



THE HORNET HYPE

EDITION #41

HIGHLAND PREP WEST'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2026

IN THIS ISSUE

Page 1

1ST GRADUATING CLASS BANNER

Page 2

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Page 3

ACADEMIC BULLETIN

Page 4

STEM DIGEST

Page 5

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS

Page 6

ATHLETICS

Page 7

HAPPENINGS @ HPW

Page 8

ACADEMIC CALENDAR



HOME OF THE HORNETS

HPW HONORS INAUGURAL SENIORS WITH CLASS OF 2026 BANNER

Highland Prep West reached a historic milestone as the inaugural Class of 2026 gathered to receive their official senior banner. It feels like just yesterday that the campus first opened its doors, yet these students have spent the last four years transforming a new building into a thriving community. As the school's first-ever seniors, these pioneers didn't just attend classes; they built the school's culture, defined its spirit, and set the standard for every Hornet to follow. While we are emotional to see this founding group move on, there is an overwhelming sense of

pride in the trail they have blazed for all future generations. While this class has reached numerous milestones, the achievement that stands above the rest is their remarkable 100% college and university acceptance rate. This perfect record reflects the dedication of a class that has consistently strived for excellence. We are incredibly inspired by the futures these students are about to create and feel honored to call them our first-ever Hornets. Congratulations, Class of 2026! You have set a legacy of success that will define Highland Prep West for years to come.



EDITION #41 / MAY 2026

Message from the Principal

Dear Hornet Families,

As the 2025–2026 school year draws to a close, it is remarkable to reflect on how quickly the time has passed. With our first graduating class preparing to cross the stage, this final month has been filled with meaningful experiences.

April was an especially memorable time for our school community. We hosted our final BBQ of the year, where students enjoyed a cake walk, arts and crafts, and the ever-popular “Soak a Senior.” Our students also demonstrated their creativity and academic excellence at the Highland Prep Academies Science Fair. In addition, we celebrated our spring athletic programs with an assembly and spirit week. Our

seniors created lasting memories during their trip to Disneyland, and our juniors and seniors attended a milestone event: our first annual HPW Prom.

Although the school year is nearing its conclusion, there is still important work ahead. AP testing is currently underway, and we look forward to Senior Sunset on May 12 and our inaugural graduation ceremony, at Ottawa University on May 21.

As we bring this year to a close, we are reminded that the strength of our community lies not only in our accomplishments, but in the promise of what is still to come. The legacy we are building together will continue to grow with each class that follows.

With appreciation,
Sharon Pozzi • Principal



School Calendar

MAY 2026

5/2	Prom Dance	5/20	Senior Finals
5/12	Senior Sunset	5/20	Senior Lunch
5/14	Fine Arts Showcase	5/21	Graduation
5/15	Fine Arts Assembly	5/18-5/22	Mandatory Attendance Week
5/18	Academic Awards Banquet	5/22	Final Exams/Last Day of School

SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE:

6/1-6/11	Strength & Conditioning (Session 1)	7/13-7/23	VEX Robotics
6/15-6/25	Strength & Conditioning (Session 2)	7/20-7/30	Cross Country
7/6-7/9	Aerial Drones	7/20-7/30	Cheer
7/6-7/16	Soccer	7/20-7/30	Flag Football
7/6-7/16	Basketball	7/20-7/30	Football
7/13-7/16	Musical Theatre	7/20-7/30	Volleyball

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



OUR CLASS OF 2026

VALEDICTORIAN & SALUTATORIAN

Highland Prep West is incredibly proud to introduce the top scholars of our inaugural graduating class, Valedictorian Jalia Clinton and Salutatorian Isabella Granados-Eaton. Jalia, a dedicated Hornet for the past three years, has set the academic bar high with her hard work and dedication. Her academic journey is marked by an extraordinary achievement, securing over \$180,000 in scholarships from prestigious institutions including Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University, and the University of Colorado Boulder. This fall, Jalia will continue her legacy at ASU, where she plans to major in Engineering.

