



THE HEAT CHRONICLES

MADISON HIGHLAND PREP'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR



Ranked Among America's Best

Madison Highland Prep is proud to be recognized as the #22 Best High School in Arizona in the 2026–2027 U.S. News & World Report Best High Schools rankings.

This places MHP among the Top 5% of high schools nationwide, a remarkable achievement that reflects the dedication and hard work of our students, teachers, and entire school community. The ranking highlights the momentum and continued growth of MHP as we enter another exciting school year.

This recognition is a reflection of what we strive for every day at Madison Highland Prep: challenging our students, celebrating their accomplishments, and creating opportunities for them to succeed.

We are incredibly proud of how far our school community has come and grateful to everyone who has helped make this achievement possible. As we look ahead, we are excited to keep raising the bar and building on this success together.



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear MHP Families,

It is hard to believe how quickly the first quarter is flying by! We are approaching the midway point of the quarter and our students have settled into their routines and are embracing all that Madison Highland Prep has to offer. It has been exciting to see how much our students have accomplished in just the first three weeks of school.

Our freshmen have officially learned their way around campus and are becoming more comfortable in their new school community. During our first week, all students had the opportunity to participate in our Club Fair, and it has been wonderful to see so many students getting involved in extracurricular activities and making connections beyond the classroom.

Our fall athletic season is in full swing, and our student-athletes are representing MHP with pride. Student Council has also been busy preparing for our first pep assembly of the year and building excitement for Homecoming. There is certainly no shortage of energy and enthusiasm around campus!

Seniors have hit the ground running. They kicked off the year with Senior Sunrise and recently participated in their first senior meeting. They have begun working closely with our college counselor to develop individualized plans for navigating the college admissions process and preparing for life after MHP. This is an exciting time for our seniors and we look forward to celebrating their many accomplishments throughout the year.

I would also like to thank our entire MHP community for your continued cooperation with our drop-off and pick-up procedures. Your diligence in pulling all the way forward and refraining from dropping off or picking up students in front of the school or along the red curb helps us keep our campus safe and traffic moving efficiently. Finally, I want to personally thank our students, faculty and staff, parents, and community for your continued commitment to academic excellence. It is incredibly rewarding to lead a school community filled with people who are dedicated to providing our students with a high-quality education and meaningful opportunities to grow.

Thank you for making MHP such a special place to learn, grow, and belong. I am excited about all that this school year has in store for us!

With MHP Pride,

Rosana Rodriguez
Principal





IMPORTANT DATES

September Events

Labor Day (No School)	Monday, September 7th	ALL DAY
STEM Open House	Wednesday, September 16th	5 PM
NHS Induction	Wednesday, September 16th	6 PM
Homecoming Dance	Saturday, September 26th	7 PM
NACAC College Fair	Sunday, September 27th	11 AM

Register to Attend: nacacnet.org/nacac-college-fairs/

Open Enrollment starts Tuesday, September 1st for incoming freshmen! (Class of 2031)

Senior Events



22
SEP

Cap & Gown
Picture Day

Say Cheese!

Senior year is here, and it’s time to celebrate! Students will have the opportunity to take their official cap and gown portraits at MHP. These photos are a special way to capture this milestone and will be a memorable part of their senior year. Be sure to mark your calendar and come photo ready!

Senior Meeting	Wednesday, September 9th	9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
Senior Meeting	Wednesday, September 23rd	9:30 AM - 10:30 AM



SEPTEMBER HOME GAMES



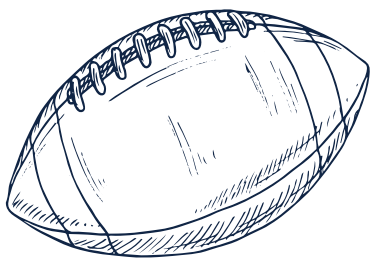
FOOTBALL

MHP vs. AZ Lutheran	Friday 9/11	7 PM
MHP vs. Desert Christian	Friday 9/25	7 PM

VOLLEYBALL



MHP vs. Highland Prep West	Thursday 9/3	JV @ 5PM V @ 6PM
MHP vs. Antelope Union	Thursday 9/10	JV @ 5PM V @ 6PM
MHP vs. ALA Anthem South	Thursday 9/24	JV @ 4PM V @ 5PM



FLAG FOOTBALL

MHP vs. ALA Ironwood	Tuesday 9/15	7 PM
MHP vs. Paradise Honors	Thursday 9/24	7 PM
MHP vs. Horizon Honors	Wednesday 9/30	7 PM



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Isobel Ulibarri

Over the summer, Isobel participated in ASU's Program Access Leadership program, a four-day experience focused on leadership, law, and public policy. As part of the program's law and policy group, Isobel explored how policies are developed and how they can address real-world challenges. She worked with her group on a project modeled after improving bus transportation in schools, and also had the opportunity to speak one-on-one with lawyers working on immigration issues. Along with the workshops and hands-on projects, the program gave Isobel the chance to connect with other students and build lasting friendships.



