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[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

02/04/2024

Good afternoon Eagle Families,

This is Dan Schmittiel, Principal at 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 Boys Basketball** faces either Sickles HS or Palm Harbor University HS at home at 7pm on Thursday 2/8 in the district semifinals – the team has a bye in the quarterfinals
- **Varsity Girls Basketball** faces Palm Harbor University HS away on Tuesday 2/6 at Plant HS at 5:30pm in the district quarterfinals
- **Varsity Girls Wrestling** competes in the District Competition at Boca Ciega HS this week
- **Varsity Boys Wrestling** compete in PCAC’s at Palm Harbor University HS on Saturday 2/10
- **Theatre Department** will put on the Make em Laugh Comedy Night at 7pm in the auditorium on Friday 2/9
- **Ethics Bowl Team** competes in the Divisional Playoff on Thursday 2/8 at 6pm virtually
- **Visual Arts Program** will highlight 37 of our art students who will be recognized in the Scholastic Awards event at Gibbs HS on Thursday 2/8, 10 of which earned a Gold Key Award who will compete in the national adjudication in NYC

We hope to see you there to cheer on our students this week. Good luck Eagles!

2024-25 Course Registration Reminders

Course registration for the 2024-25 school year will begin the week of February 5th through student’s English classes. Attached below you’ll find our Curriculum Guide and Course Request Sheet again – please review if you still need information regarding scheduling for next year!

- 2024-2024 ELHS Curriculum Guide <http://tinyurl.com/wdmza4nz>
- 2024-2025 ELHS Course Selection Sheet <http://tinyurl.com/y6zvckc>

Students Before School

Starting tomorrow, Monday, February 5th, students that arrive on campus before 7:10am will need to either be in the main outdoor hallway as they enter campus or in the cafeteria. And please remind your child that breakfast is free for all students in the cafeteria! They’ll be able to access their lockers starting at approximately 7:10am each morning.

School Store

Students and teachers, check out the Eagle’s Nest school store right outside Student Services which opens this Friday, February 9th. As students earn SOAR Cash throughout the year for SOARING like an Eagle within the classroom and in the halls, they can cash it in for snacks, drinks, spirit gear, and eventually access to different events for free! The store will be open each Friday starting February 9th.

Prom, Senior Breakfast, and Graduation Reminders

This year, Prom will take place on Friday, March 22nd at Ruth Eckerd Hall. More information surrounding tickets will be announced as we move through the month of February.

Senior breakfast will take place on Monday, April 29th this year. The breakfast is an optional ticketed event at Ruth Eckerd Hall, which is followed by a mandatory graduation assembly later in the day at East Lake High School to discuss the graduation ceremony, including cap and gown distribution. More information to come as we progress through semester 2 for both senior breakfast and the mandatory graduation assembly for seniors on April 29th! And graduation for the class of 2024 is fast approaching! As a reminder, graduation is at Tropicana Field on May 16th at 5:45pm.

Senior families, Sunday is your last chance to pay for graduation fees prior to us submitting the cap and gown order. Seniors must pay their fees to walk at graduation – fees can be paid on GoFan by searching East Lake High School, Tarpon Springs, FL or by clicking the link included below. If you are not walking or are borrowing a previously used cap and gown, you must reach out to Mrs. Skinner at skinner1@pcsb.org ASAP.

- *Grad Fee Link:* <https://gofan.co/event/1293047?schoolId=FL5841>

Yearbook Reminders

Purchase your 2023-24 yearbook today and your student will receive a free gift! Go to www.yearbookordercenter.com and enter the School Code 1232. Yearbooks will out so get yours before it's too late!

Summer Driver's Ed

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

- **Driver's Ed Flyer**
<https://www.pcsb.org/cms/lib/FL01903687/Centricity/Domain/110/SummerDriversEdwebpage-2024.pdf>

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 \(getfortifyfl.com\)](http://getfortifyfl.com)
- **Dali Museum Field Trip:** This takes place on Wednesday 2/7 – students attending need to check in with Senora Damp on Monday or Tuesday prior to the Field Trip for some final instructions
- **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!
- **SADD SAVE Club Meeting:** The group will meet this Thursday at lunch – anyone and everyone is welcome in the Large Conference room near Student Services
- **Varsity Cheerleading:** There will be an informational meeting for anyone interested in trying out for Varsity Cheerleading on February 13th during lunch in room 4-205B.
- **Flag Football Spirit Night:** Stop by Crumbl Cookie in Boot Ranch – mention East Lake Flag Football and 15% of your purchase goes to the team!

- **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
 - <http://tinyurl.com/2324FAFSACompletion>
- 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>
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- On February 27th, 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/SouthCountyCCCSpringFair.pdf>

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.