



# THE HEAT CHRONICLES

EDITION #80

MADISON HIGHLAND PREP'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2025

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR



## HOME OF THE HEAT

### MHP RANKED 19<sup>TH</sup> AMONG THE BEST HIGH SCHOOLS IN ARIZONA!

Madison Highland Prep is proud to announce its ranking as 19th among the best high schools in Arizona, according to U.S. News & World Report. This prestigious recognition is a testament to our school's commitment to academic excellence and its focus on preparing students for success in college and beyond. The rankings are based on rigorous criteria, including test scores, graduation rates, and college readiness, making this achievement a significant milestone for our school. This honor not only reflects the hard work and dedication of our

students and faculty, but also underscores our reputation as a leader in education.

As a STEM certified school and a continuous PLTW Distinguished School, Madison Highland Prep is dedicated to providing students with a comprehensive education that emphasizes critical thinking and problem-solving skills. This recognition solidifies our mission to empower students to become successful members of an increasingly innovation-driven society and global marketplace.



EDITION #80 / AUGUST 2025

## Message from the Principal

Dear MHP Families,

The quarter is flying by. We are approaching the midway point in our quarter and our students have gotten into the groove of school after summer vacation. It is exciting to see all of the things our students have accomplished in just four weeks.

Our freshmen have learned their way around the campus. All of our students participated in the club fair the first week of school and have been enjoying participating in the various extracurricular activities after school. Our fall athletic season is underway and our Student Council has been busy preparing for our first pep assembly of the year and our

homecoming. Seniors kicked off the year with senior sunrise followed by their first senior meeting of the year. Our seniors have met with our senior counselor and developed a plan to tackle college admissions.

Thank you to our school community for adhering to the drop-off and pick-up procedures. Being diligent about pulling all the way forward and not dropping off or picking students up in front of the school or along the red curb. I would like to personally thank our student body, our faculty and staff, and our parents and community for their commitment to academic excellence. It is extremely rewarding to work with a team so dedicated to providing our students with a quality education.

Yours Truly,

Rosana Rodriguez • Principal



## School Calendar

### AUGUST 2025

|      |                                                                 |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8/26 | Fall Picture Day                                                |
| 8/27 | Stuco Class Rep Elections (11 <sup>th</sup> /12 <sup>th</sup> ) |
| 8/28 | Stuco Class Rep Elections (9 <sup>th</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup> )  |
| 8/29 | Fall Sports Picture Day                                         |
| 8/29 | Fall Pep Assembly                                               |

### OCTOBER 2025

|       |                                       |
|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 10/2  | Government Proficiency Assessment     |
| 10/3  | No Breakfast/Lunch Service            |
| 10/22 | 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade SAT School Day |
| 10/22 | Trunk-or-Treat                        |
| 10/31 | Halloween BBQ                         |

### SEPTEMBER 2025

|      |                                                |
|------|------------------------------------------------|
| 9/5  | Staff vs. Student Kickball Game                |
| 9/9  | Cap & Gown Picture Day, 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade |
| 9/11 | Fall Open House & STEM Showcase                |
| 9/11 | Fall NHS Induction Ceremony                    |
| 9/20 | Homecoming Dance                               |

### NOVEMBER 2025

|             |                                     |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| 11/14       | Winter Sports Pep Assembly          |
| 11/11       | Veteran's Day (No School)           |
| 11/18       | Parent Workshop: FAFSA              |
| 11/22       | MHP Aerial Drone Racing Competition |
| 11/26-11/28 | Thanksgiving Break                  |

# ACADEMIC BULLETIN



## BENEDICTINE UNIVERSITY MESA COLLEGE PRESENTATION

Benedictine University Mesa recently visited our campus to give a college presentation to some of our juniors and seniors. They shared insights on the university's academics, admissions, tuition, and more. We're grateful for their visit and look forward to more great presentations this year!

## MHP COLLEGE PRESENTATIONS:

|         |                                             |
|---------|---------------------------------------------|
| 9/2/25  | Arizona State University                    |
| 9/12/25 | Boston University                           |
| 9/18/25 | New York University                         |
| 9/18/25 | University of Colorado,<br>Colorado Springs |
| 9/19/25 | University of San Diego (Zoom)              |
| 9/22/25 | Bowdoin College                             |

## 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

## PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING SHOE BUILDING PROJECT

Our Principles of Engineering students are currently working on a project where they're tasked with designing and building custom shoes for their assigned teacher or staff member. By applying engineering principles, our engineering students are creating prototypes that cater to their client's unique shoe size, desired style, and comfort level. This project allows them to gain experience in designing, prototyping, and testing.

