



THE HEAT CHRONICLES

EDITION #84

MADISON HIGHLAND PREP'S COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2026

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR



HOME OF THE HEAT

MHP EARNS SECOND VEX STATE CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFICATION!!

Madison Highland Prep's VEX Robotics team, MHP Smoking Motors (Team 8373M), has officially qualified for the Arizona State Championship after a dominant performance at their recent tournament. The team secured their advancement by winning the prestigious Robot Skills Champion award. They are the second Madison Highland Prep team to qualify for the 2026 Arizona VEX Robotics State Championship, following a successful advancement earlier in the season by MHP Loose Screws (Team 8373P). The success of Smoking Motors is built on a

foundation of specialized roles tailored to each member's strengths. The team features Michael Syntax (driver, coder, builder), Eshan Syed (driving coach, builder, coder), Moises Borrallles (driving coach, builder), Andrew Reese (coder, notetaker), and Ozill Correa (notetaker). This well-coordinated partnership allows the members to communicate effectively and adapt quickly to the fast-paced challenges. As they prepare for the state championship on March 6-7, 2026, the team remains focused on the high level of competition ahead.



EDITION #84 / JANUARY 2026

Message from the Principal

Dear MHP Families,

We are almost at the midway point for the third quarter. Our students and school community have accomplished so much this year and there is so much more to do before May.

Our student council is preparing for our winter spirit week which concludes with our winter BBQ on Friday, February 6th, and the “Love is in the Air” winter formal on Saturday, February 7th. Our service club hosted a “Giving Rack” where students could pick out new items for their wardrobe for free from donations they collected. VEX robotics has had two teams qualify for the upcoming Arizona VEX robotics state competition in March. Our

spring athletes are gearing up for upcoming tryouts by participating in preseason workouts. The class of 2026 has 100% 4-year college/university acceptance and, to-date, 90% of our seniors have completed the FAFSA. It is exciting to witness our students’ commitment to their personal and academic growth, as well as, their pursuit of higher education.

MHP’s education team is counting on families to continue to support their students. Through their unwavering focus and drive in and out of the classroom, our students continue to develop the necessary skills and experiences to thrive in a 21st century global marketplace. The future is bright for MHP scholars!

Yours Truly,

Rosana Rodriguez • Principal



School Calendar

JANUARY 2026

1/10 MHP VEX Robotics Competition
1/12 Teen Talk w/ Ms. Schwindt
1/13 Parent Workshop: Scholarships 101
1/19-1/23 9th Grade ECAP Assignment
1/26-1/30 10th Grade ECAP Assignment

MARCH 2026

3/2 Spring Visual & Fine Arts Showcase
3/24 Parent Workshop: College Admissions
3/25 11th Grade SAT School Day
3/27 NHS Blood Drive
3/28 HPA SeaPerch Competition

FEBRUARY 2026

2/2-2/6 Winter Spirit Week
2/6 Winter BBQ
2/7 Winter Formal
2/12 Spring Open House & STEM Showcase
2/12 Spring NHS Induction Ceremony

IMPORTANT DATES:

- 2/21/26: Course Registration
- 3/6/26: No Breakfast/Lunch Service
- 3/9-3/13: Spring Break (No School)
- 3/31: 11th AzSCI/ 9th ACT Aspire Testing
- 3/31: 10th/12th Asynchronous Learning

ACADEMIC BULLETIN



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH: ISABELA NAVA

We are thrilled to spotlight senior Isabela Nava, who has earned acceptance into the prestigious Culinary Institute of America

(CIA) in New York to study Baking & Pastry Arts! After navigating an intensive application process complete with recommendation letters and a personal essay; Isabela's hard work was rewarded with a nearly full-ride scholarship. What began as a creative outlet and a way to share thoughtful gifts with family and friends has now paved the way for her to attend the world's premier culinary college this fall. We are incredibly proud of her dedication and look forward to the many accomplishments she will achieve!



MHP EARNS PLATINUM DISTINCTION ON AP HONOR ROLL!

Madison Highland Prep achieved the prestigious Platinum distinction for the second consecutive year. As the highest level of recognition awarded by the College Board, this repeat Platinum status distinguishes MHP for its commitment to broadening student access to college-level coursework and fostering a culture of academic excellence.

