



THE HEAT CHRONICLES

EDITION #88

MADISON HIGHLAND PREP'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2026

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HOME OF THE HEAT

WELCOME BACK TO MADISON HIGHLAND PREP

Madison Highland Prep is pleased to welcome our students and families to the start of the 2026 school year. To those returning and to those joining our community for the first time, we are glad to have you with us. Over the summer, our faculty and staff have prepared classrooms, refined curriculum, and made every preparation to ensure a strong and successful year ahead.

To begin the year well, we invite all students and families to Meet the Teacher Night on Wednesday, August 5th. The evening offers an opportunity to connect with faculty, become familiar with the campus, and prepare for the weeks ahead. To ensure that each family receives individual attention, the event will be held in two sessions by grade level: freshmen from 5 to 6 PM, and upperclassmen from 6 to 7 PM.

The evening will also provide families with essential information for the year. Students will meet their teachers, receive course syllabi outlining expectations for each class, and learn about the fall athletic and extracurricular programs available this season. Representatives will also be on hand to share details regarding transportation and lunch services, ensuring that families have every resource they need before the first day.

We encourage all families to attend on Wednesday, August 5th, and to come prepared with any questions. Classes begin Monday, August 10th, and we look forward to a year of meaningful learning and achievement. On behalf of our entire faculty and staff, welcome back to Madison Highland Prep.



EDITION #88 / AUGUST 2026

Message from the Principal

Dear MHP Families,

Welcome to the 2026–2027 school year!

It's hard to believe that summer is already coming to an end. I hope your family had an opportunity to relax, recharge, and create lasting memories. As we prepare to welcome our students back, there is a tremendous sense of excitement across the MHP campus for another year of learning, growth, and achievement.

Our campus has been buzzing with activity all summer long! We welcomed the Class of 2030 through our Future Freshman Academy, where incoming ninth graders had the opportunity to become familiar with campus, meet staff, and begin building connections before the first day of school. It was also wonderful to see many of our returning students during our June and July summer school sessions, where they continued making progress toward their academic goals.

Our rising seniors have been hard at work preparing for life after high school through a series of college readiness workshops. They have already taken an important step toward their futures by submitting applications to Arizona State University, Northern Arizona University, the University of Arizona, and Grand Canyon University. Meanwhile, students across all grade levels stayed engaged through a variety of summer opportunities, including athletic camps, VEX Robotics, and Aerial Drone Racing as they sharpened their skills and prepared for another exciting year of competition.

The excitement continues as we prepare for Meet the Teacher Night on Wednesday, August 5! This is a wonderful opportunity to meet teachers, explore campus, receive important information, and start the school year with confidence. Freshman Orientation will be held from 5:00–6:00 p.m., followed by orientation for grades 10–12 from 6:00–7:00 p.m.

The first day of school is just around the corner, and we cannot wait to welcome our students back on Monday, August 10. Whether you are joining the MHP family for the first time or returning for another year, know that we are committed to providing an exceptional educational experience where every student is challenged, supported, and inspired to achieve their full potential.

Here's to a fantastic school year filled with new opportunities, meaningful relationships, and countless successes. We look forward to seeing all of our HEAT students back on campus soon!

Go HEAT!

Sincerely,

Rosana Rodriguez
Principal



Important Events

AUGUST EVENTS

2026 EVENTS

WED, AUG 5	Student Orientation – Freshman Student Orientation – Sophomores/Juniors/Seniors	5:00p–6:00p 6:00p–7:00p
MON, AUG 10	First Day of School	
THU, AUG 13	BOC's English, Math, Science classes Club Fair 11:00a–11:25a	
TUE, AUG 18	5th Hour Course Meetings, 11th & 12th grade (Aviation, AP Business) Seal of Biliteracy Info & App, all grades AP Spanish Exam Info & Registration, all grades	
THU, AUG 20	Seal of Fine Arts Info & Registration, 11th & 12th grade PLTW RECF Certification Meetings, 11th & 12th grade	
MON, AUG 24	Academic Awards Assembly – 4th Qtr 2025–26, 9th & 10th grade	
TUE, AUG 25	Academic Awards Assembly – 4th Qtr 2025–26, 11th & 12th grade	
THU, AUG 27	Fall Picture Day	
FRI, AUG 28	Fall Athletic Picture Day Fall Pep Assembly	