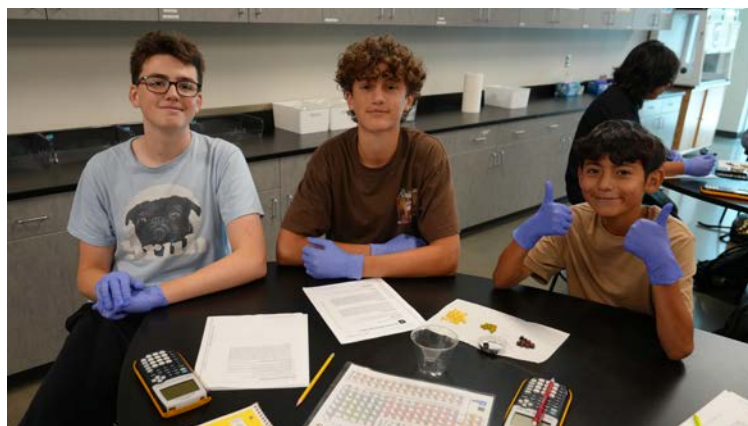


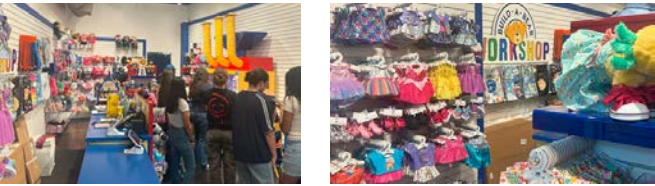
## YEAST REACTION EXPERIMENT

Our Pre-AP Biology students observed how Mr. Cuda generated a catalase enzyme reaction by creating 'elephant toothpaste.' By mixing yeast containing catalase with hydrogen peroxide, students witnessed the enzyme's ability to break down the peroxide, releasing oxygen gas and creating a foamy eruption. This hands-on lab experiment helped students visualize the enzyme's role in speeding up chemical reactions and understand the significance of catalase in biological systems.

## FINDING THE ATOMIC MASS OF BEANS, PEAS, AND CORN

Our chemistry students explored the concepts of isotopes and atomic mass through a hands-on lab activity using beans, peas, and corn. By calculating the average mass of different "isotopes" (represented by the various legumes), students gained an understanding of how varying isotopic abundances contribute to an element's atomic mass.





## VARSITY VOLLEYBALL BUILD-A-BEAR TEAM BOND

The Heat Girls Varsity Volleyball team traded in their volleyballs for stuffed animals at a fun-filled team bonding event at Build-A-Bear Workshop! This activity allowed the team to bond off the court, fostering closer friendships and teamwork.



## TURNING EVERYDAY OBJECTS INTO STILL ART

Our art students are transforming everyday objects into works of art, experimenting with patterns and textures. With the objects right in front of them, students are able to capture the object's intricate details, bringing their subjects to life on paper.

# CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



## 2024-2025 QUARTER 4 ACADEMIC AWARDS

We recently celebrated the 2024-2025 Quarter 4 Academic Awards Assembly, recognizing students who demonstrated academic achievement. Students earning a 3.5-3.99 GPA were honored with the Honor Roll distinction, while those with a 4.0 GPA or above were recognized on the Principal's List. Congratulations to all our students who received this well-deserved recognition!



#VitalToLife



**ADVANCE  
APPOINTMENTS**  
are encouraged.

**NEW BLOOD DONORS NEEDED!**  
If you have never given blood, we need you. The number of Americans who give blood is declining. There is no substitute for human blood and many patients cannot survive without it. Giving blood is truly a selfless and heroic act that gives life to patients. Make an appointment to give blood today!

**DONATE BLOOD**  
vitalant.org | 877-25-VITAL

### Madison Highland Prep Blood Drive Sponsored by NHS

Friday, September 19, 2025  
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

**Vitalant Bloodmobile in Front Parking Lot**

For further information, please contact the School Office at (602) 745-3800. Parents may schedule appointments by visiting [www.vitalant.org](http://www.vitalant.org) (Blood Drive Code: P2W24)

Donate Sept. 8-30 for a chance to win one of two \$10,000 gift cards!\*  
\*Terms and conditions apply; see [vitalant.org/SeptGiveaway](http://vitalant.org/SeptGiveaway).

