



# THE HEAT CHRONICLES

EDITION #73

MADISON HIGHLAND PREP'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR



## HOME OF THE HEAT

## MHP RECEIVES 1ST EVER COGNIA STEM SYSTEM CERTIFICATION

Madison Highland Prep was recently given an honorary banner for being the first network of schools to earn Cognia STEM Systems Certification in the world. The STEM certification was conferred by the Cognia Global Commission. To issue the certification, Madison Highland Prep participated in a thorough STEM system review. An Arizona team of Regional Accreditation Evaluators, led by Dr. Angela Chomokos and supported by Dr. Mike Jeffers, held the thorough STEM Certification Review. In conducting the review, the noteworthy

practice that was found by the team: Highland Prep Academies has a rigorous academic program rooted in STEM college-preparatory practices for all students. The system embraces its Highland Prep Cross-Cutting Competencies Framework of collaborative problem-solving skills, technology and information literacy, thinking and metacognitive skills, and studying and learning skills throughout all curricular areas that led to 100% of its graduating seniors accepted into a 4-year college or university for the past six years.



## EDITION #73 / DECEMBER 2024

## Message from the Principal

Dear MHP Families,

I can't believe winter break is upon us. Our students have made such remarkable progress during the first semester. Our students have participated in two pep assemblies, multiple spirit weeks, and a school-wide BBQ. MHP held it's RAC Drone Racing competition and earned two awards. VEX Robotics has competed in two competitions and is preparing for MHP's VEX competition in January.

Drama Club has been holding auditions for its upcoming production of Clue. The Cinema Society club is producing and recording short films. MHP's newspaper put out its first edition and has been hard at work on the second. Our fall athletic season ended with MHP's first AIA

Championship title in men's soccer and our winter athletic season is off to a great start.

Student ambassadors had an opportunity to speak to 8th graders at local middle schools about our school. Listening to our students speak so eloquently about the school they have a significant and vested interest in, further strengthens the work of our education team to build a powerful community of lifelong learners. MHP's learning community will continue to thrive and evolve as each student maximizes their potential.

With the holiday season upon us, I want to express my warmest wishes for each and every one of you to have a safe and restful winter break. I am so proud of our community!

Yours Truly,

Rosana Rodriguez • Principal



## School Calendar

### DECEMBER 2024

12/5 Fall Band & Choir Concert  
12/9-12/13 Holiday Spirit Week  
12/10 Highland Prep Academies Science Fair  
12/11-12/12 ECAP 10th/11th Grade  
12/16 Visual Arts Showcase- 2nd Qtr.

### FEBRUARY 2025

2/7 Winter BBQ  
2/8 Winter Formal  
2/13 Spring Open House & STEM Showcase  
2/13 Spring NHS Induction Ceremony  
2/22 Incoming Freshmen: Course Registration

### JANUARY 2025

1/11 MHP 11th Annual Robotics Qualifiers  
1/14 Parent Workshop: Scholarships 101  
1/16 Academic Awards Assembly- 2nd Qtr.  
1/21 ACT Practice Exam, 11th Grade  
1/25 Placement Testing: Incoming Freshmen

### MARCH 2025

3/3 Visual Arts Showcase- 3rd Qtr.  
3/26 SAT School Day, registered 11th grade  
3/27 Academic Awards Assembly- 3rd Qtr.  
3/28 NHS Blood Drive  
3/29 HPA SeaPerch Qualifying Event

# ACADEMIC BULLETIN



## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: DELILAH TSANG

We are proud to highlight senior, Delilah Tsang who has been admitted to Arizona State University, Northern Arizona

University, and the University of Arizona! Delilah has been a dedicated member of the Madison Highland Prep community for the past 4 years, excelling both inside and outside the classroom. During her time here, she has been an active participant in National Honor Society and MHP Student Ambassadors. She is currently the President of Drama Club, the Vice President of Culture Club, and the Secretary of GSA Club, showcasing her diverse interests and commitment to personal growth. She plans to pursue her passion for Chemical Engineering in the fall.



## ASU WEST CAMPUS VISIT

Some of our seniors had the chance to visit the Arizona State University (ASU) West campus, exploring the university's facilities. During their tour, they met with ASU representatives to learn about academic programs, admission requirements, and campus life as a Sun Devil.

