



THE HORNET HYPE

EDITION #27

HIGHLAND PREP WEST'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR



HOME OF THE HORNETS

HPW DRONE TEAMS TAKE HOME TWO AWARDS AT COMPETITION

We are so proud of our HPW Aerial Drone Teams who took home the “Teamwork Mission Champions” Award and “Communications Mission Champions” Award at the recent Madison Highland Prep 3rd Annual Aerial Drone Competition! This year, the mission is titled “Gravity”, where teams must work together to master the forces of gravity. The competition involves completing a total of four missions including the: Teamwork Mission, Autonomous Flight Mission, Piloting Mission, and Communications Mission. The two awards our

teams received were those of the Teamwork Mission and Communications Mission, therefore, they scored best on the mission where they must pilot together through the course to maximize points and the mission where they are interviewed by judges about their drone, programming, and notebook documentation. Overall, they had a great start to the season considering this is only the first competition of the year. We look forward in seeing the team’s progress as the aerial drone competition season continues to unfold. Great job, HPW Drone Teams!



EDITION #27 / DECEMBER 2024

Message from the Principal

Dear Hornet Families,

It's hard to believe that Winter Break is already upon us! As we close out the first semester, I want to take a moment to reflect on the remarkable progress our students have made and the vibrant experiences we've shared as a community.

This semester, our students have accomplished so much. They've taken their PSATs, completed ECAPs, and actively participated in two pep assemblies, multiple spirit weeks, awards ceremonies, ECAP meetings, and even a school-wide BBQ. Recently, our talented Show Choir brought holiday cheer to an assisted living center with a heartwarming performance of festive carols. Meanwhile, our VEX

Robotics and Aerial Drone teams are in the midst of their seasons, proudly representing The Hive with impressive performances at tournaments. Our Student Ambassadors have also been hard at work, visiting local middle schools to showcase the incredible educational opportunities available at HPW.

As we move forward together, the partnership between our families and our dedicated education team remains vital to the continued success of our students. With the holiday season upon us, I want to extend my warmest wishes to each of you for a safe Winter Break. I am so proud of everything we've accomplished as a school community this semester and look forward to an even brighter year ahead.

Sincerely,

Sharon Pozzi • Principal



School Calendar

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

FEBRUARY 2025

2/11 NHS Blood Drive
2/14 Winter BBQ
2/20 Spring Open House & STEM Showcase
2/20 Spring NHS Induction Ceremony
2/28 Pickleball Tournament

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

MARCH 2025

3/3 Visual Arts Showcase- 3rd Qtr.
3/22 Incoming Freshmen Course Registration
3/26 Academic Awards Assembly- 3rd Qtr.
3/28 Spring Pep Assembly
3/29 HPA SeaPerch Qualifying Event

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



OREGON TECH PRESENTATION

We hosted a virtual college presentation with a representative from Oregon Institute of Technology to speak with our juniors as they prepare for their college search next year. Our juniors got the chance to learn about the degrees they offer as well as their admissions process.



READY FOR STEM SCIENCE FAIR

Our engineering and science students have been working diligently on projects that could be showcased at the Highland Prep Academies STEM Science Fair. After a selection process done by our engineering and science teachers, the chosen projects will be displayed on Tuesday, December 10th, from 5:00- 6:30pm at our HPW Gym.

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

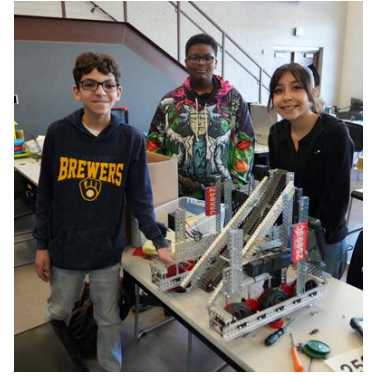
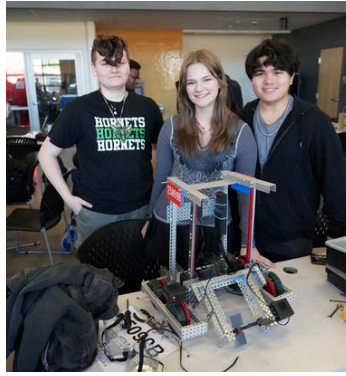
FRIDAY 3:00 PM

SPEECH & DEBATE, C209

STEM DIGEST

VEX ROBOTICS HAVE GREAT START TO THE SEASON

Our HPW VEX Robotics teams kicked off their season with a strong showing at the Highland Prep 3rd Annual VEX Robotics State Qualifying Event. Although they didn't take home any awards, we're incredibly proud of their hard work and dedication. This was many of our students' first time competing in an actual tournament considering we have lots of new freshmen this year. Although it has been a new experience for them, they have all demonstrated remarkable skill and teamwork.



