



THE HORNET HYPE

EDITION #29

HIGHLAND PREP WEST'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2025

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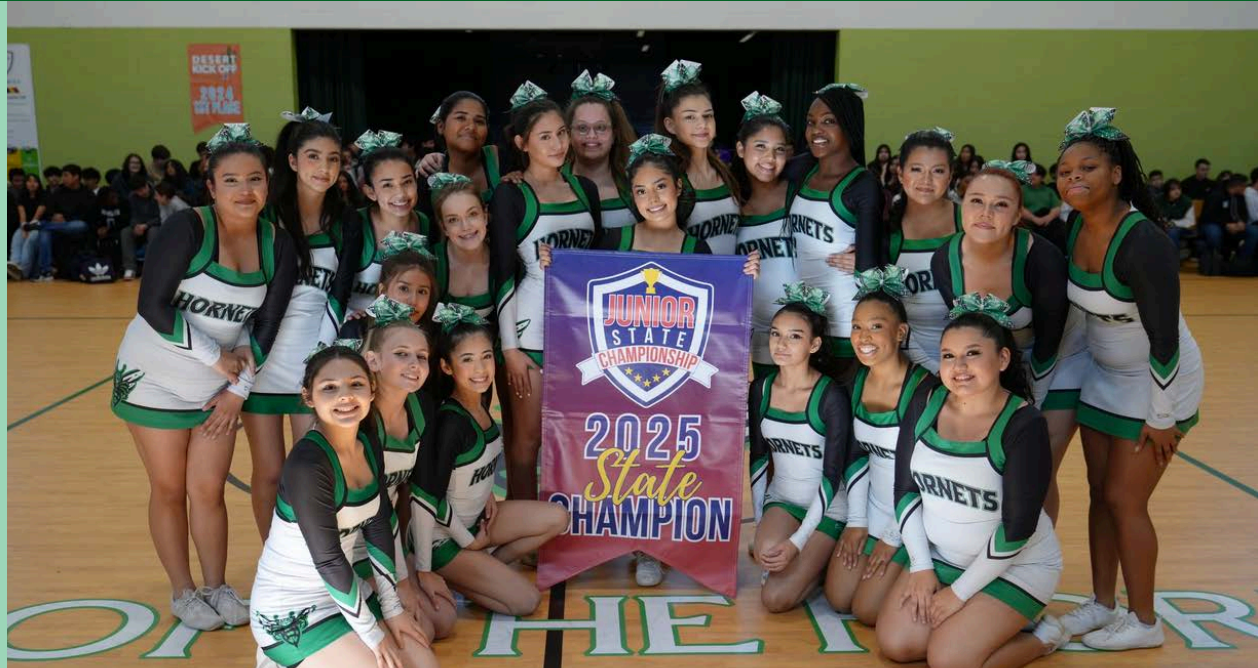
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HOME OF THE HORNETS

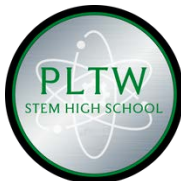
OUR HORNET CHEER SQUAD IS THE 2025 JV STATE CHAMPIONS!

Our Hornet Cheer Squad made history by claiming the JV State Champion title! This incredible achievement was the culmination of their hard work, dedication, and innovative thinking. In a bold move to elevate their performance, the squad made strategic changes to their routine, incorporating more girls and intricate stunts that left the judges in awe.

The team's adaptability and willingness to take risks paid off. By expanding their stunt groups and incorporating cradles to full downs, each member

had the opportunity to shine. Special recognition went to freshman Lilia, who mastered a full down in just one week, and Natalie, who perfected her front walk through tireless practice. The flyers also played a crucial role, flawlessly executing complex moves that added to the overall impact of the routine.

This championship win is a testament to the team's unity, perseverance, and passion for cheerleading. We couldn't be prouder of our Hornet Cheer Squad and can't wait to see what the future holds for them.



EDITION #29 / FEBRUARY 2025

Message from the Principal

Dear Hornet Families,

The new semester is off to a busy start! We recently wrapped up a successful winter sports season, celebrating the hard work and dedication of our student-athletes in girls' soccer, girls' and boys' basketball, and cheer. This week, we kick off spring sports- softball, baseball, and track.

Excitement is also building for our SeaPerch season, with teams actively constructing and coding their underwater robots. Meanwhile, our Principal's Student Ambassadors continue to represent our school at community events, most recently attending College and Career Day at Garden Lakes Elementary School.

Last Saturday, we were thrilled to welcome

over 100 Future Hornets for enrollment placement testing. The buzz of excitement for the new year is definitely in the air.

In The Hive, we continue to thrive with engaging events such as our Winter BBQ this week, our highly anticipated STEM Open House later this month, and the upcoming Course Registration period. We are also thrilled to announce Girls Flag Football coming for Fall 2025! This is an exciting expansion, and we look forward to seeing our students compete.