## EXTRACURRICULAR

### SCHEDULE:

#### **MONDAY 7:30 AM**

NHS, MRS. WATSON

#### **MONDAY 2:30-3:30 PM**

VEX ROBOTICS, B117

ANIME CLUB, B222

ART CLUB, B211

PEP BAND, B111

SPEECH & DEBATE, B215

STUDENT COUNCIL, E114

#### **MONDAY 3:30-4:30 PM**

AERIAL DRONE RACING, B202

CREATIVE WRITING, B215

#### **TUESDAY 2:30-3:30 PM**

VEX ROBOTICS, B117

DRAMA CLUB, B116

MATHLETES, B206

SERVICE CLUB, MS. SCHWINDT

YEARBOOK, B222

#### **TUESDAY 3:30-4:30 PM**

SEAPERCH, B113

#### **THURSDAY 2:30-3:30 PM**

VEX ROBOTICS, B117

MATHLETES, B206

DRAMA CLUB, B116

CINEMA SOCIETY, E115

PERFORMANCE CHOIR, B111

EPICS ENGINEERING, B205

#### **THURSDAY 3:30-4:30 PM**

ESPORTS, B222

MHP NEWSPAPER, B220

EPICS ENGINEERING, B205

CHESS CLUB, B216

#### **FRIDAY 2:30-3:30 PM**

VEX ROBOTICS, B117

BOARD GAME CLUB, B206

GSA, B208

STUDENT COUNCIL, E114

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS, B116

#### **FRIDAY 3:30-4:30 PM**

GARDENING CLUB, B205

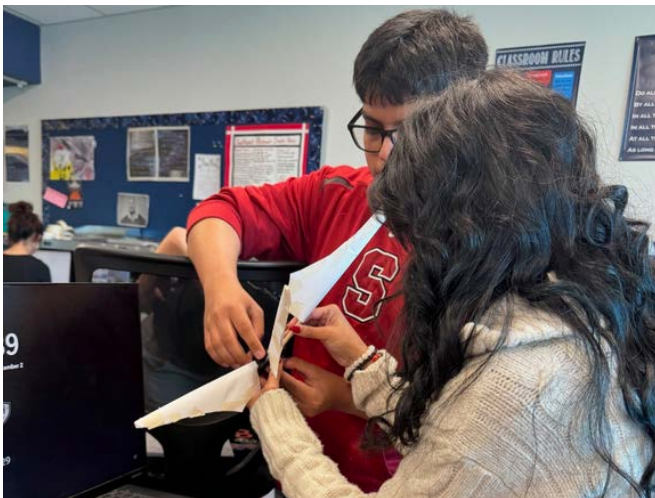
SPANISH CLUB, B114

PING PONG CLUB, B211

# STEM DIGEST

## DRONE TEAM TAKES HOME BIG WINS AT TOURNAMENT

Our talented MHP Aerial Drone teams took home top honors at the MHP 3rd Annual Aerial Drone Competition, securing an impressive three awards. The teams' exceptional skills and innovative approach earned them the coveted "Skills Mission Champion" Award, while their coding talent earned them the "Coding Award". Additionally, the "Judges Award" recognized their outstanding drone performance. Congratulations, Heat!



## MOMENTS TO ACHIEVE EQUILIBRIUM IN P.O.E

Our Principles of Engineering students delved into the fundamentals of physics and engineering by exploring moments and equilibrium. Through several hands-on experiments and calculations, they worked with their partner to analyze how forces interact with structures, identifying the pivotal moments where balance can be achieved.



## BUILDING WIND TURBINES

Our Aerospace Engineering students showcased their creativity and problem-solving skills by designing and building functional wind turbines using everyday materials - paper! Through this innovative project, students worked in groups of two to apply fundamental engineering concepts, such as aerodynamics and energy conversion, to optimize their wind turbine performance. This engaging activity fostered critical thinking, collaboration, and engineering design, preparing our students for a future in engineering and sustainability.

## **TEACHER SPOTLIGHTS OF THE MONTH**



**MRS. ROSS**

Mrs. Ross earned her B.A. in English from Western Michigan University, an M.F.A. degree in Creative Writing from Arizona State University, and a Reading Specialist Endorsement on

her teacher certification. She has produced several plays off-Broadway and enjoyed a career as a freelance writer before moving from Michigan to Arizona, where she has been an educator since 2002. While teaching Poetry in America dual enrollment in a nonprofit program sponsored by Harvard University and platformed by ASU, several of her students scored within the top 10 percent of the nation. In addition, many of her students have had their poems and short stories published in collections available on Amazon. She is currently an adjunct professor and is working on a second collection of poetry. Mrs. Ross teaches AP English Literature, AP English Language, English 1-2, and English 3-4.