SENIOR EVENTS

AUGUST		
THURS, AUG 20	Senior Sunrise	6:00a
FRI, AUG 21	Josten's Meeting for Cap & Gown, Senior Gear, and Class Rings	9:30a–11:00a
SEPTEMBER		
WED, SEP 9	Senior Meeting	9:30a–10:30a
TUE, SEP 22	Cap & Gown Picture Day	9:00a–11:00a
WED, SEP 23	Senior Meeting	9:30a–10:30a

UPCOMING COLLEGE VISITS

	1 California Aeronautical University	 August 18, 2026	 9:30 AM–10:30 AM
	2 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	 August 20, 2026	 8:30 AM–9:30 AM
	3 University of Oregon	 August 21, 2026	 8:30 AM–9:30 AM



Your First-Week Roadmap

Bell Schedule

The first day of school is Monday, August 10th. Students should have their Chromebooks charged and ready to go. Classes begin promptly at 8:00 AM. Students are expected to be seated, in class, at this time. Remember every Wednesday is an early release day.

Daily Schedule		Early Release
7:30 – 7:55	Breakfast	7:30 – 7:55 Breakfast
8:00 – 9:28	Period 1	8:00 – 9:14 Period 1
9:31 – 11:00	Period 2	9:17 – 10:30 Period 2
11:00 – 11:30	Lunch	10:30 – 11:00 Lunch
11:30 – 12:58	Period 3	11:00 – 12:14 Period 3
1:01 – 2:30	Period 4	12:17 – 1:30 Period 4



Breakfast & Lunch Information

The cafeteria serves breakfast before school (7:30 AM to 7:55 AM) and lunch (11:00 AM to 11:30 AM and 10:30 AM-11:00AM on Wednesdays) during the day, with a variety of nutritious options. Menus are posted on the school website and are also available as interactive menus through the LINQ Connect Portal.

A few things to know:

- Students must show their ID to purchase meals. No ID means going to the end of the line.
- No food deliveries are permitted.
- All enrolled students have a meal account through the [LINQ Connect Portal](#). Families can add money using a credit or debit card (a small transaction fee applies), and can set up one-time or recurring payments, view transactions, set spending limits, transfer funds between students, and set low-balance notifications.
- Families are encouraged to complete the free and reduced-price meal application to see if they qualify. For the 2026-2027 school year, students who qualify for free or reduced-price meals pay nothing for breakfast or lunch. Apply online through the [LINQ Connect Portal](#) for fastest processing, or pick up a paper application in the school's front office.

Dress Code Reminders

Appropriate attire is required during the school day
and at all school-sponsored events.

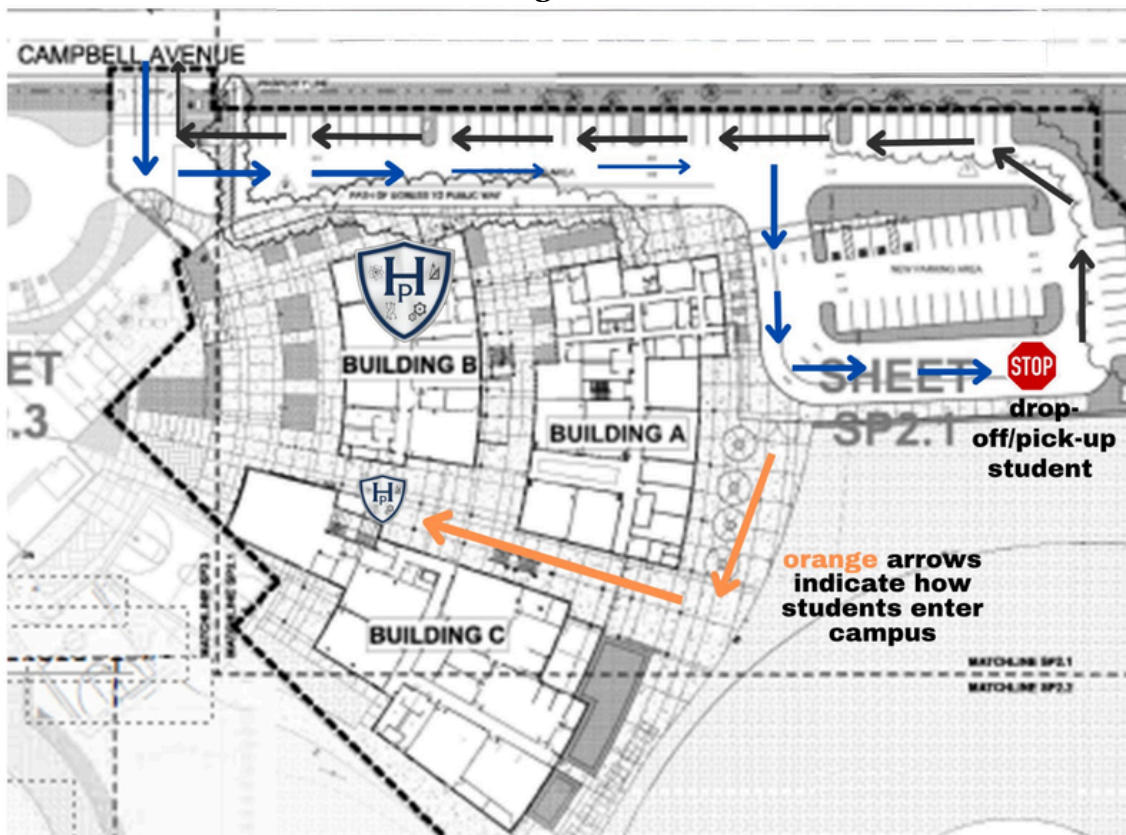
Key guidelines:

- Clothing with inappropriate language, images, or references to violence, gang activity, weapons, illegal substances, or alcohol is not allowed.
- Sleepwear including pajamas or pajama bottoms, blankets, and revealing clothing are prohibited.
- Footwear must be secure—Crocs in sports mode; no flip-flops, Birkenstocks, or slides.
- Hats, hoods, and head coverings cannot be worn inside buildings.

Thanks for representing Madison Highland Prep with pride!

Drop-off and Pick Up Route

Please follow the drop-off/pick-up route below to ensure a smooth process for all of our families.
Please pull all the way forward before your student exits or enters the car. No drop-off/pick-up
along the red curb.



Please follow the **blue** arrows for MHP drop-off and pick-up. Please pull all the way forward to the end of the sidewalk (stop sign) before your student enters or exits so that we keep a continuous flow of traffic. **No drop-off/pick-up along red curb.** To exit the parking lot please follow the **black** arrows.

New Programs

AVIATION ACADEMY *IN PARTNERSHIP WITH* **EMBRY-RIDDLE** *Aeronautical University*

This year Madison Highland Prep is proud to launch the Aviation Academy, a new pathway that puts our students in the pilot's seat, sometimes literally. Built in partnership with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, the program blends hands-on flight training concepts, aerospace coursework, and real exposure to careers in aviation. With ten seats reserved for MHP students, the Academy gives our Heat an early runway into one of the most exciting and fast-growing fields out there. Interest has already taken off, and we can't wait to watch our first cohort take flight.



AP BUSINESS WITH PERSONAL FINANCE

The AP Business with Personal Finance program offers students an exciting opportunity to explore the principles of business through challenging, college level coursework. Students will develop practical skills in leadership, decision making, and strategic thinking while gaining a deeper understanding of today's business world. This new program provides a strong foundation for future academic and professional success.

FABRICATION AND WELDING

Our Fabrication and Welding program provides students with hands on experience in advanced manufacturing using industry grade equipment and a curriculum developed by Lincoln Electric. Students learn essential skills in welding, cutting, machining, and metal fabrication while completing real world projects from design to finished product. The program prepares students with in demand skills that align with today's manufacturing and skilled trades industries. Whether pursuing certifications, apprenticeships, or careers after graduation, students leave with a strong foundation for future success.



PRINCIPLES OF AI

Our new Principles of AI course introduces students to the fundamentals of artificial intelligence through hands on, real world learning. Students will explore prompt engineering, data literacy, model training, privacy and security, and ethical decision making while building future ready technology skills. Designed to bridge the gap between using AI tools and understanding how they work, this course prepares students for college and careers in a rapidly evolving digital world.

Summer Camp Recap

TAKING FLIGHT

Students took to the skies during Aerial Drone Summer Camp, building their flight skills through hands-on practice and exciting challenges. Campers strengthened their teamwork, problem-solving, and precision while gaining confidence behind the controls.



SERVING UP SUMMER

Our Heat athletes spent their summer building skills, creating connections, and having fun on the court during Volleyball Summer Camp. Campers worked together through drills, games, and team activities while growing their confidence as athletes. It was a great week of teamwork, energy, and school spirit.

BANDING TOGETHER

Students hit all the right notes during Pep Band Summer Camp as they built their musical skills, practiced together, and prepared for an exciting year ahead. From learning new pieces to strengthening teamwork, camp gave students the opportunity to grow in confidence while having fun making music. We can't wait to hear them bring that same energy and school spirit to campus this year.



