



1300 Silver Eagle Drive  
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34688

Office: (727)942-5419

Fax: (727)942-5441

[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

01/28/2024

Good afternoon Eagle Families,

This is Dan Schmittiel, Principal of East Lake High School, with some important reminders for the week. Looking outside of the academics, our students are always ready to SOAR to success as we progress throughout the school year. This week we continue with Winter Athletics – let’s show our school spirit and cheer on our different sports teams, clubs, and performing arts programs throughout the year – a list of this week’s events can be found below:

- **Varsity Girls Soccer** takes on Sunlake HS away on Tuesday 1/30 in the district championship game
- **JV/Varsity Boys Basketball** faces Dunedin HS at home on Monday 1/29 and Fivay HS at home on Thursday 2/1 for our SENIOR NIGHT
- **JV/Varsity Girls Basketball** faces Fivay HS away on Thursday 2/1 and Wiregrass Ranch HS away on Friday 2/2
- **JV Boys Wrestling** hosts a quad meet Wednesday 1/31 against Palm Harbor, Dunedin, and Countryside at 6:30pm
- **Girls Varsity Wrestling** will travel to Boca Ciega HS on Thursday 2/1 for the PCAC Wrestling Tournament
- **Boys Varsity Wrestling** will host a quad meet for our SENIOR NIGHT on Friday 2/2 versus Pinellas Park, Tarpon Springs, and Northeast at 6:30pm

We hope to see you there to cheer on the team this week, good luck Eagles!

Congratulations to some of our clubs and performing arts programs for outstanding recent accomplishments:

- **Ethics Bowl Team**: The East Lake High School Ethics Bowl Team won the Tampa Bay High School Ethics Bowl in Saturday’s competition at the SPC Clearwater Campus! They’ll move on to compete in the Super Regional Round in the next few weeks!
- **Silver Sound Band**: The 25 Silver Sound band students who performed with the Pinellas All-County Bands this past weekend at the Mahaffey Theater. For those who would like to see the concert, videos of the performance will be posted on the PCS website within the next few days!
- **Guys Read Team**: the team took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the district competition Friday!
- **Visual Arts Program**: Our nine art students were recognized at the 2023-24 Pinellas Student Surrealist Exhibit at The Dali Museum this past week, two receiving top honors with the Award of Merit and the Award of Excellence! The exhibit will be open at The Dali Museum through February 25<sup>th</sup>. In two short weeks, over 37 of our art students will be recognized for their amazing work at the Scholastic Awards event at Gibbs HS, 10 of which earning a Gold Key Award who will compete in the national adjudication in NYC!

### **Curriculum Fair and 2024-25 Course Registration**

On Tuesday 1/30 we will have a modified bell schedule to host our in-school 2024-25 school year course promotion event. Students will have an extended 4<sup>th</sup> period class to view a course promotion video that highlights

some of the amazing courses and opportunities that each of our departments offer to students at East Lake High School. As a reminder, some of the Engineering courses are available to students not enrolled in our District Application Program, assuming there is space in the classes, including Game & Sim, Robotics, and our newly formed Pinellas Technical College course in the Eagle Forge Academy. We will also be extending lunch on Tuesday to provide students an opportunity to speak with teachers and students from any of the departments that they have questions about courses after watching the video during 4<sup>th</sup> period. The modified bell schedule can be found in the attachment.

[\\*https://www.pcsb.org/cms/lib/FL01903687/Centricity/Domain/110/Tuesday1-30-24ModifiedBellSchedule.pdf](https://www.pcsb.org/cms/lib/FL01903687/Centricity/Domain/110/Tuesday1-30-24ModifiedBellSchedule.pdf)

On Wednesday 1/31 we will host a current family ELHS Curriculum Fair Night from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. Stop by for one of the short 15 minute presentations on Course Registration or Advanced Placement courses, along with walking to the different tables represented by each of departments, some of our clubs offerings, and some of our athletic programs to ask questions and learn more about the courses and extracurriculars offered at East Lake High School. The options for the event can be found below:

- **Course Registration Presentation:** Want some guidance on the process, how to navigate the course request sheet and the Curriculum Guide available on our website? Come to one of the 15-minute presentations starting at 5:30pm, 6:00pm, and 6:30pm in the Auditorium.
- **Advanced Placement Potential:** Does your student show AP potential in any Advanced Placement course? This will cover the AP courses offered at ELHS, the benefits of taking AP courses, and understanding AP potential. Come to one of the 15-minute presentations starting at 5:30pm, 6:00pm, and 6:30pm in the Media Center.
- **Department Tables:** We'll have tables set up during the 5:30pm to 7:00pm where you can stop by and speak to any of our different departments to ask specific questions or learn more in general about what they have to offer.
- **Clubs and Athletics Tables:** Though the focus of this event is centered around 2024-25 course offerings and assisting with preparing for the registration process, some of our clubs and athletic programs will also be represented during the 5:30pm to 7:00pm window. Feel free to stop at any time to learn more – more information can also be found on our school's website.

All of this is intended to assist students and families in navigating the 2024-25 course registration. Course registration will begin the week of February 5<sup>th</sup> through student's English classes.

### **Summer Driver's Ed**

The Pinellas County Schools Summer Driver's Ed program will be open for registration beginning January 29<sup>th</sup> through February 6<sup>th</sup>. This is a lottery process – please see the flyer for more information:

- <https://www.pcsb.org/driversed>
- <http://tinyurl.com/PCSB-Summer2024DriversEd>

### **Spring Sports Tryouts**

Flag Football and Track begin tryouts this week. Remember that all athletes must be cleared through athletic clearance to participate. If you have any general questions regarding Spring athletics, please reach out to Mr. Latimore, Assistant Principal over Athletics, or Coach Hudson, Athletic Coordinator:

- **Flag Football:** Tryouts are Monday 1/29 to Friday 2/2 after school. Pre-season workouts are occurring now, Monday through Thursday after school. If you have any questions or would like more information, please reach out to Coach Khan ([khana@pcsb.org](mailto:khana@pcsb.org), room 3-132).
- **Track:** Tryouts will take place on Monday 1/29 at 2:10pm on the track. If you have any questions or would like more information, please reach out to Coach Taylor ([taylorbrit@pcsb.org](mailto:taylorbrit@pcsb.org)).

