



GLADIATOR WEEKLY UPDATE

[NPX WEBSITE](#)

[NPX ATHLETICS](#)

[NPX CALENDAR](#)

Dear Gladiator Families,

It's hard to believe that we are already halfway through the 3rd quarter of the school year, and I write to draw your attention to two important matters that require your participation and preparation.

Family Survey – Your Voice Matters

On Tuesday, February 10th, you will receive the annual Great Hearts Family Survey. Your thoughtful responses provide invaluable insight into what is working well and where we might improve. Whether addressing curriculum, communication, community life, or extracurricular programs, your honest feedback guides our decision making in a way that best serves your children and our mission. You'll also have an opportunity to recognize the teachers who have made an impact on your students. I love getting to share these life-giving comments with our devoted faculty.

The survey will be open through February 24th, and I urge every family to complete the survey within the first week of its release. Last year, 44% of families participated in this survey, but we know that more voices are needed for us to have a full picture. **This year we've set the ambitious goal of 75% participation, with the reward of a free dress day for the school if we meet or exceed it. Other raffles and prizes are also in store, so complete your survey as soon as possible!**

AASA, AzSci, ACT Aspire, PSAT and ACT Testing

Our students will participate in state assessments beginning in late March and continuing into early April. While standardized testing captures only one dimension of our students' growth and progress, we nonetheless want each student to perform their best and to approach these assessments with confidence and preparation.

To support your student's readiness, middle school teachers are implementing review questions and practice tests into their curriculum. Look for the testing calendar and additional preparation resources in this newsletter, including links to online practice tests. I encourage you to review these materials with your students in the weeks ahead.

Please ensure your students are well-rested, have eaten a healthy breakfast, and arrive on time during testing windows. These simple measures make a significant difference in performance.

It is a joy to partner with you in the education of your children, and we hope you have a wonderful weekend.

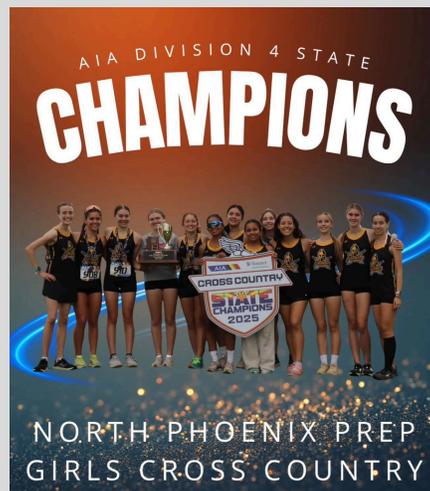
With devotion,

Erin Lentz | Headmaster



NPX COACH OF THE YEAR!

Brad Curtis Named Arizona's Cross Country Coach of the Year!



The USTFCCCA has named Brad Curtis of North Phoenix Prep the 2025 Arizona Girls Cross Country Coach of the Year. This prestigious honor recognizes Curtis's leadership during a standout season that culminated in a state championship victory.

A Decade of Dedication

The award marks the pinnacle of over ten years spent building the program. Curtis attributed the success to a "long-term vision" shared by his athletes, their families, and his coaching staff.

"Sharing this honor in the same season as our girls' state championship makes it especially meaningful," Curtis shared.

Community & Impact

Athletic Director Jon Rickey praised Curtis for his meticulous planning and community-building, citing initiatives like the Annual Root Beer Mile and Winter Track Showcases. As the Great Hearts Director of Track, Curtis's influence extends beyond his own campus, helping shape programs across the entire state.

The National Stage

Coach Curtis is now a finalist for the National High School Cross Country Coach of the Year award. The national winner will be announced by a panel of experts next month.

Congratulations, Coach Curtis, on this well-earned milestone!

Upcoming State Testing Resources for Families



As we approach our upcoming state testing window, we want to ensure our students feel confident and prepared. Familiarity with the testing platform is one of the best ways to reduce "test day" nerves and help students focus on showing what they know.

