



THE HORNET HYPE

EDITION #34

HIGHLAND PREP WEST'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2025

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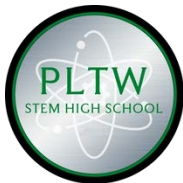
HOME OF THE HORNETS

HPW FOOTBALL MAKES EXCITING VARSITY DEBUT THIS YEAR!

Highland Prep West is proud to announce that its football team will be competing at the varsity level for the first time in the school's history, marking a significant milestone in its fourth year. The team recently held its first intrasquad scrimmage on Thursday, August 14th, following a productive summer camp that allowed the players to gel and prepare for the upcoming season.

Led by new head coach Allen Ferguson, the team is eager to make its mark on the competitive landscape.

Coach Ferguson brings over 23 years of coaching experience to Highland Prep West, with a focus on building a culture of accountability, teamwork, and relentless effort. He is passionate about using football as a tool to teach life lessons, build confidence, and create opportunities for his players' futures. According to Coach Ferguson, "The boys have grown a whole lot since day one. I believe we have a championship caliber team." With a talented senior class, the team aims to make a special run this season, with district victory being the ultimate goal.



EDITION #34 / AUGUST 2025

Message from the Principal

Dear Hornet Families,

The 2025–2026 school year is off to a strong start! August was filled with energy and excitement as we welcomed our students back to campus. Our orientations gave each grade level a fresh start, Senior Sunrise provided a memorable kickoff for our Class of 2026, and Club Rush showcased the many opportunities for students to get connected and involved. We also celebrated our students' achievements during the Academic Awards Assembly and began preparing our seniors for their next steps with college and career readiness workshops.

As we move into September, there is much to look forward to. Spirit Week, our Fall

Pep Assembly, and Homecoming promise to bring our community together in celebration. Parents, thank you for partnering with us through our Parent Workshops, where we continue to provide tools and resources to support student success. And mark your calendars for our Fall Open House & STEM Showcase, as well as our National Honor Society Induction Ceremony—both events highlighting the hard work and dedication of our students.

We are proud of the momentum we've built and look forward to a year of growth, achievement, and school spirit. Thank you for your ongoing support in making The Hive a place where every Hornet can thrive! Go Hornets!

With gratitude,

Sharon Pozzi • Principal



School Calendar

AUGUST 2025

8/15	Club Rush
8/20	Academic Awards Assembly- 4 th Qtr.
8/22	Yearbook Picture Day
8/26	Parent Workshop: Freshman Year
8/29	Fall Athletic Picture Day

OCTOBER 2025

10/1	Fine Arts Assembly- 1 st Qtr.
10/6-10/10	Fall Break
10/20	Parent Workshop: Scholarships 101
10/29	Academic Awards Assembly- 1 st Qtr.
10/31	Fall BBQ

SEPTEMBER 2025

9/6	Homecoming Dance
9/9	Parent Workshop: Understanding GPA
9/13	2 nd Annual HPW Golf Tournament
9/16	Fall Open House & STEM Showcase
9/16	Fall NHS Induction Ceremony

NOVEMBER 2025

11/6	NHS Blood Drive
11/11	Veteran's Day (No School)
11/14	Winter Athletic Picture Day
11/18	Parent Workshop: Preparing for FAFSA
11/26-11/28	Thanksgiving Break

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



WELCOME OUR NEW ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, MR. MOORE!

We're delighted to welcome Mr. David Moore, our new Assistant Principal! With a career spanning teaching, assistant principal, and principal

roles, Mr. Moore brings an array of valuable experience to our school. When not in the office, he enjoys, golf, swimming, reading, hiking, and spending time with his family. We're so excited to have Mr. Moore a part of The Hive community and are confident that his expertise and passion will be a fantastic asset to Highland Prep West.

UPCOMING COLLEGE PRESENTATIONS:

8/18	Arizona Christian University
8/21	Arizona State University
8/28	University of Arizona
9/17	Northern Arizona Univ. (Campus Trip)
9/18	Northern Arizona University
9/30	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

EXTRACURRICULAR SCHEDULE:

MONDAY 2:30 PM

GAME CLUB, MS. ROBERTS
SHOW CHOIR, MS. LOCKE

MONDAY 3:30 PM

MATHLETES, MS. FILLBRANDT
YEARBOOK, MS. PAIGE/MR. CONTI

TUESDAY 2:30 PM

AERIAL DRONES, MR. IMBUS
STUDENT COUNCIL, MS. KERSH
CHESS CLUB, MR. BERNARD
SPEECH & DEBATE, MR. CONTI

TUESDAY 3:30 PM

SEAPERCH, MR. BAKER
VEX ROBOTICS, MR. DUNN

THURSDAY 2:30 PM

CYBERSECURITY, MR. DEDECKER
SPORTS CLUB, COACH BLAIN
SPEECH & DEBATE, MR. CONTI
NHS, MS. WILSON

THURSDAY 3:30 PM

YEARBOOK, MS. PAIGE
SHOW CHOIR, MS. LOCKE
POETRY CLUB, MR. NARRON
CULTURE CLUB, MR. ARELLANO

FRIDAY 2:30 PM

FUTSAL CLUB, MS. KERSH
SEWING CLUB, MS. FILLBRANDT

FRIDAY 3:30 PM

VEX ROBOTICS, MR. DUNN

STEM DIGEST

ANALYZING TIME & DISTANCE IN TUMBLE BUGGIE LAB

Mr. Baker's physics students conducted a hands-on lab to explore the relationship between time and distance when velocity is constant. Working in groups, they recorded the distance their tumble buggies traveled at set time intervals. After recording the data, they analyzed their findings through the use of graphs and equations. Through this lab, students gained a deeper understanding of data collection, analysis, and interpretation.



FROM TESTING CIRCUITS ONLINE TO ACTUAL BREADBOARDING

In our Principles of Engineering class with Mr. Imbus, our engineering students bridged the gap between theory and practice by transitioning from online circuit simulations to actual breadboarding. By working with physical components and testing their circuit designs, they developed essential skills in circuit analysis and troubleshooting techniques. This practice helps prepare them for more complex engineering challenges.



ARCHITECTURAL STYLES IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

Our civil engineering students, under the guidance of Mr. Dunn, designed and built model houses inspired by distinct architecture styles. From modern to classical, each structure showcased the students' attention to detail and understanding of various architectural elements. The end result was an impressive collective of homes, each reflecting the unique characteristics of its respective style.





TEACHER SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH: MR. IMBUS

We're thrilled to spotlight Mr. Imbus, a dedicated educator who has been an integral part

of Highland Prep West. With a background in mechanical engineering and a master's in teaching, he's guided students in numerous STEM projects, including 3D printing, robotics, and programming. As the proud advisor of our Aerial Drones club, Mr. Imbus inspires students to think creatively and develop problem-solving skills. We're grateful for his tireless efforts and dedication to shaping future innovators and STEM leaders! His impact on our school community is immeasurable, and we're lucky to have him a part of our Hornet Staff!



TESTING WATER QUALITY IN AP CHEMISTRY

Our chemistry students put their scientific skills to the test by analyzing water samples around campus to determine their Total Dissolved Solid (TSD) levels. Through this lab, students learned the importance of having access to safe water.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



STILL LIFE ART SKETCHES

Our art students showcased their creativity and skill in a series of stunning still life drawings centered around the theme of the fall season. With strong attention to detail, they captured the warmth and coziness of the season through depictions of pumpkins, leaves, and flowers.



CREATIVE DRAMA SKITS

Our drama students delivered an impressive showcase of short skits, demonstrating their creativity and talent! From crafting engaging scripts to bringing characters to life on stage, these students impressed with their hard work and skill. With memorized lines and confident performances, they showcased hard work and passion.

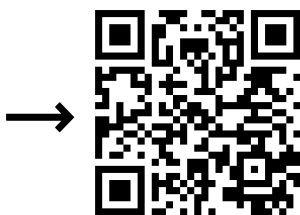
ATHLETICS

FALL SPORTS ARE OFFICIALLY IN SESSION

The wait is over, and fall sports are officially in session. Our athletes trained hard with fall tryouts, and we can't wait to see them in action this year.



*Scan the QR code to
start purchasing your
tickets for upcoming
HPW sports games!*



GOFAN FOR TICKET SALES

Highland Prep West is all-digital for admission into athletic games. Spectators who would like to attend a home athletic game must purchase tickets through GoFan. Tickets can be purchased by visiting gofan.co and searching for Highland Prep West. Tickets cost \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. Tickets are required for entry and must be shown at the admission table. With our digital ticketing system, spectators can now purchase tickets online in advance, access tickets directly on their mobile device, and enjoy a seamless and convenient experience when going to school games. To follow our Highland Prep West teams and stay up-to-date on schedules, scores, and news, visit <https://azpreps365.com/schools/2318>.

