03/03/2024
Good afternoon Eagle Families,

This is Dan Schmittdiel, 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 progressing through our Spring Athletics season, along with the Pinellas’ Music Performance Assessment – 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 Softball** faces Hollins HS away on Tuesday 3/5 and Windermere HS at home on 3/7
- **Varsity Baseball** faces Alonso HS at home on Thursday 3/7 and Alonso HS at home on Friday 3/8
- **Varsity Girls Lacrosse** competes against Cypress Creek HS at home on Monday 3/4 and against Palm Harbor University HS at away on Friday 3/8
- **Varsity Boys Lacrosse** competes against Mitchell HS away on Tuesday 3/5 and against Palm Harbor University HS away on Friday 3/8
- **Varsity Tennis** competes at home against Northeast HS on Tuesday 3/5 and faces Palm Harbor University HS away on Thursday 3/7
- **Varsity Flag Football** competes against Steinbrenner HS at home on Wednesday 3/6
- **Concert Band and Wind Ensemble** will play in the Pinellas’ Music Performance Assessment at Pinellas Park High School on Wednesday 3/6. Concert band performs at 5:00pm, and the wind ensemble, one of the highest performing bands in the state of Florida, performs at 8:30pm

We hope to see you there to cheer on our students this week, good luck Eagles!

*Congratulations to our Lady Eagle Varsity Soccer Team for an amazing season – on Saturday they were named the 6A state runners-up. We’re so proud of you ladies!*

**Say Something Week (March 4-8)**
Next week our school and schools across the country will be participating in *Say Something Week*. The three goals of the week are to teach students how to:

- Recognize warning signs and threats of someone who may be at-risk of hurting themselves or others
- Say something to a trusted adult to get help
- Grow a community of upstanders who look out for one another

Student leadership developed different activities centered around this theme during the week – see the flyer for more information! Please review the flyer with your child and encourage them to participate. There will be activities during lunch that students and staff can join in!

-  [https://tinyurl.com/SaySomethingWeek2024](https://tinyurl.com/SaySomethingWeek2024)
Wrapping Up Quarter 3
As a reminder, this Friday, March 8th, is the last day of quarter 3. As we wrap up the last week before spring break, if your child has any missing work or currently has a low grade in any of their classes, have them speak with their teachers early this week. There may be opportunity this week and during spring break to work on not only improving their grade but also to master the missed material and have a great jumpstart to quarter 4! Also, remember that semester grades are determined by a combination of quarter 3, quarter 4, and semester exam grades.

Spring Challenge (March 6-22)
Starting this week, March 6th through March 22nd, ELHS will be participating in the High School Spring Challenge. This is an extremely powerful opportunity for students to review critical information from all of our tested areas as we approach quarter 4, state testing, and final exam testing. These reviews will reinforce all of the learning from their different classes – classes will be working on how to access these awesome reviews with students this week. Please ensure that your student(s) takes advantage of this during break! We’ll also be celebrating individual students and classes with high levels of participation in each of the different core areas. More information can be found in the attached flyers, and we’ll continue to send out reminders!

- Spring Break Challenges [https://tinyurl.com/2024SpringBreakChallenges](https://tinyurl.com/2024SpringBreakChallenges)
- Biology Spring Challenge [https://tinyurl.com/2024SB-BiologyChallenge](https://tinyurl.com/2024SB-BiologyChallenge)
- US History Spring Challenge [https://tinyurl.com/2024SB-USHistoryChallenge](https://tinyurl.com/2024SB-USHistoryChallenge)

In-School SAT – Juniors
All juniors will sit for the FREE in-school SAT on Wednesday, March 6th, 2024. Students will test using their school issued laptops utilizing the Bluebook application. Students will need to log into the PCS testing account with their school issued laptop and verify that the application is ready to go prior to March 6, which they’ll have a chance to do this week at school. It’s crucial that they bring their laptops fully charged every day, but especially the day of testing (3-6-24). This is a free testing opportunity that is available to all juniors that can be used for A) testing concordance, B) college admissions, and/or C) Bright Futures.

ELHS Prom
As a reminder, prom will take place on Friday, March 22nd at Ruth Eckerd Hall. Tickets will go on sale later this week and will continue the week we return from spring break. For more information, please reach out to our Junior Class Sponsor, Mr. Reisinger at [reisingerri@pcsb.org](mailto:reisingerri@pcsb.org).

2024-25 Course Registration
If your student still hasn’t submitted their course request sheet for next school year, please have them speak with their School Counselor ASAP early this week.

Lunch Menu Changes
Starting Monday there will be some modifications to the lunch menu each day. Please see the below listed menu for both breakfast and lunch for more information.

- March Breakfast Menu:
- March Lunch Menu:
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)

- **NHS Reminders**:
  - We are at the halfway point for 2nd semester, which means hours are due before you know it! Be sure to check the LinkTree found in the NHS Instagram bio or the wall outside room 4-222 for all of the in-person and donation options! You can drop off your items to Mrs. Munson in 4-222 or Mr. Eustace in 3-222.
  - Graduating seniors, the RevTrak for cowls will be open on 3/18 and run through 3/29. They are $25. This will be the only opportunity to order your NHS regalia for the ceremony. Seniors will also need to have a total of 20 hours for the year, 4 of which need to be in-person, by 4/26, to pick up their cowl.

- **Varsity Cheerleading Tryouts**: This will be held March 19, 20, and 21 at 2:15pm in the gym. Athletic clearance paperwork must be turned in prior to trying out. Step by step directions can be found on the school website under the athletic tab. All rising juniors and seniors are welcome to tryout!

- **Senior Breakfast, and Graduation Reminders**:
  - 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.

- **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!

Let’s continue to SOAR at East Lake High School as we close out quarter 3 this week and move into Spring Break, which starts after Friday, March 8th! 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 Schmittdiel, 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.