Joining her at the helm is our Salutatorian, Isabella Granados-Eaton. Though she joined the Hornet family this past year, Isabella's impact has been immediate and profound. Through her relentless hard work, she earned an impressive \$124,000 in scholarship awards, including the Grinnell Choice Scholarship and the NAU Lumberjack Scholarship. Isabella is set to attend Grinnell College this fall to major in Sociology with a minor in Political Science. As they close their high school careers, we stand incredibly proud of the bright futures they have built for themselves.

EXTRACURRICULAR

SCHEDULE:

MONDAY 2:30 PM

GAME CLUB, ROOM 106

SHOW CHOIR, MUSIC ROOM

ENTREPRENEURSHIP, ROOM 101-107

SPEC, ROOM 105

MONDAY 3:30 PM

YEARBOOK, ROOM 109

MUSICAL THEATRE, MUSIC ROOM

TUESDAY 2:30 PM

AERIAL DRONES, ROOM 104

STUDENT COUNCIL, ROOM 110

AP SPANISH, ROOM 210

CHESS CLUB, ROOM 202

SPEECH & DEBATE, ROOM 108

TUESDAY 3:30 PM

SEAPERCH, ROOM 105

VEX ROBOTICS, ROOM 105

THURSDAY 2:30 PM

CYBERSECURITY, ROOM 211

SPORTS CLUB, GYM

AP SPANISH, ROOM 210

SPEECH & DEBATE, ROOM 108

NHS, COMMUNICATION STAIRS

SPEC, ROOM 104

THURSDAY 3:30 PM

YEARBOOK, ROOM 109

SHOW CHOIR, MUSIC ROOM

POETRY CLUB, ROOM 208

FRIDAY 2:30 PM

FUTSAL CLUB, GYM

SEWING CLUB, ROOM 205

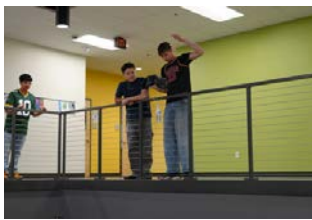
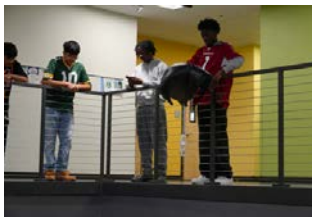
FRIDAY 3:30 PM

VEX ROBOTICS, ROOM 105

STEM DIGEST

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS!

We are proud to recognize the remarkable scientific talent and ingenuity displayed at this year's Spring Science Fair by our Hornets. The competition featured a wide array of impressive research and engineering, but two HPW projects stood out from the rest: "Fragranced Moisturizers vs. Regular Moisturizers," which earned third place overall, and the "Rube Goldberg Machine," which was honored with the Innovate Award!

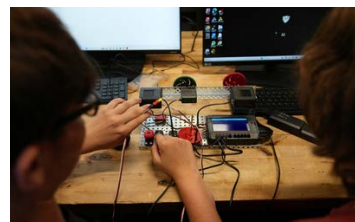
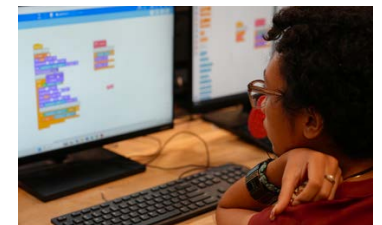
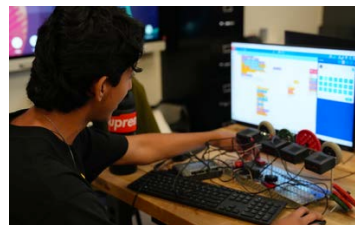


PARACHUTE DROP ACTIVITY

Our Aerospace Engineering students transitioned from the classroom to the communication stairs to conduct a Parachute Drop activity. To evaluate the efficiency of their custom-built designs, students released their prototypes from the second-floor balcony, systematically gathering data on descent rates and landing accuracy. By testing their theories against gravity, these students gained practical experience in data collection and iterative design, skills that are essential in engineering.