The Arizona Department of Education (AzDOE) emphasizes the importance of these practice materials, noting in their Assessment Achievement manual:

"These resources provide students a hands-on experience with the TestNav tools and question types they will encounter in the actual test environment" (p. 2).

We highly recommend that parents and students take some time together to explore the TestNav Sample Tests and the Student Readiness Tool. Practicing with these tools allows students to become comfortable with the digital interface and the specific formats of the questions they will see on the actual exam.

Please use the links below to access these practice resources. Taking a few moments to familiarize yourself with the platform now can make a world of difference on testing day!

👉 **Directions:** Click on the link and choose Arizona.

Scroll to the very bottom (**skip the login info**) and click "mic check and sample tests". Choose the test you would like to sample.

[AASA Sample Tests and Student Readiness Tool](#)

Directions: This is for grades 6, 7, and 8. Select Arizona, then click on "Mic Check and Sample Tests"

[AzSCI Sample Tests and Student Readiness Tool](#)

Directions: This is for grades 8 and 11. Select Arizona, then click on "Mic Check and Sample Tests"

Important Dates

02/07 8th Grade Dance(6:00-8:00 PM in Archway MPR)

02/09 Headmaster Chat -All grades (8:30 AM in the library)

02/13 R&R Weekend (no homework)

02/16 NO SCHOOL (Presidents Day)

02/18 10th, 11th, 12th Field Trip to see Henry The Fifth ([Register HERE](#))

02/20 Middle School Social On Campus

(6th- 8th from 6:00-8:00 PM, 8th grade can stay until 9:00 PM)

10th, 11th, 12th FIELD TRIP!

SIGN UP NOW

FEB 18TH

[NPX PARENT PAYMENT PORTAL](#)

A graphic for the Henry The Fifth field trip. It features the word "HENRY" in large, white, distressed font, with a yellow inverted triangle behind the letter 'Y'. The background is a dark, textured scene with silhouettes of soldiers in a field.

★ NOTE: STUDENTS NOT ATTENDING THIS TRIP WILL BE REQUIRED TO DO A MAKEUP ASSIGNMENT.



Headmaster chats for Sem. 2 - Open to all grades

Join Ms. Lentz in the library for an open discussion (8:30 AM)

February 9th

March 2nd

March 23rd

YEARBOOK

Order your yearbooks now

ORDER YEARBOOKS HERE

YEARBOOK

Blue Willo

- Pre-order online or pay at the door
- 20% of all lunch sales are given back to the school
- Most Meals: \$7.00, Pizza: \$8.00 -À La Carte Items: \$2.50 – \$4.50

[Blue Willo Info](#)
[January Menu](#)

[2025-2026 Calendar Now Online](#)

[FULL NPX EVENTS CALENDAR HERE](#)

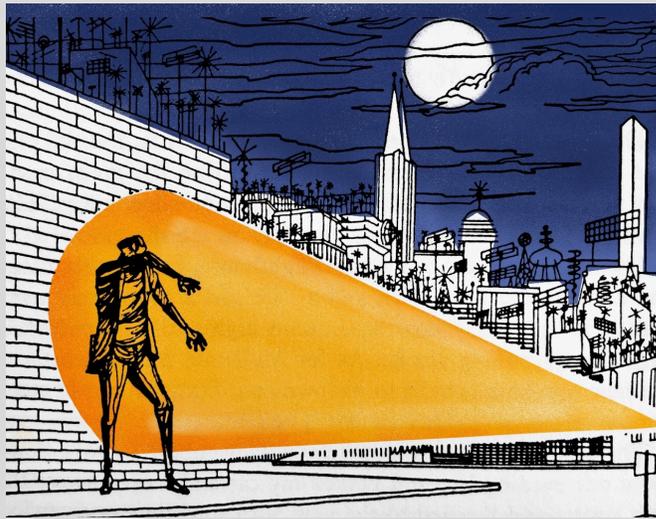
Parents, sign up for the next parent seminar!

Ever wonder what happens in a Humane Letters classroom?