ATHLETICS EVENTS

AUGUST–SEPTEMBER 2026

Get ready for the season!

AUGUST

MON, AUG 10–FRI, AUG 14	Football Walk-On Window	5:30p–7:30p
THU, AUG 13–FRI, AUG 14	Girls Volleyball Tryouts	2:30p–4:30p
MON, AUG 17–FRI, AUG 21	Flag Football & Cross-Country Walk-On Window	6:00a–7:30a Cross Country 2:30p–4:30p Flag Football
WED, AUG 19	Fall Athletic Parent Meeting	5:30p
THU, AUG 20–FRI, AUG 21	Cheer Tryouts	Time TBD
FRI, AUG 28	Fall Athletic Picture Day	8:00a–11:00a

SEPTEMBER

FRI, SEP 4	Staff vs. Student Kickball Game	3:00p
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Register My Athlete must be completed for any student interested in participating in athletics.
All documents and current physical must be uploaded prior to tryout dates.

AUGUST HOME GAMES



FOOTBALL

THURSDAY
AUGUST 27
7:00 PM

VS HIGHLAND PREP WEST
HORNETS

📍 MADISON HIGHLAND PREP



GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

WEDNESDAY
AUGUST 26
VARSITY **5:00 PM**
JV **4:00 PM**

VS CHINO VALLEY
COUGARS

📍 MADISON HIGHLAND PREP

FRIDAY
AUGUST 28
VARSITY **5:00 PM**
JV **4:00 PM**

VS MOHAVE
THUNDERBIRDS

MADISON HIGHLAND PREP



INTRODUCING OUR NEWEST STAFF MEMBERS



AARON JONES *AVIATION ACADEMY INSTRUCTOR*

Leading the Academy at Madison Highland Prep is Aaron Jones, and our students could not ask for a better guide. Aaron is a commercial pilot and U.S. Marine Corps veteran whose aviation career spans the cockpit, the control tower, and the classroom. He has flown as a First Officer for American Eagle Airlines and piloted everything from Learjets to business jets, and he has managed airport operations and security at major airports across the country. Just as importantly, Aaron has spent years teaching the next generation, serving as a professor in Embry-Riddle's College of Aviation and previously preparing high school students for aviation careers. He is currently completing his PhD in Aviation and Space Education. With real-world experience at nearly every level of the industry, Aaron brings the expertise and passion to help our students turn a fascination with flight into real skills and a real future.



TAYLOR GARRETT *AP SPANISH/SPANISH*

Ms. Garrett joins Madison Highland Prep with a rich background in mathematics and language education. She earned her bachelor's degree in Secondary Mathematics Education with a minor in Spanish from Waynesburg University, followed by a master's degree in ESL and Bilingual Education from Northern Arizona University. She has taught mathematics, Spanish, and English Language Development across several middle and high schools. Outside the classroom, Ms. Garrett has enjoyed coaching soccer and traveling, including a semester spent studying abroad in Central America, experiences that reflect the curiosity and connection she brings to her students.



DR. KIMBLE HUMISTON *WORLD HISTORY/GOVERNMENT & ECONOMICS*

Dr. Humiston joins Madison Highland Prep with a remarkable breadth of scholarship and experience. He earned bachelor's degrees from Baldwin-Wallace College and Case Western Reserve University, a master's degree from the University of South Carolina, and his Ph.D. in Humanities from Florida State University. He has taught English and Humanities both internationally and here in Arizona, most recently at Highland Prep in Surprise. Outside the classroom, Dr. Humiston is a professionally trained actor with a lifelong love of the performing arts, a passion that brings energy and a storyteller's touch to his teaching.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Q: What are you doing now, and what has your journey looked like since graduating?

A: Since graduating from Madison Highland Prep, I have been attending the University of Arizona's nursing program and working toward earning my degree. My goal is to become a flight nurse, and I am continuing to work towards that to pursue a career in healthcare.

Q: How did your experience at Madison Highland Prep help prepare you for college, your career, or life after graduation?

A: MHP prepared me for college by challenging me academically and helping me develop the study habits I needed to succeed. The smaller class sizes gave me more opportunities to ask questions and get support from my teachers, something I have really appreciated now that I'm in larger college classes.

Q: Was there a teacher, class, or opportunity at Madison Highland Prep that had a lasting impact on you? If so, how?

A: The aviation program was one of the opportunities that had the biggest impact on me. It helped me discover my interest in aviation and showed me that I could combine that passion with my goal of working in healthcare as a flight nurse.