BUILDING VEX TEST BEDS

Our Aerospace Engineering students have achieved a major milestone by designing and building test beds from scratch. Taking their skills to the next level, they have also learned to program these test beds to perform specific tasks, such as turning on a light or rotating a wheel. We are thrilled to see our students get more and more comfortable with programming and testing. They are growing into strong, innovative engineers, equipped with hands-on experience and a passion for problem solving. We can't wait to see the amazing things they'll create!

ALGEBRA 2 TEAMWORK

Our Algebra 2 students collaborated in an engaging simulation activity, working together in table groups to tackle the math problem. To showcase their work, each group used poster paper to meticulously document their problem-solving process, including each step, table, and calculation. Each member helped solve a step to the problem.



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



MS. ROBERTS

Ms. Roberts teaches Algebra 2, Geometry, and Pre-Calc at Highland Prep West. She received her Bachelor's in Mathematics with an emphasis in secondary

education at Northern Illinois University. She focuses on teaching mathematics to build problem-solving and critical thinking skills. Rebecca recently moved to Arizona and values the time she now gets to spend with her family. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, camping, and water sports. Some of her favorite things include dogs, ice cream, the Chicago Cubs, and the Broadway musical Hamilton. Beyond the classroom, she is the coach for the HPW Girls Basketball Team and club advisor for the Chess/Game Club and ACT Prep Club.



SHOW CHOIR PERFORMS AT ASSISTED LIVING CENTER

Our Show Choir brought joy and festive cheer to the Sonoran Hills Assisted Living Center with a special holiday performance. Our talented Hornets sang their energetic pep assembly songs, as well as heartwarming Christmas carols to the residents.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



YOUTH ALIVE WARMS UP THE HIVE WITH HOT CHOCOLATE

Our Youth Alive Club recently warmed up the cold winter morning by selling hot chocolate for a dollar. Be on the lookout for them again as they plan to continue to be fundraising outside of Mr. Thornton's room.



SOPHOMORE, RIANNA TREVIZO WINS ASU ART COMPETITION

Congratulations to our sophomore, Rianna Trevizo, who was one of the winners of an illustration competition through the Hispanic Mother Daughter Program at Arizona State University. Rianna was recently honored at the program's 40th anniversary celebration.

ATHLETICS

CHEER TEAM QUALIFIES FOR NATIONALS

Huge congratulations to our incredible cheer team on securing 2nd place at the USA Regionals and earning a spot at Nationals! They delivered an outstanding performance, showcasing their talent, dedication, and team spirit. We couldn't be prouder of their achievement and growth as a program. They have been absolutely killing it this 2024-2025 season and we cannot wait to cheer them on at Nationals! Let's go, Hornet Cheer!



GIRLS VOLLEYBALL ATTEND ASU GIRLS BASKETBALL GAME

Our girls' volleyball team had an unforgettable experience thanks to their head coach, Mahogany! They attended an ASU girls' basketball game, where they got to meet the talented athletes, score some awesome ASU merchandise and autographs, and even made a appearance on the jumbotron! This exciting outing was a wonderful opportunity for our student-athletes to bond together as a team and be inspired by the Sun Devils' teamwork, determination, and passion for the game.

SPORTS SCHEDULE:

Basketball- Girls	JV	12/9/2024 4:00 PM	Phoenix Christian High School
Basketball- Girls	V	12/9/2024 6:00 PM	Phoenix Christian High School
Soccer- Girls	V	12/11/2024 3:30 PM	Heritage Academy Laveen
Basketball- Boys	JV	12/16/2024 4:00 PM	Gilbert Classical Academy
Basketball- Girls	V	12/16/2024 5:30 PM	Gilbert Classical Academy
Basketball- Boys	V	12/16/2024 7:00 PM	Gilbert Classical Academy
Soccer- Girls	V	12/18/2024 6:00 PM	Madison Highland Prep
Basketball- Boys	JV	12/19/2024 4:00 PM	Arete Prep
Basketball- Girls	V	12/19/2024 5:30 PM	Arete Prep
Basketball- Boys	V	12/19/2024 7:00 PM	Arete Prep

HAPPENINGS @ HPW

FUTURE FRESHMEN NIGHT

We recently hosted Future Freshmen Night, welcoming prospective Highland Prep West families to our campus! The evening was packed with excitement, as students and families explored our school community. They discovered our diverse range of clubs, sports, and academics through interactive booths, took guided campus tours, and met our dedicated HPW faculty. We look forward in welcoming our future freshmen!



ARTS ACADEMY AT ESTRELLA MOUNTAIN SHADOW DAY

We were thrilled to host students from the Arts Academy at Estrella Mountain for a shadow day at the Hive! Our guests joined their Hornet peers in classes, participated in engaging class activities, and even enjoyed lunch together. This immersive experience gave them a glimpse of a life as a Hornet, and we're excited about the possibility of welcoming them back as official students of our Highland Prep West community next year!

HOLIDAY SPIRIT WEEK FOR 12/9-12/13:

Monday



Cozy Christmas

Tuesday



Winter White-Out

Wednesday



Santa Helpers

Thursday



Trees vs Gifts

Friday



Pajama Day

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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623-274-2540 • HighlandPrepWest.org

