for your continued support and encouragement. Together, we are building a community that values growth, kindness, and achievement.

Sincerely,

Sharon Pozzi • Principal



School Calendar

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

NOVEMBER 2024

11/4-11/5 Winter Sports Tryouts
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)

JANUARY 2025

1/15 Academic Awards Assembly- 2nd Qtr.
1/27-1/31 Winter Spirit Week
1/31 Winter Pep Assembly
1/31 Winter Athletic Pictures
1/31 Winter Formal

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



ACADEMIC AWARDS ASSEMBLY

We proudly honored our students who received honor roll and principal's list during the 1st quarter. 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. Congratulations to all of our Hornets who were recognized!



COLLEGE PRESENTATIONS

Our Hornets recently benefited from insightful presentations from Arizona State University and University of Arizona, two of our largest in-state colleges. Looking ahead, Northern Arizona University will visit The Hive on November 7th, followed by Oregon Tech on December 3rd.

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

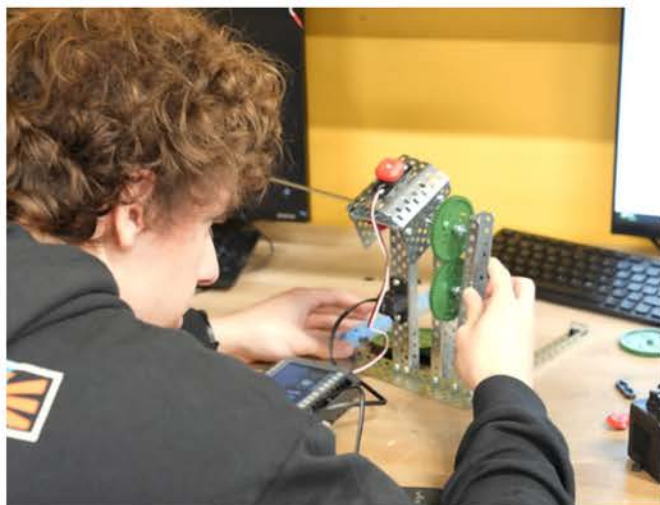
FRIDAY 3:00 PM

SPEECH & DEBATE, C209

STEM DIGEST

HPW DRONE CLUB MENTOR TRES RIOS STUDENTS

Our drone club has been partnering with Tres Rios Service Academy to bring drone education to its students. Through this collaboration, our students have been sharing their expertise with younger students, teaching them the fundamentals of drone flight, obstacle navigation, and coding. This hands-on experience has sparked lots of excitement and curiosity among the elementary students. In their next session, our Hornets plan to visit Tres Rios to help set up their obstacle course.



RUBE GOLDBERG PROJECT

Our engineering students embarked on an epic Rube Goldberg project, showcasing unparalleled collaboration! Divided into teams, each group designed and built a critical component, integrating their creations seamlessly into a cohesive, intricate machine. The end goal would be to have a small ball travel through the course.

ROBOTICS IN MOTION

Our students in Principles of Engineering showcased their innovative skills by designing and building robots that interactively high-five, fist bump, and wave! Working in teams of two, they brought robotics to life, mastering motion and control. Through hands-on learning and collaboration, students applied engineering principles to create functional, engaging robots. To innovate their designs each time, students made multiple iterations and tweaks that were needed to perfect the motions. Seeing their designs evolve into great robots was truly inspiring.



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



MR. DIMITROV

Mr. Dimitrov teaches Spanish 1 and AP Spanish at Highland Prep West. He holds a Bachelor's in Spanish and International Studies from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

He was born in Illinois, but was raised in Bulgaria up until he was sixteen. He moved back to the United States in 2017 and then permanently moved to Arizona in 2022. A polygot, Mr. Dimitrov speaks English, Spanish, and Bulgarian. His global adventures span Bulgaria, Italy, Spain and Argentina. Mr. Dimitrov's interests include making music and reading. Beyond the classroom, he is the gardening club advisor where they meet every Monday. Students and colleagues praise Mr. Dimitrov for his passion and adaptability at HPW.