Thank you for your continued support in making the Hive a thriving and dynamic community. We look forward to a fantastic semester ahead!

Sincerely,

Sharon Pozzi • Principal



School Calendar

FEBRUARY 2025

2/8 Incoming Freshmen Placement Testing
2/11 NHS Blood Drive
2/14 Winter BBQ
2/20 Spring Open House & STEM Showcase
2/20 Spring NHS Induction Ceremony

APRIL 2025

4/5 HPA 2nd Annual SeaPerch Competition
4/18 Spring Holiday (No School)
4/21-4/25 Spring Spirit Week
4/25 Spring BBQ
4/29 Science Fair @ Madison Highland Prep

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

MAY 2025

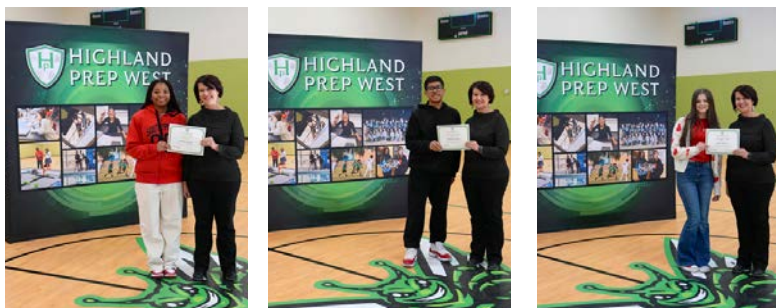
5/1 Talent Show
5/9 End of Year Dance
5/15 Band & Choir Concert
5/19 Academic Awards Banquet
5/23 Last Day of School

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



COLLEGE & CAREER DAY

We were thrilled to be a part of Garden Lakes Elementary School's College and Career Day event. Our students had a blast interacting with the attendees, sharing insights about being a college prep school, and showcasing one of our impressive competition robots from our VEX Robotics team. We'd like to thank Garden Lakes for this opportunity to inspire and motivate the next generation of learners.



ACADEMIC AWARDS ASSEMBLY

We held our 2nd Quarter Academic Awards Assembly, honoring students who demonstrated exceptional academic achievement during the second quarter. The assembly recognized our freshmen, sophomores, and juniors who earned spots on the Honor Roll and Principal's List.

EXTRACURRICULAR SCHEDULE:

MONDAY 2:30 PM

CHESS/GAME CLUB, C206

STUDENT COUNCIL, C205

YOUTH ALIVE, C201

SHOW CHOIR, C202

MONDAY 3:30 PM

GARDENING CLUB, C210

TUESDAY 2:30 PM

PERSONAL FITNESS, C102

SEAPERCH, C104

TUESDAY 3:30 PM

VEX ROBOTICS, C207

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

ACT/SAT MATH PREP CLUB, C206

FUTSOL CLUB, GYM

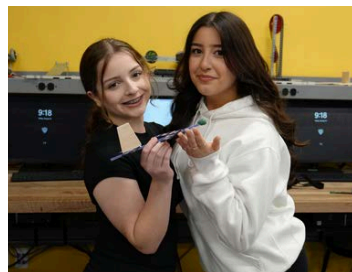
FRIDAY 3:30 PM

VEX ROBOTICS, C207

STEM DIGEST

DESIGNING GLIDERS IN AEROSPACE ENGINEERING

Our Aerospace Engineering students took to the skies with their own custom-designed gliders. Using online software, students designed and optimized their glider prototypes, which were then brought to life using balsa wood. With their creations in hand, the students took to the field to conduct flight tests, carefully analyzing the effects of nose mass, angle of attack, and launch speed on their glider's performance. Great job, engineers!



DETERMINING ACIDITY IN AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Our AP Environmental Science students dove into the world of environmental chemistry with an acid rain lab! During the experiment, students carefully measured the pH of two distinct solutions, utilizing bromothymol blue, a clever pH indicator that changes color in response to acidity levels. By observing the color changes and correlating them with pH, students gained hands-on insight into the principles of acid-base chemistry and its relevance to environmental issues like acid rain.

THE 2ND ANNUAL HPW AERIAL DRONE COMPETITION

We were thrilled to host the 2nd Annual HPW Aerial Drone Competition, marking the exciting finale to the drone season! Our pilots, Ruby and Makayla, demonstrated exceptional skill and dedication, despite facing a short-staffed team that day. We are so proud of the team and look forward to seeing their continued growth and success.