ENGINEERING STUDENTS LEARN TO DESIGN TEST BEDS

Our engineering students are gaining vital practical experience by designing and testing test beds. This hands-on curriculum challenges students to engineer functional prototypes capable of executing specific commands, such as powering rotating wheels. By bridging the gap between theoretical physics and applied engineering, students learn to troubleshoot complex circuitry.



TEACHER SPOTLIGHT **OF THE MONTH**



MS. ROBERTS

Ms. Roberts teaches Algebra 2 and Geometry 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 in Seattle, Washington. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her corgi and traveling. Beyond the classroom, she serves as the JV Girls Basketball Coach and Game Club advisor. Ms. Roberts is a devoted educator whose primary mission is to see every one of her students thrive. Her tireless work ensures that no student is left behind, providing the personalized support they need to succeed both in and out of the classroom. We are so lucky to have her at HPW!



CONGRATS TO OUR SEAL OF BILITERACY STUDENTS!

We are proud to announce that 13 HPW students have earned the Arizona State Seal of Biliteracy: Valeria A, Diego A, Santiago A, Genesis C, Kahlen C, Ian C, Kelly C, Ruby G, Adrian H, Elizabeth N, Maria O, Evan R, and Cristal S! This gold-standard certification is a permanent seal on graduate diplomas that signals high-level proficiency in English and Spanish to both college admissions and future employers.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



ASU WEST CAMPUS TOUR

Our juniors visited the ASU West campus for an immersive tour of the unique academic environment and resources available to future Sun Devils. This field trip provided them with a true taste of the diverse opportunities awaiting them at the West Valley campus.



HPW RECOGNIZED BY THE ARIZONA FAFSA CHALLENGE

Highland Prep West has been recognized by the Arizona Board of Regents for its impressive success in the 50 by Fall Challenge, a state initiative focused on increasing college financial aid access. The school earned this distinction by surpassing a 75% FAFSA completion rate. This accomplishment reflects the dedicated efforts of our amazing counselor, Mr. Britton that ensures that every student has the resources and support necessary to pursue their postsecondary goals.

ATHLETICS

HPW CELEBRATES SOFTBALL & BASEBALL SENIOR NIGHT

We celebrated an unforgettable Senior Night, honoring the incredible leadership and growth of our softball and baseball seniors. On the softball field, we recognized Sofia, Carley, and Emily for the lasting legacy and standard of excellence they've established. Meanwhile, at the diamond, we celebrated Sebastian, Lincoln, Diego, and Dariyon, whose journey from ambitious freshmen to inspiring leaders has been a privilege to witness.



SIGN UP FOR OUR 2026 SUMMER CAMPS!

Our summer camps are almost here, and now is the time to secure your spot! With a diverse lineup ranging from football and building robots to musical theatre, there truly is something for everyone. We are also thrilled to debut our new Strength & Conditioning camp with two sessions available. Don't wait—head to the front office today to drop off your registration forms and fees.

TRACK & FIELD MEDALISTS

Highland Prep West is proud to congratulate our standout track and field athletes for their dominant performance at the Phoenix Christian Invitational held on April 9, 2026. Competing against several top programs, our medalists showcased exceptional skill and determination, stepping up in key events to secure vital wins for the team. This impressive showing further solidifies the Hornets' reputation for athletic excellence as we continue a season filled with personal bests and landmark achievements.



HAPPENINGS @ HPW

ONCE UPON A TIME PROM

Highland Prep West's "Once Upon a Time" prom was an evening to remember! We crowned our Prom Royalty: King Emiliano Dueñas and Queen Jaeleen Ordaz, as well as Prince Steven Martinez and Princess Alexa Alonso. From the high-energy dance floor to the formal coronation, the night was a historic first prom. We thank everyone who contributed to making this fairytale evening an unforgettable success for our juniors and seniors.



DISNEYLAND SENIOR TRIP

Our Class of 2026 recently returned from an unforgettable senior trip to Disneyland and California Adventure, celebrating the past four years. Our Hornets made lasting memories exploring the parks and enjoying world-class rides. This trip served as a well-earned reward for our seniors, honoring their persistence and the hard work they have poured into their high school careers. We are thrilled that our seniors had such a fantastic time celebrating their upcoming graduation at the "Happiest Place on Earth!"