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

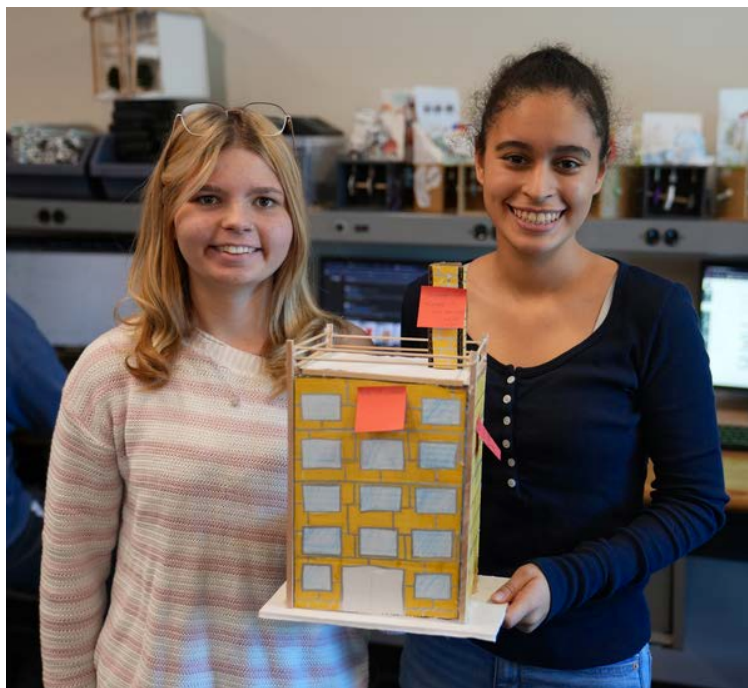
SPANISH CLUB, B114

PING PONG CLUB, B211

STEM DIGEST

CIVIL ENGINEERING ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

Our Civil Engineering students recently completed a hands-on project where they designed and constructed custom house models, with each student drawing inspiration from a specific architectural style. This activity challenged them to master everything from foundational structural planning to the most intricate aesthetic details, showcasing their impressive technical skill and creative vision. Great job, young architects!



AP CHEMISTRY CREATES BALLOON ATOM MODELS

To master the complexities of Valence Shell Electron Pair Repulsion (VSEPR) theory, our AP Chemistry students constructed vibrant balloon models to visualize how atoms arrange themselves in space. This hands-on activity allowed students to explore molecular geometries like Linear, Tetrahedral, and Octahedral structures.



BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE MEETS FORENSIC INVESTIGATION

Our Biomedical Science students launched into their forensics unit with a series of hands-on labs! The class gained practical experience in forensic analysis by dusting for and lifting latent fingerprints, then identifying specific ridge patterns such as loops, whorls, and arches. Beyond the prints, students utilized microscopic hair observation to examine samples under high power, learning how to distinguish unique biological markers.

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT **OF THE MONTH**



MR. PIÑA

Mr. Piña teaches Aerospace Engineering, Principles of Engineering, and Cyber-security at Madison Highland Prep. He earned his bachelor's degree in Business Communications from Ari-

zona State University and graduated from Rio Salado College Post-Baccalaureate program where he completed his teacher preparation program. Beyond the classroom, he serves as the advisor for VEX Robotics. We are thrilled to have Mr. Piña on our STEM faculty, where he brings real-world technical expertise directly into the classroom. In his debut year as the VEX Robotics advisor, he has already made a significant mark by coaching two separate teams to State Championship berths.



MHP SERVICE CLUB VOLUNTEERS AT FARM

The MHP Service Club helped harvest vegetables that go directly into community food boxes at the St. Vincent de Paul Urban Farm. This farm provides thousands of healthy meals to our neighboring families. Junior Calvin Arias, shared, "It was a fun experience! We hadn't harvested before so it was great to see a new side of service."

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



DIGITAL MEDIA RECIPE VIDEOS COLLABORATION

Mr. Rasmussen's Digital Media & Tech students launched an exciting collaboration with Ms. Cecilia and the MHP Cafeteria staff to produce a brand-new recipe video series. Students are utilizing their cinematography and audio skills to capture every sizzle and spice, turning standard meal prep into digital storytelling. According to cafeteria manager Ms. Cecilia, this partnership "creates community outreach between the cafeteria and students on campus," allowing them to learn "recipes they can use at home" alongside their technical training. Mr. Rasmussen noted that the project allows students to "practice their editing skills while also helping their school," a sentiment echoed by senior Thomas Clyne, who edited the video below and shared that while the process is tedious, it has been a "really fun experience."



Scan the QR code to view the debut installment of our new cooking series, featuring a step-by-step guide to our **Honey BBQ Meatball** recipe. Stay tuned for more recipes!

ATHLETICS



A SPECIAL HEAT THANK YOU TO ADM & CHASSE!

MHP extended a special thank you to the ADM group and Chasse building team for the generous donation of our campus scoreboard this 25-26 year. We are incredibly grateful for this investment in our programs, as it continues to elevate the game-day experience for every Heat athlete and fan!



SOCCER SENIOR NIGHT

We honored our two seniors, #6 Abbigail Leslie-Fiori and #15 Brittney Juarez, with a heartfelt celebration during their final home game. From that very first kickoff to this emotional farewell, both athletes have embodied the relentless spirit of the Heat. We are so proud of the athletes you've become and can't wait to see your next chapter!