COOPER OSBORN

Q: What advice would you give to current Madison Highland Prep students who are working toward their future goals?

A: My advice is to put in the work now. Do your homework, prepare for your tests, and take every opportunity to build good habits because the effort you put in now will help you reach your future goals.

Q: Looking back, what is one thing you appreciated most about your time at MHP that you didn't fully realize as a student?

A: I didn't fully realize it as a student, but the rigor of the classes helped me develop the skills and discipline I needed to handle the demands of a nursing program.

Madison Highland Prep
2026-2027 Academic Calendar

July	0	August	16	September	21	October	7	10
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	S M T W T F S
5 6 7 8 9 10 11	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
12 13 14 15 16 17 18	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	11 12 13 14 15 16 17	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	5 6 7 8 9 10 11
19 20 21 22 23 24 25	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	21 22 23 24 25 26 27	18 19 20 21 22 23 24	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12 13 14 15 16 17 18
26 27 28 29 30 31	23 24 25 26 27 28 29	27 28 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28 29 30		28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30 31	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	19 20 21 22 23 24 25
	30 31							

November	17	December	14	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
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	6 7 8 9 10 11 12	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	11 12 13 14 15 16 17	8 9 10 11 12 13 14	5 6 7 8 9 10 11
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	21 22 23 24 25 26 27	18 19 20 21 22 23 24	15 16 17 18 19 20 21	12 13 14 15 16 17 18
22 23 24 25 26 27 28	27 28 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28 29 30	31	28 29 30 31	25 26 27 28 29 30	22 23 24 25 26 27 28	19 20 21 22 23 24 25
29 30							

March	5	12	April	22	May	20	June
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7	4 5 6 7 8 9 10	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	7 8 9 10 11 12 13	4 5 6 7 8 9 10	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14	11 12 13 14 15 16 17	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	18 19 20 21 22 23 24	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	13 14 15 16 17 18 19	10 11 12 13 14 15 16	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	18 19 20 21 22 23 24	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	25 26 27 28 29 30	23 24 25 26 27 28 29	20 21 22 23 24 25 26	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	14 15 16 17 18 19 20
22 23 24 25 26 27 28				30 31	27 28 29 30 31	24 25 26 27 28 29	21 22 23 24 25 26 27
29 30 31							28

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

First Quarter			Days	44
August	10	First Day - First Quarter		
September	07	Labor Day		
October	09	Last Day - First Quarter		
October	12-16	Fall Break		
Second Quarter			Days	41
October	19	First Day - Second Quarter		
November	11	Veterans Day		
November	25-27	Thanksgiving		
December	18	Last Day - Second Quarter		
Dec / Jan	21-01	Winter Break		
Third Quarter			Days	43
January	04	First Day - Third Quarter		
January	18	Martin Luther King Day		
February	15	Presidents Day		
March	05	Last Day - Third Quarter		
March	08-12	Spring Break		
Fourth Quarter			Days	54
March	15	First Day - Fourth Quarter		
March	26	Spring Holiday		
May	27	Graduation		
May	28	Last Day - Fourth Quarter		
Instructional Days				182

Teacher Start/End Dates		
August	03	Teachers Start Date
June	04	Teachers End Date

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

Early Release Days - 1:30 pm		Days
Professional Learning Community (PLC)		32
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			
October	05-09	March	01-05
December	14-18	May	24-28
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 -	October	05	2026
100th Student Day -	January	25	2027



Madison Highland Prep

2026-2027 Supply List

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT SUPPLIES

QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION
4	1 INCH BINDERS
4	COLLEGE-RULE SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS
1 PACK	BLACK PENS
1 PACK	BLUE PENS
1 PACK	HIGHLIGHTERS
1 PACK	#2 PENCILS
1 PACK	EXPO DRY ERASE MARKERS
1 MINIMUM	MHP HEAT PE SET (for PE classes only)
1	TI 84 CALCULATOR (Deposit required for school-issued calculator)
1	SCHOOL-ISSUED CHROMEBOOK (Deposit required)

*Additional supplies may be needed and will be noted on class syllabi

CLASSROOM SUPPLIES (PROVIDED TO 1ST PERIOD TEACHER)

- 1 PACKAGE CLOROX WIPES
- 1 BOX OF TISSUES
- 1 REAM OF PAPER
- 1 PACK DRY ERASE MARKERS & ERASER



Meet the *Teacher* Night

Wednesday August 5th

5-6 PM Freshmen
6-7 PM Upperclassmen