**vitalant.**

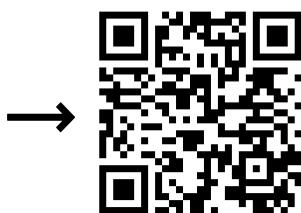
# ATHLETICS

## 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  
MHP sports games!*



## GOFAN FOR TICKET SALES

Madison Highland Prep 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](https://gofan.co) and searching for Madison Highland Prep. 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 MHP teams and stay up-to-date on schedules, scores, and news, visit <https://azpreps365.com/schools/2237>.

## UPCOMING GAMES SCHEDULE:

|               |      |         |                        |   |
|---------------|------|---------|------------------------|---|
| JV Girls VB   | 8/27 | 5:00 PM | Highland Prep Surprise | A |
| V Girls VB    | 8/27 | 6:00 PM | Highland Prep Surprise | A |
| Boys Soccer   | 8/27 | 6:00 PM | Snowflake High School  | H |
| JV Girls VB   | 8/28 | 5:00 PM | Highland Prep West     | A |
| V Girls VB    | 8/28 | 6:00 PM | Highland Prep West     | A |
| Football      | 8/28 | 7:00 PM | Highland Prep West     | A |
| Boys Soccer   | 8/29 | 6:00 PM | St. John's High School | A |
| V Girls VB    | 9/2  | 6:00 PM | NFL Yet Preparatory    | A |
| Boys Soccer   | 9/3  | 4:00 PM | Sedona Red Rock        | H |
| JV Girls VB   | 9/3  | 4:00 PM | Highland Prep West     | H |
| V Girls VB    | 9/3  | 5:00 PM | Highland Prep West     | H |
| JV Girls VB   | 9/4  | 4:00 PM | San Tan Charter        | A |
| V Girls VB    | 9/4  | 5:00 PM | San Tan Charter        | A |
| Boys Soccer   | 9/5  | 4:00 PM | The Gregory School     | A |
| V Girls VB    | 9/9  | 6:00 PM | Rancho Solano Prep     | A |
| JV Girls VB   | 9/10 | 5:00 PM | Antelope Union H.S.    | H |
| V Girls VB    | 9/10 | 6:00 PM | Antelope Union H.S.    | H |
| Girls Flag FB | 9/16 | 6:00 PM | ALA- Ironwood          | A |
| V Girls VB    | 9/17 | 6:00 PM | Seton Catholic Prep    | A |
| Girls Flag FB | 9/18 | 7:00 PM | Marcos De Niza H.S.    | H |
| Football      | 9/19 | 7:00 PM | Parker High School     | H |
| Boys Soccer   | 9/23 | 6:00 PM | Madison Highland Prep  | A |

# HAPPENINGS @ MHP

## SENIOR SUNRISE MEMORIES TO LAST A LIFETIME

Our Madison Highland Prep seniors celebrated the start of their final year with Senior Sunrise, a special morning featuring donuts, bagels and friends! This memorable event marked the beginning of a year filled with excitement, growth, and achievement. We are proud to be a part of their journey and can't wait to see what the incredible Class of 2026 accomplishes this year.



## OUR HEAT EXPLORE THEIR INTERESTS WITH CLUB RUSH

We hosted Club Rush, a fantastic opportunity for students to explore our diverse range of extracurricular clubs and find their perfect fit! During the event, club representatives and advisors showcased their organizations, sharing their passions and recruiting new members. Thanks to their dedication, students were able to discover new interests, connect with like-minded peers, and get involved in activities that align with their hobbies.

### Upcoming Parent Workshop & Teen Talk Schedule:

- 9/16: Senior Parent Workshop: Creating the FSA ID | 5:30 PM
- 9/22: Teen Talk | 3:00 PM
- 10/20: Teen Talk | 3:00 PM
- 10/28: Parent Workshop: Social Media Safety | 5:30 PM
- 11/17: Teen Talk | 3:00 PM
- 11/18: Parent Workshop: FAFSA | 5:30 PM
- 12/2: Parent Workshop: The Social Emotional Rollercoaster | 5:30 PM



**Madison Highland Prep  
2025-2026 Academic Calendar**

|                        |                        |                         |                         |
|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>July</b> 0<br>      | <b>August</b> 20<br>   | <b>September</b> 21<br> | <b>October</b> 3 15<br> |
| <b>November</b> 16<br> | <b>December</b> 15<br> | <b>January</b> 19<br>   | <b>February</b> 19<br>  |
| <b>March</b> 5 12<br>  | <b>April</b> 21<br>    | <b>May</b> 16<br>       | <b>June</b><br>         |

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

**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) | 33 |
| 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 |