ATHLETE SPOTLIGHTS OF THE MONTH



LILIANNA OLIVARES

Sophomore, Lilianna Olivares, #12 has quickly become an indispensable force at power forward, proving that hard work and discipline are the ultimate game-changers. Despite this being her very first season ever playing basketball, she has already earned a spot as a varsity

starter through a relentless work ethic and coachable spirit. On the court, rapid improvement is undeniable; she recently dominated with a massive 15 rebounds and 4 blocks in a single game, showing exactly why she's been called the team's "secret weapon." Off the court, Lilianna mirrors that same excellence and eagerness by maintaining a perfect 4.0 GPA. While she started the season as a hidden gem, discipline and talent have made it impossible to keep this student a secret any longer.



CADE CARLSTROM

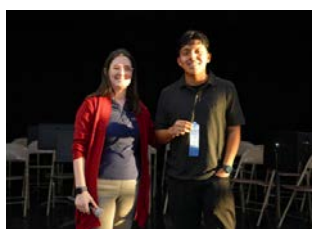
Junior, Cade Carlstrom, #15 is one of the captains of our varsity basketball team and a driving force behind the team's success this season. On the court, Cade is a relentless competitor who plays with a high motor from tip-off to the final buzzer, never taking a possession off. His physicality,

basketball IQ, and toughness allow him to control the game, make plays for teammates, and guard multiple positions. Cade leads the team in both scoring and rebounding, averaging 15 points and 12 rebounds per game, while also contributing 4 assists, 3 steals, and 2 blocks. As a leader, he leads by example through his work ethic, accountability, and willingness to do whatever the team needs to win. Keep up the great work, Cade!

HAPPENINGS @ MHP

INCOMING FRESHMEN COURSE PLACEMENT TESTING

We had an amazing time welcoming our incoming freshmen to campus for their course placement testing. A huge thank you to our dedicated staff and students for ensuring everything ran smoothly. With testing wrapped up, we now look forward to the final stage of the enrollment process: MHP Course Registration on Saturday, February 21st, 2026, from 9:00 to 11:00 AM at the MHP Gym.



AMAZING WINTER VISUAL & FINE ARTS SHOWCASE

Our Visual & Fine Arts Showcase was a magnificent celebration of talent, bringing our community together to honor the creativity and passion of our student musical artists and performers. The evening featured a stunning gallery display from our visual arts students and high-energy performances from our band and strings ensembles. It was a joyful night that highlighted the vibrant arts culture at Madison Highland Prep.

LOVE IS IN THE AIR SPIRIT WEEK FOR 2/2-2/6:

Monday



Star Cross
(Twins) Day

Tuesday



Anything but a
Backpack Day

Wednesday



White Lie
Wednesday

Thursday



Valentine's
Colors Day

Friday



Super Bowl
Jersey Day

Madison Highland Prep
2025-2026 Academic Calendar

July 0 	August 20 	September 21 	October 3 15
November 16 	December 15 	January 19 	February 19
March 5 12 	April 21 	May 16 	June

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
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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

OPEN ENROLLMENT

2026-2027 Incoming Freshman Open Enrollment Deadlines



Pre-Enrollment Period: September 1, 2025 - November 28, 2025

Incoming Freshman must complete and submit the enrollment application to begin the enrollment process for the 2026-2027 school year. The enrollment application is located and can be submitted through the MHP website at www.MadisonHighlandPrep.org. The enrollment application is also available in the school office.

Enrollment Packets Due: Friday, December 19, 2025

Incoming Freshman must complete and submit the registration packet to secure enrollment in the Class of 2030. Registration packets may be returned to the school office, via facsimile, or via email to: clflores@madisonhighlandprep.org

Placement Testing Date: Saturday, January 24, 2026

Incoming Freshman 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 Freshman that do not complete the placement testing may not receive an enrollment seat for the 2026-2027 school year.

Course Registration Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026

Incoming Freshman must register for Fall 2026 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 Freshman that do not complete the course registration may not receive an enrollment seat for the 2026-2027 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



Scan code to enroll



**SPRING OPEN HOUSE
AND**

STEM SHOWCASE



- Join us for a night where we welcome students and families to Madison Highland Prep!
- This event will highlight our students' innovative projects and provide insights into our STEM programs.

See you there!



MADISON HIGHLAND PREP
1431 E CAMPBELL AVE
PHOENIX, AZ 85014

DATE/TIME:
FEBRUARY 12, 2026
5:00- 6:30 PM





MADISON HIGHLAND PREP COURSE REGISTRATION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST, 2026

9:00 A.M. TO 11:00 A.M

MHP STUDENT COMMONS



- Register for Honors Level & Elective Courses
 - Preview Athletics with Coaches
- Learn about our 2026 Summer Camps
- Explore our Extracurriculars & Clubs
 - Get a Tour of our Campus