**COACH FULLER**

Coach Fuller has been part of the Madison Highland Prep education team for 10 years now. He serves as Madison Highland Prep's Athletic Director as well as the head

coach for football, JV and Varsity basketball and baseball. Coach Fuller teaches weight training, strength and conditioning, and physical education. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Physical Education from Arizona State University as well as his state teaching certification in the area of physical education.

## **CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS**



### **SOCK BABIES IN AP PSYCH**

Our AP Psychology students created sock babies to explore theories of human development. As “parents,” they recorded milestones and reflections in a baby book, applying the theories of development. By simulating parenthood, this interactive project deepened our students’ understanding of developmental psychology.



### **CSI LAB WITH OFFICER SUE**

Our engineering students joined forces with Officer Sue to crack a mock crime scene. Students worked in groups to create a mixture to uncover hidden footprints. This hands-on experiment honed their critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaboration skills, giving them a glimpse into the world of crime scene investigation.

# ATHLETICS

## CHEER TEAM SHINES AT THE AIA CHEER COMPETITION

Our MHP Cheer team showcased their spirit and skills at the AIA Cheer Competition, held at the Veterans Memorial Coliseum. Among top-notch teams, our team delivered impressive performances, including a group routine and an all-girls stunt showcase. The all-girls stunt performance earned the team a remarkable 4th place finish, demonstrating their coordination and teamwork. Congratulations to our remarkable Heat Cheer team!



## BEN FRANKLIN THANKSGIVING BOYS BASKETBALL CLASSIC

Our varsity boys basketball team took to the court to compete in the Benjamin Franklin Thanksgiving Classic, hosted by Benjamin Franklin High School. This highly anticipated event brought together 24 high school boys basketball teams from across Arizona, providing our athletes with a valuable opportunity to test their skills against the best of the best. Although they didn't emerge victorious in all of the tournament games, the team demonstrated incredible resilience and teamwork.

## SPORTS SCHEDULE:

|                   |    |                    |                              |                   |    |                    |                          |
|-------------------|----|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|----|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Basketball- Boys  | JV | 12/9/2024 4:30 PM  | Mountainside High School     | Soccer- Girls     | V  | 12/16/2024 4:00 PM | River Valley High School |
| Basketball- Boys  | V  | 12/9/2024 6:00 PM  | Mountainside High School     | Basketball- Boys  | JV | 12/17/2024 2:30 PM | ALA- Anthem              |
| Soccer- Girls     | V  | 12/11/2024 6:00 PM | Globe High School            | Basketball- Boys  | V  | 12/17/2024 5:30 PM | ALA- Anthem              |
| Basketball- Girls | JV | 12/12/2024 2:30 PM | St. John Paul II High School | Basketball- Girls | V  | 12/17/2024 4:00 PM | San Tan Charter          |
| Basketball- Boys  | JV | 12/12/2024 4:00 PM | St. John Paul II High School | Basketball- Girls | JV | 12/18/2024 3:00 PM | Valley Lutheran          |
| Basketball- Girls | V  | 12/12/2024 5:30 PM | St. John Paul II High School | Basketball- Boys  | JV | 12/18/2024 4:30 PM | Valley Lutheran          |
| Basketball- Boys  | V  | 12/12/2024 7:00 PM | St. John Paul II High School | Basketball- Girls | V  | 12/18/2024 6:00 PM | Valley Lutheran          |
| Basketball- Boys  | JV | 12/13/2024 4:00 PM | Rancho Solano Prep           | Soccer- Girls     | V  | 12/18/2024 6:00 PM | Highland Prep West       |
| Basketball- Girls | V  | 12/13/2024 5:30 PM | Rancho Solano Prep           | Basketball- Boys  | V  | 12/18/2024 7:30 PM | Valley Lutheran          |
| Basketball- Boys  | V  | 12/13/2024 7:00 PM | Rancho Solano Prep           |                   |    |                    |                          |

# HAPPENINGS @ MHP

## PENNY WAR SUCCESS

Congratulations to Mr. Rasmussen's 1st period class for being the winning class who dominated the Penny Wars! To win the pizza party, students eagerly collected and deposited pennies into their first period teacher's jar. The class with the most pennies at the end of the challenge earned the pizza party. But here's the best part: all proceeds of the Penny Wars were donated to the Phoenix Children's Hospital. Thank you to everyone who helped contribute to the Penny Wars challenge!



