



THE HORNET HYPE

EDITION #32

HIGHLAND PREP WEST'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR



HOME OF THE HORNETS

HIGHLAND PREP WEST INTRODUCES INAUGURAL SENIOR CLASS!

Highland Prep West is excited to announce that it is entering its fourth year and welcoming its inaugural senior class! This momentous occasion brings with it a host of thrilling events, including Senior Sunrise, Senior Sunset, Senior Sendoff, Senior Breakfast, and the highly anticipated events, Prom and Graduation.

In preparation for this new chapter, Highland Prep West is also expanding its curriculum to offer an array of new courses. The school will introduce AP English Language and Composition, AP Chemistry,

AP Biology, College Algebra, Pre-Calculus, Calculus I, English 7-8 Honors, Physics 1-2, Digital Electronics, and Beginner and Advanced Drama. These new courses will challenge students and set them up for college.

The addition of a senior class and new courses marks an exciting new chapter for Highland Prep West. As the first senior class embarks on this momentous journey, HPW is filled with enthusiasm and anticipation for the many milestones ahead.



EDITION #32 / MAY 2025

Message from the Principal

Dear Hornet Families,

As we approach the end of the school year, I want to take a moment to recognize the incredible efforts of our students, staff, and families. This season is filled with learning, achievement, and celebration.

Our juniors recently participated in a college visit to Embry-Riddle, gaining valuable insight into future academic opportunities. Students also demonstrated their innovation and scientific curiosity during the HPA Science Fair hosted at Highland Prep Surprise.

We are deep into AP exam season, and our students are rising to the challenge in subjects such as English Literature, Statis-

tics, Environmental Science, and Spanish. In the arts, our students showcased their talents through the Visual Art Showcase, the Spring Strings and Choir Concert, and our Fine Arts Assembly. Our End of the Year Dance was a fantastic evening for students to relax and celebrate together.

As the year closes, I want to wish all of our families a safe and joyful summer. We're proud of all that we've accomplished together this year, and we're excited for what's ahead. The 2025–2026 school year will mark an exciting milestone as we welcome our very first class of Hornet seniors. We look forward to continuing this journey of growth, achievement, and community together.

Sincerely,

Sharon Pozzi • Principal



School Calendar

MAY 2025

5/9	End of Year Dance
5/15	Visual Arts Showcase- 4 th Qtr.
5/15	Band & Choir Concert
5/19	Academic Awards Banquet
5/23	Last Day of School

SUMMER SCHOOL 2025

6/2-6/26	Summer School-Session 1
6/2-6/26	Future Freshmen Academy-Session 1
7/7-7/24	Summer School-Session 2
7/7-7/24	Future Freshmen Academy-Session 2

SUMMER CAMPS 2025

7/7-7/10	Aerial Drone Camp	7/14-7/24	Football Camp
7/7-7/10	Women's Volleyball Camp	7/14-7/24	Soccer Camp
7/14-7/17	VEX Robotics Camp	7/21-7/24	Cheer Camp
7/14-7/17	Musical Theatre Camp	Visit highlandprepwest.org for more!	
7/14-7/17	Women's Flag Football Camp		

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



EMBRY-RIDDLE CAMPUS TOUR

A group of our juniors recently had the opportunity to tour Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, gaining valuable insight into the diverse engineering programs and hands-on aviation classes offered. During their visit, they explored the university's cutting-edge facilities and student research opportunities. The campus tour provided a unique glimpse into the possibilities beyond high school, inspiring and motivating our juniors as they consider their future.



REGISTER FOR SUMMER CAMPS!

Get ready for an unforgettable summer experience! We're excited to offer a wide range of summer camps that cater to diverse passions and interests. Whether you're into sports, arts, or engineering, we've got a program that's right for you. Swing by the front office to reserve your spot today!

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 AND BUILDING AUTOMATAS IN STYLE

In their latest engineering project, our Introduction to Engineering and Design students showcased their design skills by building automata boxes. The challenge required students to design and construct a box that would incorporate shapes and a turning rod to successfully automate the motion of objects. Embracing the opportunity for creativity, many students opted for creating designs inspired by games like Pac-Man and The Super Mario Bros.



PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING AUTO GOLF PROJECT

In our Principles of Engineering classes, students tackled the Auto Golf project, designing and building robots to master the art of projectile motion and achieve the ultimate goal of sinking a hole-in-one. Through a process of iterative design and rigorous testing, students refined their robots, experimenting with different variables to optimize their performance. As they worked to perfect their designs, students applied key concepts in physics and engineering to consistently score a hole-in-one.

OUR HORNET PROJECTS FROM THE HPA SPRING SCIENCE FAIR!



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



MS. ROBERTS

Ms. Roberts teaches Pre-Calculus, Geometry, and Algebra 2 at Highland Prep West. She holds a Bachelor's in Mathematics with an emphasis in secondary education from Northern Illinois University. Ms. Roberts was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. She is going on her fourth year as a teacher at HPW as she has been here since the school first opened. Her interests include spending time with her corgi, building legos, and rollerblading. Beyond the classroom, she serves as the Girls Basketball head coach and ACT Prep club advisor. We are so fortunate to have Ms. Roberts a part of the Hive and we thank her for her dedication and support.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



VISUAL ARTS SHOWCASE

The Visual Arts Showcase was a celebration of the stunning artwork our students worked on this quarter. Hornet friends and families gathered to support the projects that were on display. To conclude the evening, we recognized the artwork that received awards.



SATELLITE MAPPING IN AEROSPACE ENGINEERING

Our Aerospace Engineering students embarked on a satellite mapping challenge, utilizing robots to collect data and map their surroundings. Through this activity, they gained insights into the technologies and techniques used in space exploration.



CHOIR & STRINGS CONCERT

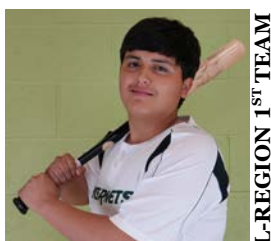
The Choir and Strings Concert was a resounding success, showcasing the remarkable growth and dedication of our students. Many of our students had never picked up an instrument or sung in a choir before, but their hard work and perseverance paid off as they took to the stage with confidence and elegance.

ATHLETICS

AIA ALL REGION HONORS

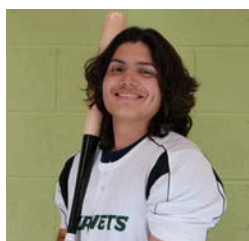
AIA All-Region Honors recognize top-performing student-athletes in their respective conferences and regions within the Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA). These prestigious awards acknowledge exceptional talent, dedication, and achievement in sports. Student-athletes who receive All-Region Honors have demonstrated outstanding performance and commitment to their craft, earning recognition among the best in their region. We're thrilled to announce the following student-athletes who earned recognition in Baseball and Softball.

BASEBALL:



**LEONARDO
VILLANUEVA**

ALL-REGION 1ST TEAM



LINCOLN BLANCO

ALL-REGION 2ND TEAM



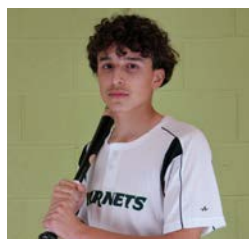
MATEO ESPINOZA

ALL-REGION 2ND TEAM



TRYSTAN ARENDT

HONORABLE MENTION



MATTHEW LEWIS

HONORABLE MENTION



JAMES WHITEHEAD

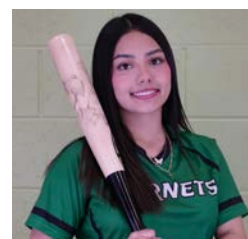
HONORABLE MENTION

SOFTBALL:



EMILY FIERROS

ALL-REGION 2ND TEAM



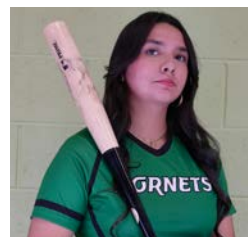
NATALIE PALOMINO

ALL-REGION 2ND TEAM



DIVINA HERNANDEZ

HONORABLE MENTION



BIANCA VEGA

HONORABLE MENTION



MAGIC WARNER

HONORABLE MENTION



TRACK & FIELD SEASON RECAP

The Highland Prep West Track and Field team wrapped up an impressive season with notable achievements at the state level. Troy Bateman led the charge, earning 6th place overall in the state for the 400m dash, while Jordan Jefferson threw his way to 19th place in the state for shot put. These standout performances capped off a season marked by dedication, perseverance, and teamwork. Throughout the season, the team demonstrated its strength and depth, with highlights including a 1st place finish at the Trivium Prep Meet and a 3rd place finish at the Phoenix Christian Meet. Both the girls and boys teams worked tirelessly to achieve great results, and their hard work paid off. Congratulations to the Highland Prep West Track and Field team on a successful season!

HAPPENINGS @ HPW

A NIGHT OF FUN AT THE GREAT GATSBY DANCE

Our Great Gatsby Spring Dance was a dazzling spectacle that transported our Hornets to the roaring twenties. Our Hornets brought out their best themed attire, with flapper dresses, pearls, and feathers. The DJ kept everyone dancing the night away with friends, while the photo booth captured memorable moments. It was a night to remember, filled with laughter, music, and the joy of friends.



TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK AT THE HIVE

Teacher Appreciation Week at the Hive was a success, thanks to a wicked Wizard of Oz theme that brought daily surprises! From Glinda's iconic hair tosses to emerald city treats and gift cards, every moment was a celebration of our teachers' hard work and dedication. The Wizard's visit was a special highlight, granting teachers' heart's desires and making the week truly unforgettable. We're deeply grateful to everyone who made this week possible.

WRAPPING UP THE YEAR WITH OUR SPRING BBQ

Our Spring BBQ was a buzzing end-of-year celebration where our Hornets had an absolute blast! Students enjoyed from yard games, food, and soaking up the fun in the sun. The Soak-a-Junior activity was a splashing good time, adding to the excitement. Overall, it was a wonderful way to make memories and wrap up the year together.



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

2025

Summer Camps

Aerial Drones at HPW Engineering Labs

Mon to Thu • July 7th – 10th
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

The staff will focus activities on technical skills in preparation for the 2025-2026 Aerial Drones competition. No equipment will be needed.

Fee: \$75.00

Women's Volleyball at HPW Gym

Mon to Thu • July 7th – 10th
8:00 am – 11:00 am

The staff will focus activities on conditioning, volleyball skills, and teamwork drills. No equipment will be needed.

Fee: \$75.00

VEX Robotics at HPW Engineering Labs

Mon to Thu • July 14th – 17th
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

The staff will focus activities on design, programming, and build skills in preparation for the 2025-2026 VEX competition game. No equipment will be needed.

Fee: \$125.00

Musical Theatre at HPW Music Room

Mon to Thu • July 14th – 17th
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

The staff will focus activities on a mini performance, including acting, singing, and dancing. Perfect for aspiring performers. Don't miss your chance to shine on stage!

Fee: \$75.00

Women's Flag Football at HPW Field

Mon to Thu • July 14th – 17th
8:00 am – 11:00 am

The women's flag football camp is open to all incoming and current student-athletes.

No equipment will be needed.

Fee: \$125.00

Football Camp at HPW Field

Mon to Thu • July 14th – 24th
8:00 am – 11:00 am

The football staff will focus camp activities on conditioning, offensive and defensive skills, and teamwork drills. No equipment will be needed.

Fee: \$125.00

Soccer at HPW Field

Mon to Thu • July 14th – 24th
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

The staff will focus camp activities on conditioning, offensive and defensive skills, and teamwork drills.

No equipment will be needed.

Fee: \$75.00

Cheer at HPW Gym

Mon to Thu • July 21st – 24th
8:00 am – 11:00 am

The staff will focus activities on conditioning, cheer and dance skills, and teamwork drills.

No equipment will be needed.

Fee: \$75.00



HORNETS



HIGHLAND
PREP WEST
AVONDALE, ARIZONA

Registration forms available at: highlandprepwest.org