Now is your chance to find out. The Liberal Arts Council invites you to a special seminar hosted by our Humanities faculty. We will set aside the textbooks and engage in a Socratic discussion of two influential works:

The seminar will be held in the Library from 6:00 - 7:00 PM. [RSVP using this link](#) to let us know you plan to attend. We look forward to seeing you there!

**4/16 The Pedestrian, short story by Ray
Bradbury (it's just two pages!)**



Globetrotting Gladiators



What's Included?

- Round-trip airfare and on tour transportation
- Hotels with private bathrooms
- Breakfast and dinner
- Full-time Tour Director
- Daily activities, tours and entrances to attractions



Costa Rica
June 11 - June 19, 2026

Learn More and Enroll
www.eftours.com/2876851WB

Japan
June 2 - June 10, 2027

Learn More and Enroll
www.eftours.com/2932484ZH

Community Giving

Annual Campaign Funding Update



Community Investment: 78% of our goal

Tax Credit: 41% of our goal

We're making great progress—but we're not there yet. Your support directly funds this year's school budget, and with just five months left, every family's participation truly matters. No gift is too small. When our community comes together, the impact on our students is powerful.

Take action today: [Learn more and make your family gift now.](#)

Questions or need help getting started? Jackie Curtis, Family Giving Officer, is happy to assist at jcurtis@northphoenixprep.org.

Let's finish strong—together!

🎉 Tax Credit Season Is Here! 🎉



Help us reach our goal by April 15 with your Arizona Public School Tax Credit—it directly supports our students at no additional cost to you!

🏆 Competition Time with some fun incentives to help us reach our Tax Credit Goal:

- **Middle School: House with highest participation wins 🏆 + exclusive lunch gym time**
- **High School: Grade with highest participation wins 🏆 + exclusive gym time**

🎁 Tax Credit Tuesday Drawings for a chance to WIN- Win a FREE yearbook, Gladiator gear, athletic swag, or a Blue Willow lunch pass!

Drawings will be held on 2/16 • 3/1 • 3/16 • 4/1 • 4/15

All Families- It's a Dollar-for-dollar. Win-win. Tell your AZ family & friends they too can take advantage of the AZ Public School Tax Credit to help our school reach our goal!

👉 [Donate today!](#)

DANCE!

DANCE!



JOIN US FOR A

Eighth Grade Dance

MASQUERADE NIGHT

Saturday February 7th
6 to 8 p.m.
at Archway MPR

semi formal attire



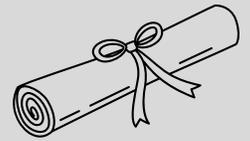
\$15 Online \$20 At the door





College Counseling

college@northphoenixprep.org | northphoenixprep.org/college



CAREER TALKS

High school students are invited to hear from local professionals who offer a unique, first-hand perspective on their educational journey and current profession.



Monday, February 9 Lyceum

Armed Forces Day featuring representatives from the U.S. Air Force, Army, Marines and Navy

Thursday, February 12 Lyceum

- Pilot
- Banker
- Business & Sales
- Trial Lawyer

GREAT HEARTS' COLLEGE SYMPOSIUM: Saturday, February 28

High school families, connect with 60+ colleges nationwide at Great Hearts' College Symposium, hosted by Scottsdale Prep. [RSVP today!](#)

UATX High School Honors: Saturday, February 28 - Sunday, March 1

Hosted at Veritas Preparatory Academy

Sophomores - Seniors will take on college-level work while building intellectual courage, cultivating community, and learning for themselves what a UATX education entails. Seminars include America's Founding Principles, Transhumanism, and the Philosophy and Technology of Artificial Intelligence. Students will have the opportunity to meet current students, hear from university leaders, and gain firsthand insight into the UATX model and mission. Access the [schedule](#), [seminar topics](#) and [register](#) by February 19!