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



MR. DUNN

Mr. Dunn teaches Civil Engineering, Introduction to Engineering Design, and Integrated Algebra & Geometry. He holds a Bachelor's in Biomedical Engineering (BME) from

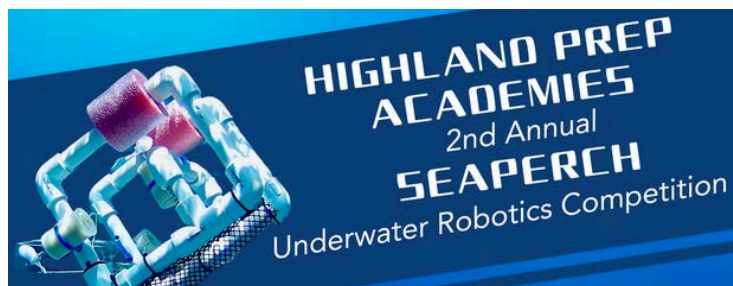
Arizona State University. He was born and raised in Princeton, New Jersey. Mr. Dunn's interests include powerlifting and building Gundams. Beyond the classroom, he helps as the Strength and Conditioning Coordinator for Football and Volleyball and is the Main Advisor for VEX Robotics and Co-Advisor for SeaPerch Robotics. He is an outstanding educator who has been instrumental in elevating our STEM programs. We are grateful to have Mr. Dunn as part of the HPW team and celebrate his contributions to the Hive.



GARDENING CLUB BRING BEAUTY TO HPW CAMPUS

Our Gardening Club members did a fantastic job transforming our school's front yard into a vibrant and welcoming space! They worked together to plant fresh flowers, adding a pop of color and beauty to the Hive. Thank you, Gardening Club!

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



SEAPERCH TOURNAMENT

Get Ready to Dive Into Underwater Robotics! Join us for our Highland Prep Academies 2nd Annual SeaPerch Underwater Robotics Competition! It will take place on Saturday, March 29th, 2025, at the Rhodes Aquatic Complex from 8am to 1pm. We hope to see you there!



SKELETON COMPOSITIONS

Our talented art students explored the intriguing combination of India ink and charcoal to create mesmerizing skeleton compositions. Beginning with India ink, they crafted intricate, enclosed patterns that served as the foundation for their artwork. Then, they added bones using charcoal to bring their art to life.

ATHLETICS



HPW SOFTBALL ATTEND GCU SEASON OPENER

Our aspiring softball players had an incredible experience as they joined Coach Kersh and Coach Spoon at the Grand Canyon University (GCU) season opener! Not only did they get to witness the excitement of a collegiate softball game, but they also had the opportunity to meet and interact with GCU softball athletes. To top it off, they received a free GCU softball shirt that was signed by the team. This special outing was a fantastic way to inspire and motivate our young athletes as they prepare for their own softball season.



SPRING SPORTS ATHLETIC UPDATES:

Planning to try out for a Spring sport?

- All students interested in participating in Spring Athletics must be cleared through Register My Athlete BEFORE tryouts. No exceptions!
- Visit the link: (registermyathlete.com) to complete your registration and upload all required documents. Questions? Contact our Director of Athletics, Mr. Aaron Frank, at afrank@highlandprepaz.org.

UPCOMING GAMES SCHEDULE:

Baseball	2/26	3:45 PM	Antelope Union	A
Softball	2/26	3:45 PM	Antelope Union	A
Baseball	2/28	3:00 PM	Heritage Academy	H
Baseball	3/4	3:00 PM	Kingman Academy	H
Softball	3/4	3:00 PM	Kingman Academy	H
Baseball	3/6	3:45 PM	Gilbert Classical	H
Softball	3/6	3:45 PM	Gilbert Classical	H
Baseball	3/17	3:45 PM	Wickenburg	A
Softball	3/17	3:45 PM	Wickenburg	A
Baseball	3/19	3:00 PM	Coronado	H
Baseball	3/20	3:00 PM	Mountainside	H
Softball	3/20	3:00 PM	Mountainside	A
Softball	3/25	4:00 PM	Gilbert Christian	A
Baseball	3/31	1:00 PM	Mayer	A
Softball	3/31	1:00 PM	Mayer	A

HAPPENINGS @ HPW

UNVEILING OUR FIRST HPW BANNERS FOR THE GYM

We're beyond proud to have unveiled our first-ever HPW banners! The inaugural banners to adorn our gym are a testament to the hard work and excellence of our student-athletes. The first banner commemorates our Hornet Cheer team's recent victory as JV State Champions, while the second banner celebrates our Hornet Boys Soccer team's win as the AIA Central Region Champions.



HORNET SPIRIT GALORE AT HPW WINTER PEP ASSEMBLY

Hornet spirit was electric at our Winter Pep Assembly! We honored our outstanding winter sports teams, celebrating their teamwork and dedication. But that was just the beginning- our students then took center stage, competing in thrilling games of Green Light Red Light and Tug of War against teachers that left everyone cheering. The grand finale was a spirited face-off between classes, with each grade level showing off their energy.

WINTER WONDERLAND

Our Hornets had an unforgettable evening at the Winter Wonderland Formal, surrounded by music, wonderland decor, and great friends! The night was a perfect opportunity for our students to let loose, de-stress, and make magical memories together. As they danced the night away, the joy and excitement were through the roof, creating a special Winter Formal that will be remembered.



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