GOOD VIBES AND GREAT FOOD AT THE SPRING BBQ

We celebrated the end of the year with our Spring BBQ, bringing the Hornet community together for an afternoon of food, sunshine, and school spirit. The BBQ featured a variety of activities, from refreshing snow cones to soak-a-senior and our infamous cake walk, ensuring a memorable experience. It was a great afternoon at the Hive!



Highland Prep West
2025-2026 Academic Calendar

July	0	August	20	September	21	October	3 15
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6 7 8 9 10 11 12	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	5 6 7 8 9 10 11
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	12 13 14 15 16 17 18
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	21 22 23 24 25 26 27	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	19 20 21 22 23 24 25
27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	27 28 29 30 31	28 29 30	26 27 28 29 30 31	26 27 28 29 30 31	26 27 28 29 30 31
November	16	December	15	January	19	February	19
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
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9 10 11 12 13 14 15	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	11 12 13 14 15 16 17	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	8 9 10 11 12 13 14
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	28 29 30 31	28 29 30 31	18 19 20 21 22 23 24	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	15 16 17 18 19 20 21
23 24 25 26 27 28 29	23 24 25 26 27 28 29			25 26 27 28 29 30 31	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	22 23 24 25 26 27 28
30	30						
March	5 12	April	21	May	16	June	
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8 9 10 11 12 13 14	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	14 15 16 17 18 19 20
22 23 24 25 26 27 28	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	26 27 28 29 30	26 27 28 29 30	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	21 22 23 24 25 26 27	21 22 23 24 25 26 27	21 22 23 24 25 26 27
29 30 31	29 30 31			31	28 29 30	28 29 30	28 29 30

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

2026 HORNET SUMMER CAMPS



STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

(SESSION 1)

Mon to Thu • June 1st - June 11th

11:30am - 2:00pm

Focusing on building a physical and mental foundation

Fee: \$100 | HPW Gym

(SESSION 2)

Mon to Thu • June 15th - June 25th

11:30am - 2:00pm

Fee: \$100 | HPW Gym

AERIAL DRONES

Mon to Thu • July 6th - July 9th

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Focusing on skills in preparation for 2026-2027 aerial drone season

Fee: \$75 | HPW Engineering Lab

SOCCER

Mon to Thu • July 6th - July 16th

4:00pm - 7:00pm

Conditioning, offensive and defensive skills, and teamwork drills

Fee: \$125 | HPW Field

BASKETBALL

Mon to Thu • July 6th - July 16th

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Conditioning, offensive and defensive skills, and teamwork drills

Fee: \$125 | HPW Gym

MUSICAL THEATRE

Mon to Thu • July 13th - July 16th

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Developing singing, acting, and dancing skills while working toward a final stage production

Fee: \$75 | HPW Music Room

VEX ROBOTICS

Mon to Thu • July 13th - July 23rd

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Designing, programming, and building skills in preparation for 2026-2027 robotics season

Fee: \$125 | HPW Gym

CROSS COUNTRY

Mon to Thu • July 20th - July 30th

6:00am - 8:00am

Conditioning, running skills, and teamwork drills

Fee: \$100 | HPW Field

CHEER

Mon to Thu • July 20th - July 30th

8:00am - 11:00am

Conditioning, cheer and dance skills, and teamwork drills

Fee: \$125 | HPW Gym

FLAG FOOTBALL

Mon to Thu • July 20th - July 30th

8:00am - 11:00am

Strength and conditioning, team building, and football skills and drills

Fee: \$125 | HPW Field

FOOTBALL

Mon to Thu • July 20th - July 30th

4:00pm - 7:00pm

Strength and conditioning, team building, and football skills and drills

Fee: \$200 | HPW Field

VOLLEYBALL

Mon to Thu • July 20th - July 30th

4:00pm - 7:00pm

Conditioning, volleyball skills, and teamwork drills

Fee: \$125 | HPW Gym



HIGHLAND
PREP WEST
AVONDALE, ARIZONA

Registration forms available at highlandprepwest.org