FINE ARTS ASSEMBLY

Our Quarter 1 Fine Arts Assembly showcased exceptional hard work and talent! Our Beginning Choir, remarkably only two months into their singing journey, stunned the audience with impressive commitment and harmony. The Show Choir, bolstered with talented new additions, delivered a refreshing, high-energy performance.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



BEST BUDDIES MENTOR DAY

Our National Honor Society students had the invaluable experience of connecting with students at Victory Autism Academy for a Best Buddies Mentor Day.



TIM BURTON ART PROJECTS

Our art students brought out their spooky spirit and worked on self portraits inspired by the work of famous illustrator, Tim Burton. Students took inspiration from his well-known movies such as The Corpse Bride and The Nightmare Before Christmas. The art techniques most used in this project were shading and surrealism.

ATHLETICS



FUTURE HORNET CHEERLEADER CLINIC

Our Future Hornet Cheerleader Clinic was an unforgettable experience! We welcomed kindergarten through eighth grade students passionate about cheerleading to join our Hornet Cheer Team for a fun-filled day. These young athletes learned a dynamic routine, bonded with teammates and took home a commemorative bow and shirt. Watching participants' faces light up as they mastered each step was pure joy! Our cheer team loved guiding a diverse age group, fostering friendships and teamwork. The energy was electric as they performed together, showcasing their spirit and talent. The grand finale took place during halftime at our Highland Prep West football game! Our Future Hornet Cheerleaders confidently took the field, dazzling friends and family with their newly learned routine. Cheers and applause filled the air, celebrating their accomplishment and sparking lifelong memories with our cheer team!



ATHLETE SPOTLIGHTS OF THE MONTH



**DANIEL
FONSECA**

Freshman, Daniel Fonseca (#20) is an impressive newcomer who has left an indelible mark on the soccer field, earning MVP honors. Daniel's inaugural season as a Hornet soccer athlete was nothing short of remarkable. He finished with the second-most goals and most points, solidifying his position as a force to be reckoned with. What is more impressive is his resilience; he played through injuries, showcasing unwavering dedication and perseverance. Head Soccer Coach Blain praises Daniel's consistency, saying, "He was one of our most consistent players this season." Daniel's talent, work ethic and passion have set the bar high for his future. We look forward in watching him continue growing as a soccer athlete for the upcoming three years. Congratulations, Daniel, on this recognition!



**EMILIA
MEDINA**

Sophomore, Emilia Medina is a dedicated Hornet athlete who has paved her way to excellence in cross country. Emilia's standout season was highlighted by her impressive achievement as the only Highland Prep West cross country athlete to qualify for the state competition. Her unwavering work ethic and persistence drove her to deliver exceptional performances. Head Cross Country Coach, Mr. DeDecker, praises Emilia's exceptional commitment, noting, "Emilia always puts 110% into everything she does, and it truly shines through in cross country- it's a tremendous boon for her." At sectionals, Emilia secured a top-7 finish among girls, solidifying her spot at state. Congratulations, Emilia, on this well-deserved spotlight!

HAPPENINGS @ HPW

FALL BBQ 2024

Our Fall BBQ was a vibrant celebration of community and seasonal joy! Our Hornets gathered for an afternoon of delicious eats and making great memories. Face painting, yard games and pumpkin painting sparked creativity and laughter. Excitement filled the air during the cake walk and candy jar challenge. Thank you to our amazing student council who made this event possible! We cannot wait to do it again next year!



HPW HALLOWEEN PARTY

Our Hornets buzzed with excitement at this year's spook-tacular Halloween party! The evening was filled with thrills and chills, featuring a thrilling costume contest and an action-packed gum ball relay race. Music pulsed through the air, while savory snacks and fun games kept everyone entertained. Our Hornets showcased their creativity with impressive costumes, making for an unforgettable night! Congratulations to our costume contest winners and relay race champions of the night!

1ST HPW BLOOD DRIVE

Our first ever Highland Prep West Blood Drive was a success! Thank you to everyone who rolled up their sleeves to donate. We are thrilled to share that a total of 96 lives will be saved thanks to these contributions. A special shoutout to our Highland Prep West students and staff, accounting for 60 of those lives saved. We are grateful for our organizers, volunteers, and medical staff for ensuring a seamless and pleasant experience.



Highland Prep West
2024-2025 Academic Calendar

July 0 	August 20 	September 20 	October 4 14
November 17 	December 15 	January 19 	February 19
March 5 11 	April 21 	May 17 	June

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

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	
	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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