## VOLUNTEERING AT JOY BUS DINER

Our MHP Service Club demonstrated their commitment to giving back by volunteering at the Joy Bus Diner, a non-profit organization supporting cancer patients and their families. With enthusiasm and dedication, they rolled up their sleeves to thoroughly clean the diner, ensuring a welcoming and sanitary environment for those served. This selfless act showcased their compassion, teamwork, and community spirit, making a difference in the community.



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

Monday



Grumpy Grinch

Tuesday



Red Nose Day

Wednesday



Ugly Sweater Day

Thursday



Winter Wonderland  
(Blue and White)

Friday



Holiday PJ's

**Madison Highland Prep  
2024-2025 Academic Calendar**

|                       |                       |                        |                        |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>July</b><br>0      | <b>August</b><br>20   | <b>September</b><br>20 | <b>October</b><br>4 14 |
| 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          |
| 1 2 3 4 5 6           | 4 5 6 7 8 9 10        | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7          | 6 7 8 9 10 11 12       |
| 7 8 9 10 11 12 13     | 11 12 13 14 15 16 17  | 8 9 10 11 12 13 14     | 13 14 15 16 17 18 19   |
| 14 15 16 17 18 19 20  | 18 19 20 21 22 23 24  | 15 16 17 18 19 20 21   | 20 21 22 23 24 25 26   |
| 21 22 23 24 25 26 27  | 25 26 27 28 29 30 31  | 22 23 24 25 26 27 28   | 27 28 29 30 31         |
| 28 29 30 31           |                       | 29 30                  |                        |
| <b>November</b><br>17 | <b>December</b><br>15 | <b>January</b><br>19   | <b>February</b><br>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          |
| 1 2 3 4 5 6 7         | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7         | 1 2 3 4                | 1                      |
| 8 9 10 11 12 13 14    | 8 9 10 11 12 13 14    | 5 6 7 8 9 10 11        | 2 3 4 5 6 7 8          |
| 15 16 17 18 19 20 21  | 15 16 17 18 19 20 21  | 12 13 14 15 16 17 18   | 9 10 11 12 13 14 15    |
| 17 18 19 20 21 22 23  | 22 23 24 25 26 27 28  | 19 20 21 22 23 24 25   | 16 17 18 19 20 21 22   |
| 24 25 26 27 28 29 30  | 29 30 31              | 26 27 28 29 30 31      | 23 24 25 26 27 28      |
|                       |                       |                        |                        |
| <b>March</b><br>5 11  | <b>April</b><br>21    | <b>May</b><br>17       | <b>June</b>            |
| 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          |
| 1                     | 1 2 3 4 5             | 1 2 3                  | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7          |
| 2 3 4 5 6 7 8         | 6 7 8 9 10 11 12      | 4 5 6 7 8 9 10         | 8 9 10 11 12 13 14     |
| 9 10 11 12 13 14 15   | 13 14 15 16 17 18 19  | 11 12 13 14 15 16 17   | 15 16 17 18 19 20 21   |
| 16 17 18 19 20 21 22  | 20 21 22 23 24 25 26  | 18 19 20 21 22 23 24   | 22 23 24 25 26 27 28   |
| 23 24 25 26 27 28 29  | 27 28 29 30           | 25 26 27 28 29 30 31   | 29 30                  |
| 30 31                 |                       |                        |                        |

|                      |                            |               |            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------|------------|
| First Day of Quarter | Finals/Last Day of Quarter | Holiday/Break | Graduation |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------|------------|

| 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            | 22 | Graduation                 |
| May            | 23 | 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                    | 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.                         |  |
| MHP 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 MHP website at [www.MadisonHighlandPrep.org](http://www.MadisonHighlandPrep.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: [clflores@madisonhighlandprep.org](mailto:clflores@madisonhighlandprep.org).

### Placement Testing Date: Saturday, January 25, 2025

Incoming Freshmen must complete the 9th grade placement tests in Reading and Mathematics. Placement testing will be held on the MHP 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, February 22, 2025

Incoming Freshmen must register for Fall 2025 honors-level and elective courses. Course registration will be held on the MHP 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 MHP office at: 602-745-3800*

## Madison Highland Prep

1431 East Campbell Ave. • Phoenix, AZ 85014

602-745-3800 • [MadisonHighlandPrep.org](http://MadisonHighlandPrep.org)