Leonard Webster

Leonard spent six weeks on the ASU campus this summer as part of the ASU Joaquin Bustoz Math-Science Honors Program. The program gave Leonard the opportunity to take college-level mathematics courses, including Precalculus, while experiencing what it's like to live and learn on a college campus. He earned three college credits this summer, adding to the three credits he earned through the program last summer for a total of six college credits already earned while in high school.



Rizy Lucas

Rizy attended an entrepreneurship camp at the University of Arizona's Eller College of Management, where he stayed on campus and worked with a team to develop a business proposal for a Shark Tank-style competition. His team took first place! He also gained professional experience through an internship with AZ Youth Force in partnership with Mortgage Matchup Center, where he continues to work in customer service. Rizy learned the value of being himself, giving his best effort, and stepping outside his comfort zone to try new things.



AUGUST RECAP

Meet the Teacher Night

Madison Highland Prep welcomed students and families to campus for a great turnout at Meet the Teacher Night! Students had the chance to meet their teachers, get familiar with their classrooms, and catch a sneak peek at our new aviation program through our partnership with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. It was a great way to kick off the new school year and get our community excited for what's ahead.

Club Rush

Club Rush gave students the opportunity to explore the many clubs and activities available at Madison Highland Prep. Students walked around campus, met with club leaders and sponsors, and learned more about how they can get involved. With so many ways to connect, Club Rush was all about finding your people and building community at MHP.

Academic Awards Assembly

We celebrated the hard work and achievements of our students at our Academic Awards Assembly! Students who earned a place on the Principal's List and Honor Roll were recognized for their dedication and academic success. We are incredibly proud of all of our students and their commitment to excellence!





NEWS ON CAMPUS

Taking Flight at MHP

Highland Prep Academies is proud to announce a historic new partnership with Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, the first partnership of its kind in Arizona.

This collaboration brings exciting new opportunities in aviation education to our students, including the ability to work toward their private pilot's license while still in high school.

We're also proud to celebrate Mr. Jones, who is now a certified flight instructor and will help guide students through their aviation journey. With this partnership and dedicated instruction, Madison Highland Prep is giving students the opportunity to turn an interest in aviation into real skills and experience for their future.



Building Skills for the Future

Madison Highland Prep's new Fabrication and Welding program is officially underway, giving students the opportunity to learn hands-on skills in an advanced manufacturing shop. Using a U/LINC curriculum engineered by Lincoln Electric, students are learning to weld, cut, machine, and build real projects from design to finished product while working with industry-grade equipment.

We're excited to see our students get hands-on, build their skills, and create something they can be proud of!



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Q: What have you been up to since graduating from Madison Highland Prep, and what does life look like for you now?

A: I earned a Bachelor's of Science in Family and Human Development at Arizona State University. I currently work as a Library Assistant with the Phoenix Public Library, and I am now pursuing a Master's in Library and Information Science with the goal of becoming a public librarian.

Q: In what ways did your experience at MHP prepare you for college, your career, or life after high school?

A: The dual enrollment and AP classes at Madison Highland Prep were extremely helpful in preparing me for the intensive work I would encounter in college. The credits I earned also allowed me to graduate a semester early, and the academic rigor at MHP prepared me to tackle challenging workloads.

Q: Was there a teacher, class, program, or experience that had a lasting impact on you? Tell us a little about it.

A: Mr. Casey and Mr. Schultz helped me overcome my struggles with math through their patience, flexibility, and understanding. My time in volleyball, basketball, and softball also had a lasting impact, and the memories I built through sports will stay with me forever.

Q: What advice would you give to current students as they think about their future and the goals they want to achieve?

A: You're all still very young and have a lot of time to explore your interests, so it's okay if you're unsure about what you want to do in life. Take advantage of the help and support available to you, explore clubs and programs, and most importantly, learn as much as you can and have fun doing it!



Leslie Garcia

Q: Looking back on your time at MHP, what is something you appreciate now that you may not have fully recognized as a student?

A: I appreciate now how easy it was to build connections with classmates at MHP. Having classes with the same students every day helped create a strong sense of community and camaraderie, and I'm grateful for the smaller school environment.

Q: What is one accomplishment or milestone since graduating that you're especially proud of?

A: I'd say I'm especially proud of my acceptance into grad school. This opportunity is so meaningful to me and will allow me to grow within my occupation. I am excited to see where it goes from here!



Madison Highland Prep
2026-2027 Academic Calendar

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

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

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

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



NHS BLOOD DRIVE

✧ *Just one donation can save lives!* ✧

WHERE: BLOODMOBILE IN FRONT PARKING LOT

1431 E. CAMPBELL AVE, PHOENIX AZ

WHEN: SEPT 18 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

SIGN UP!



All donors get a Halloween T-Shirt!

*(*Terms & Conditions apply. See [vitalant.org/halloweentee](https://www.vitalant.org/halloweentee))*