### **Additional Announcements/Reminders**

- **Anonymous Reporting:** As most of you are aware, Pinellas County Schools has partnered with Sandy Hook Promise which allows us to offer the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System. This allows

stakeholders to submit a secure and anonymous safety concern that helps us identify and intervene in a proactive way. Please remind your student(s) that this is in place to assist with addressing a concern and also a way for someone get any help that may be needed – tips are passed along to appropriate law enforcement and school personnel. FortifyFL is also another reporting system that is available to report suspicious activity which allows Florida students and the community to relay any safety concerns. Both links can be found below.

- [Say Something Tips — Sandy Hook Promise](#)
- [FortifyFL \(getfortifyfl.com\)](https://getfortifyfl.com)

- **Senior Updates/Reminders:**

- There's still a few Universal Grad Bash tickets available but they're selling out quick – the event will take place on Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 12pm to roughly 4am the following morning. Tickets can be purchased during lunch and after school in room 2-205 for \$200 by cash or check. Please reach out to Ms. Stang at [stangr@pcsb.org](mailto:stangr@pcsb.org) for more information.
- Graduation is fast approaching. If you have not paid your graduation fees, please use the link attached to this callout to pay your fees on GoFan by January 29<sup>th</sup>, and reach out to Mrs. Skinner at [skinnerL@pcsb.org](mailto:skinnerL@pcsb.org) if you have any questions, including if you need financial assistance.

- **College and Career Updates:**

- Need money for college? The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is now open! Create your FSA ID a few days before filling out the FAFSA to make it easier than ever. Want help? Attend one of the FAFSA completion nights at a neighboring school. For more information, see the attached flier!
- **FAFSA Completion Nights**
  - <https://www.pcsb.org/cms/lib/FL01903687/Centricity/Domain/110/SchoolFAFSANights2023-24-Flyer.pdf>
- There's also additional scholarship information that can be found on our school's website – hyperlinks for each can be found below. For more information surrounding any scholarship and community service hours, please have your student speak with Natasha Gallaty, our College and Career Coordinator.
- **Bright Futures:**
  - <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPHome/SAPHome?url=home>
- **Pinellas Education Foundation Scholarships:**
  - <https://pinellaseducation.awardspring.com/>
- **Additional Scholarships:**
  - <https://www.pcsb.org/Page/39425>
- On February 27<sup>th</sup>, Pinellas County Schools will host a College & Career Fair from 6pm to 8pm at Pinellas Technical College. Over 40 local businesses and 60 colleges and universities will be in attendance, plus a Parent Master Class to learn more about Bright Futures, the college selection process, and more! See the flyer for more information and to register:
  - <https://www.pcsb.org/cms/lib/FL01903687/Centricity/Domain/110/South County CCC Spring Fair 2024.png>
- **Mu Alpha Theta Tutoring:** As a reminder, Mu Alpha Theta offers free math tutoring every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday in room 9-211 during lunch. Students may bring their lunch and eat while getting tutored in math!

- **Science National Honor Society Tutoring**: As a reminder, SNHS hosts science tutoring in room 2-214 every Tuesday and Thursday during lunch. Stop by to get some help with your homework or study with a friend!
- **Flag Football Kickoff Spirit Night**: Help support the East Lake HS Flag Football Team at The Lake 85 on Monday 1/29 for their Annual Kickoff Dinner – a portion of sales that night go directly to help the team
- **2024-25 AVID Program Application**
  - With course registration for the 2024-25 school year around the corner, both you and your student will be receiving lots of information surrounding the variety of course options available. One of those great programs is AVID! AVID is an elective course offered for each grade level that centers around targeted supports for college and career readiness. If your student is interested in all that this great program has to offer, you can apply using the Microsoft Forms survey link below – it's available to any and all students interested! There will be opportunity this week on Wednesday in the Media Center to learn more about the program as well.
  - <https://forms.office.com/r/U9mk4uZ4jS>
- **Reporting Absences**
  - If student is absent, please ensure you report the absence within 48 hours. Please refer to page 53 of the student code of conduct for more information.
  - [2023-2024-Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf \(pcsb.org\)](#)
- **Tardies, Dress Code, and Cellphones**:
  - As a reminder, it is a continued expectation that students are to class each period on time. We will continue using our Student Conductor tardy kiosks for the ELHS tardy system throughout semester 2.
- Please also remind your child to follow the Pinellas County Schools dress code, which can be found on page 56 of the Student Code of Conduct ([2023-2024-Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf](#)). Continue to remind them about our cellphone expectations at ELHS as well – they are to be off and out of sight in the classroom unless the teacher has a lesson specifically utilizing them. For each of these, along with other student expectations, we will continue to follow the ELHS Discipline Matrix throughout semester 2.

Let's continue to SOAR through semester 2 at East Lake High School! If you have any questions at all, as always, please don't hesitate to reach out to your Assistant Principal or Counselor. Always remember that Life is Better at the Lake. Have an amazing rest of your weekend and GO EAGLES!

Dan Schmittiel, Principal  
East Lake High School

*Vision- 100% student success*

*Mission- The community of East Lake High School will develop productive and responsible students who are prepared for post-secondary education, the workforce and citizenship.*