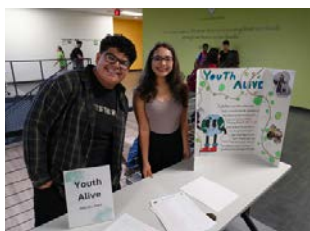
UPCOMING GAMES SCHEDULE:

Football	8/22	7:00 PM	Lincoln Prep	A
Boys Soccer	8/27	6:00 PM	North Valley Christian	H
JV Girls VB	8/28	5:00 PM	Madison Highland Prep	H
V Girls VB	8/28	6:00 PM	Madison Highland Prep	H
Football	8/28	7:00 PM	Madison Highland Prep	H
Boys Soccer	8/29	4:00 PM	The Gregory School	A
Boys Soccer	9/3	4:00 PM	St. Augustine H.S.	A
Boys Soccer	9/5	2:00 PM	Wilcox High School	A
Boys Soccer	9/5	4:00 PM	Wilcox High School	A
Football	9/5	7:00 PM	St. John Paul H.S.	H
JV Girls VB	9/9	5:00 PM	Madison Highland Prep	H
V Girls VB	9/9	6:00 PM	Madison Highland Prep	H
JV Girls VB	9/11	5:00 PM	Fountain Hills H.S.	H
V Girls VB	9/11	6:00 PM	Fountain Hills H.S.	H
Football	9/12	7:00 PM	Heritage Academy	H
Boys Soccer	9/15	6:00 PM	Ash Fork High School	H
Boys Soccer	9/16	4:30 PM	North Valley Christian	A
Girls Flag FB	9/16	6:00 PM	North Valley Christian	A
JV Girls VB	9/18	5:00 PM	Kingman High School	A
V Girls VB	9/18	6:00 PM	Kingman High School	A
Girls Flag FB	9/18	6:00 PM	Apache Junction H.S.	H
Football	9/19	7:00 PM	Highland Prep	A

HAPPENINGS @ HPW

A BRIGHT START TO SENIOR YEAR WITH SENIOR SUNRISE

We joyfully commemorated our inaugural HPW senior class with the special tradition of Senior Sunrise! As these remarkable students embark on their final year, we're thrilled to see them create unforgettable memories. Starting the day with donuts and quality time with friends, our seniors savored every moment of this milestone celebration, setting the tone for an incredible year.



GREEN VS WHITE HORNET FOOTBALL SHOWDOWN

Our football team delivered an exciting performance at the Green vs White Intrasquad Scrimmage showdown! We invited our Hornet community to join in on the action, offering a free event to the public. With our spirited cheer squad leading the charge, the energy was electric as the team showcased their skills and community spirit!



Highland Prep West
2025-2026 Academic Calendar

July	0	August	20	September	21	October	3 15
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November	16	December	15	January	19	February	19
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March	5 12	April	21	May	16	June	
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				31			

First Day of Quarter
Finals/Last Day of Quarter
Holiday/Break
Graduation/Early Release

First Quarter		Days	44
August	04	First Day - First Quarter	
September	01	Labor Day	
October	03	Last Day - First Quarter	
October	06-10	Fall Break	

Second Quarter		Days	46
October	13	First Day - Second Quarter	
November	11	Veterans Day	
November	26-28	Thanksgiving	
December	19	Last Day - Second Quarter	
Dec / Jan	22-02	Winter Break	

Third Quarter		Days	43
January	05	First Day - Third Quarter	
January	19	Martin Luther King Day	
February	16	Presidents Day	
March	06	Last Day - Third Quarter	
March	09-13	Spring Break	

Fourth Quarter		Days	49
March	16	First Day - Fourth Quarter	
April	03	Spring Holiday	
May	21	Graduation	
May	22	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	28 Teachers Start Date
May	29 Teachers End Date

In-service - No Students	Days
All Staff In-service	5

Early Release Days - 1:30 pm		Days
Professional Learning Community (PLC)		28
Teacher In-service/Work/Grades		4

Student Coursework Testing Days		Days
Progress Reports		4
*Finals		4
*Finals/Last Day of Quarter		4

Blackout/Mandatory Attendance Dates			
Sep/Oct	29-04	March	02-06
December	15-19	May	18-22
See Student Handbook			

State Testing Dates	
Please see Assessment Calendar available on Canvas.	
MHP School Calendar will be modified to accommodate State Testing Calendar.	

Special Dates			
40th Student Day -	September	29	2025
100th Student Day -	January	16	2026