ACT TEST PREP OPPORTUNITIES

Juniors will take the computer-based ACT—including Writing and Science sections on **Tuesday, April 7th**. Students may also register independently for additional test dates at local centers for \$68. In the meantime, check out FREE test-prep opportunities:

- [Revolution Test Prep](#) – Build confidence, improve pacing and endurance, and pinpoint areas for growth with free practice exams offered this spring!
- [Kaplan](#) – Access half-length practice tests, an ACT Question of the Day, and study tools.
- [Princeton Review](#) – Try a full-length practice test and join online strategy sessions led by test experts.



Even though it feels like winter, summer will be here before you know it! Now is the time to [research enrichment opportunities](#) that help your teen explore academic interests and support their college search.

Business, Journalism & Pre-law Opportunities

ASU Fleischer Scholars Program, Tempe campus *NEW

Ideal for Juniors who are seeking to enhance their strategic thinking capabilities, unlock their potential, and build a strategic mindset through this free, transformative, pre-college program from June 1-6. [Apply by February 15](#) for priority consideration.

ASU's Civic Leadership Institute 2026, Tempe campus

Dive into the Declaration of Independence and Constitution to connect liberty, equality, democracy, and civic responsibility to real-world community involvement. Free day program from June 22-26 for rising 9th-12th graders (2.75+ GPA). [Apply by March 1](#).

University of Arizona Business Careers Awareness Program *NEW

EY, an international public accounting firm, teamed up with the UA to provide Juniors with an opportunity to explore business careers, learn about UA, and become involved in the Eller community during a free, week-long residential program. [Register by March 1](#).

ASU Camp Cronkite, Downtown Phoenix campus *NEW

Camp Cronkite allows high school students (ages 15-17) to dive head-first into media and journalism for a week-long residential program in June. By day, Cronkite faculty, staff, and student guides lead campers in hands-on learning then campers enjoy scheduled evening programming at Gordon Commons residential hall. [Apply by March 15](#).

Medical Volunteer Opportunities

Honor Health Summer Teen Volunteer Program: Rising Juniors-Seniors perform a variety of duties in our medical centers and at Desert Mission Food Bank. Teens will interact with HonorHealth team members, patients and family members. [Apply by February 25](#).

Dignity Health Summer Junior Volunteer: At Dignity Health, Junior Volunteers (ages 14-17) help with various tasks around the hospital, including helping in the nursing areas, answering phones at the information desk, assisting with miscellaneous office duties, making patient beds and helping visitors and patients get around our campus. [Apply by February 28](#).

College Counseling

college@northphoenixprep.org | northphoenixprep.org/college

NPX PARENT SERVICE ORGANIZATION

Join us in making a difference!

Raptor authorization with a \$6 fee [here](#).



SHOP FRY'S AND SUPPORT NPX!

Go to: Fry's Food.com

To get started, visit

www.FrysCommunityRewards.com with your V.I.P. card.

PSO



INFORMATION

HERE!

Parents Supporting NPX

[PSO LINK TREE](#)

From the Front Office: Procedures and Policies Overview



Leaving Items/Lunches at the front Desk:

All lunches, water bottles, and other items must be dropped off at the front desk before 10:00 AM. Items dropped off at the front desk after 10:00 AM - The student will not be called down until the next day of school for pickup (lunches included). This is to avoid classroom interruptions.

Reporting Absences:

Email Attendance@NorthPhoenixPrep.org before 8:00 AM with:

- Student's First and Last Name
- Grade
- Date of Absence(s)
- Reason (illness, appointment, family emergency, etc.)

Unexcused absences will be marked if no email is received.

Tardies: Late students only must check in at the front office. Parents are no longer needed to check in student. Tardies for appointments will be unexcused until a note is provided. After 3 tardies, a detention is issued.

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[NPX CALENDAR](#)

[Headmaster Chats](#)

[Bell Schedule](#)

[NPX Family Handbook](#)

[Academy Giving](#)

[Configio Payment Portal](#)

[Uniform Policy](#)

New

Business Directory

Great Hearts North Phoenix Business
Directory

[Click Here](#)



QUICK LINKS