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[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

01/12/25

Good Afternoon Eagle Families,

This is Dan Schmittiel, Principal of East Lake High School, with some important reminders and updates as we continue with the second semester at The Lake. As always, let's look outside of the academics first to celebrate our students in their various extracurriculars along with events taking place on campus. Students are always ready to SOAR to success both in and out of the classroom within our athletic programs, clubs, performing arts, and visual arts. Check out this week's events below:

- **Boys JV/Varsity Basketball** face Largo HS on Monday 1/13 and River Ridge HS on Friday 1/17 away
- **Girls JV/Varsity Basketball** face Palm Harbor University HS on Tuesday 1/14 away, Mitchell HS on Thursday 1/9 away, and Countryside HS on Friday 1/10 at home
- **Boys Soccer** face Northeast HS on Monday 1/13 at home to celebrate our Seniors in SENIOR NIGHT, Osceola Fundamental HS on Wednesday 1/15 at home, and Largo HS on Friday 1/17 away
- **Girls Soccer** face Northeast HS on Monday 1/13 at home to celebrate our Seniors in SENIOR NIGHT and Largo HS on Friday 1/17 away
- **Boys Wrestling** compete in the JV PCAC IBT at Boca Ciega HS on Wednesday 1/15 and in the Mitchell Quad Tournament at Mitchell HS on Friday 1/17
- **Girls Wrestling** compete in Lady Red Devils IBT at Lathleen HS on Friday 1/17
- **FAFSA Completion Night** will take place on January 22 at East Lake High School starting at 5:30pm – advisors from local colleges will be on site to assist with questions as well!
- **Pinellas Technical College** admission information session takes place in the Media Center on January 22 at 12:00pm for all interested sophomores, juniors, and seniors
- **Parent Master Class** will take place to learn all about how to support your student in preparation for the SAT at Largo HS on January 16, Dunedin HS on January 23, and Boca Ciega HS on January 27, all at 5:30pm to 6:30pm <https://tinyurl.com/ur267v9u>
- **ELHS PTSA and SAC** will meet on Tuesday 1/14 starting at 6pm. PTSA will meet first followed by our SAC meeting. The PTSA meeting will be a brief review with time for comments, along with announcing the nomination committee for the 2025-26 ELHS PTSA board positions. Anyone interested in being active in the collaboration of the ELHS PTSA board for next school or just an interest in being involved should come join the team next Tuesday for either the PTSA or SAC committee – we hope to see you there!

Good luck to all of our Eagles in all of their extracurriculars!

## ***Some reminders for the week:***

### **Semester 1 Grades, Report Cards, and Weekly Reports**

Semester 1 grades were finalized Friday the 10<sup>th</sup>. This is a quick reminder, report cards will be posted to both your Focus account and your students on Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, in the afternoon. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your student's teacher!

Weekly progress reports will start back up this Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>. Throughout the quarter, if you have any questions regarding classroom grades, please reach out to your student's teacher – they'd be happy to assist!

### **Upcoming Senior Scholarship Opportunities**

Senior families, are you looking for scholarship opportunities as you plan for next year? There are several deadlines for some amazing scholarship opportunities this month, two of which include the Pinellas Education Foundation Senior Scholarships and the CFY Pinellas youth scholarships available for graduating seniors.

- **Pinellas Education Foundation Senior Scholarship**: the senior scholarship application which awards over 120 different scholarships for seniors closes on January 31. Scholarships range from \$500 to \$5,000 to graduating seniors in Pinellas County Schools!
  - o [https://pinellaseducation.org/initiatives/multiple-pathways/scholarships/?gad\\_source=1](https://pinellaseducation.org/initiatives/multiple-pathways/scholarships/?gad_source=1)
- **CFY Pinellas Scholarship**: CFY provides over 45 scholarships to graduating seniors in Pinellas County ranging from \$3,500 to \$10,000, along with additional scholarships which cover two years of tuition and books at St. Pete College!
  - o <https://cfypinellas.org/>

### **Spring Sports Tryouts**

As we move into semester 2, Spring Athletics are coming! Below are currently tryout schedules which we will continue to communicate as we get closer to those dates. Remember, 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:

- **Baseball** – Monday 1/13 and Tuesday 1/14 from 2:30-4:30pm (Baseball Field)
- **Softball** – Monday 1/20 from 8-10am and Tuesday 1/21 from 4:30-6:30pm (Softball Field)
- **Tennis** – Tuesday 1/21 through Thursday 1/23 from 2:30-4:30 (Tennis Courts)
- **Girls Lacrosse** – Monday 1/20 from 8-10am and Tuesday 1/21 through Wednesday 1/22 from 2:30-4:30pm (start in Media Center)
- **Boys Lacrosse** – Monday 1/20
- **Track & Field** – Tuesday 1/21 from 2:10 pm (Track)
- **Flag Football** – Monday 1/27 through Wednesday 1/29 from 2:15-5:00pm (start in room 3132)

### **Additional Reminders**

*(Anonymous Reporting and College, Senior Updates, and Career Center Updates)*

- **Anonymous Reporting**
  - o 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 which helps us identify and intervene in a proactive way. Please remind your student(s) this is in place to assist with addressing a concern and also a way for someone get any help they may need – tips are passed along to appropriate law enforcement and school personnel. FortifyFL is also another reporting system 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

- Senior families – time is running out to submit your senior dedication page. Please go to [www.yearbookordercenter.com/job/1232](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com/job/1232) to design your senior ad ASAP. Please contact our yearbook adviser, Mrs. Wall at [walln@pcsb.org](mailto:walln@pcsb.org) with any questions.
- As a reminder, the graduation ceremony for the Class of 2025 will take place on Thursday, May 29 at 9:00am at the Yuengling Center at USF Tampa. More information will be released as we get closer to the event. We can't wait to celebrate the Class of 2025 on May 29!
- It's time to secure your cap and gown along with paying your senior grad fees. Below you'll find links to A) purchase your cap and gown purchase (required \$59.81 which includes the cap, gown, and tassel) and B) pay the senior graduation walking fees (required \$50). Seniors do need to purchase both. The graduation walking fees cover things like the venue rental, event security and flowers, programs, yard signs, and other aspects which assist with making the day and ceremony special for all of our students walking across the stage. If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to reach out to Ms. Stang, our Senior Class Sponsor, at [stangr@pcsb.org](mailto:stangr@pcsb.org).
- CAP AND GOWN: <https://hub.jostens.com/ls/7ed522a8-6ef6-433e-a669-a571dd80545b/sf-NdDkQWd6joHAF#/>
- GRAD WALKING FEES: <https://pcsb.revtrak.net/hs/east-lake-high/elhs-senior-class/elhs-graduation-walking-fee/>

## - College and Career Center Updates

- **Complete the FAFSA.** The new FAFSA is much easier and quicker. The first step is creating an FSA Id: <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account/launch>. We will have a FAFSA completion night on January 22nd at 5:30 at East Lake. Financial Aid Advisors from local colleges will be on hand to assist. <https://www.pcsb.org/cms/lib/FL01903687/Centricity/Domain/110/School FAFSA Nights 2024-25 - Flyer.pdf>
- **Bright Futures** - complete the FFAA: <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPHome/SAPHome?url=home>
- **Pinellas Ed Foundation Senior Scholarships** - Students submit one application to be considered for over 300 scholarships! Last year over \$710,000 in scholarships were awarded to graduating Pinellas County Seniors. Fill out the application before it's too late!
  - <https://pinellaseducation.awardspring.com/>
- **Other Scholarship Opportunities:** <https://www.pcsb.org/Page/39425>. Students can also look in Xello (through their Clever account) to find other scholarships.
- **Save the Date: February 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6-8pm.** 901 34<sup>th</sup> St. South, St. Pete.
  - **College and Career Fair:** University recruiters, financial aid information, career/internships, military recruiters all in one place! <https://www.pcsb.org/cms/lib/FL01903687/Centricity/Domain/110/South Pinellas CC Fair 2025.pdf>
  - **Pinellas Technical College Open House:** Meet instructors, get financial aid information, enter to win a \$500 scholarship. <https://www.pcsb.org/cms/lib/FL01903687/Centricity/Domain/110/PTC Open House 2025.pdf>
- **Internship Opportunity:** The Bank of America Charitable Foundation is now accepting applications for the 2025 Student Leaders® program. We will be selecting four local high school students to represent Tampa Bay in 2025. In light of your role at a local high school, we would like your help spreading the word. <https://www.bankofamerica.com/studentleaders>
- **Have questions?** Need help? [Book an appointment with me Mrs. Gallaty](#)

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to reach out to your Assistant Principal or Counselor. Let's SOAR to new heights during semester 2 at The Lake! Have an amazing rest of your weekend and GO EAGLES!

Dan Schmittiel, Principal  
East Lake High School  
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*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.*