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[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

1/29/2023

Good Afternoon Eagles Families,

This is Dan Schmittiel, Principal at East Lake High School, with some important reminders for this upcoming week. First off, we've had an amazing start to semester 2 of the 2022-23 school year! Looking outside of the academics, our students are soaring to success through the multitude of extracurriculars, most recently, our theatre department put on an amazing performance in Beauty and the Beast Jr. this past weekend with so many committed students both performing and behind the scenes, the amazing success of our Winter Sports programs, the highlight of the amazing work of many of our art students at the Dali Museum this week for the Student Surrealist Exhibit, and much more. We're beyond proud of all of our students' successes in and out of the classroom, keep it going!

### Senior Scholarship Opportunities

Senior families, don't forget to complete the FAFSA (federal scholarships, grants, loans) and the FFAA (Bright Futures and other state financial aid) both ASAP, **along with the application through the Pinellas Education Foundation which closes on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.** The foundation awards over \$700,000 in scholarships that your student could qualify for, so fill out the single application ASAP! Links to each of these can be found below – if you need more help working through the various opportunities, schedule an appointment with our College and Career Coordinator, Natasha Gallaty, at <https://bit.ly/ELCCC-Booking>.

- FAFSA: <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>
- FFAA: <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/>
- Pinellas Education Foundation: <https://pinellaseducation.org/initiatives/multiple-pathways/scholarships/>
- Pinellas County Schools Scholarship Opportunities: <https://www.pcsb.org/Page/39425>

### Semester 2 Grades

We're off to a great start for semester 2 – to ensure this continues throughout the semester, as always, please check your students grades and attendance regularly in Focus. As an added layer of communication, I will be sending out weekly progress reports each week for all students that will be sent to your student's primary parent/guardian email address. This will provide you with a grade breakdown week by week to get a snapshot as to how your student is performing within each of their classes. If you ever have any questions surrounding grades in those reports or from when you access grades yourself in Focus, please reach out to your student's teacher for more information and context. When looking in Focus, you will see an 8<sup>th</sup> course listed for your student. Please know that this is solely in place for me to send you this information each week and will not be tied to any additional coursework, grades, or attendance.

### Student Tardies

We will be rolling out our modified tardy policy in the coming weeks, and you will be receiving a callout specific to that information later this upcoming week. As a reminder for all students, imperative to reiterate the importance and expectation for students to be on time to all classes throughout the day. The highlighted changes to the policy are primarily that students will A) get a tardy pass prior to heading to class and B) all tardies will accrue together from the start of the modified policy versus a different count for each class period in the past. Before the start date, students will need to locate their FOOD SERVICES PIN if they do not know it already, which can be found in

Focus in their general information. This is a unique number that each student has been assigned, which they should keep confidential. To ensure consistent communication, an email will be sent to your student's primary parent/guardian email address whenever they receive the tardy pass. This will allow for you to be in the know each day.

### **Electronic Devices**

A reminder about the use of electronic devices: students are not permitted to use devices to take photos or record audio/video of other students or staff without the consent of that person. The use of phones and other devices are also not permitted in bathrooms and locker rooms.

### **No Student Food Orders**

As we move into semester 2, this is a quick reminder that food orders from any food delivery service/restaurant is not allowed. Students are expected to either take advantage of school lunch or bring their own each day. Please make sure to continue to remind your student(s) of this expectation.

### **Staff Kudos**

Do you want to celebrate a specific ELHS staff member and have been looking for a platform to give them kudos? Now's your chance! Our staff kudos survey will be available all year – take a minute to complete it to give an ELHS staff member a shout-out for all of the amazing things they do for our students each and every day. We will share the positive feedback with our staff! Please use the Microsoft Forms survey link in the email from this callout to provide the kudos:

- <https://forms.office.com/r/USeQsGBnE0>

### **Important dates for Seniors (Class of 2023)**

- 2023 Graduation: Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 5:30pm
- Friday 3/31: Grad Bash @ Universal Studios (seniors will be asked to leave class at 12:45pm)
- Saturday 4/22: Prom @ Ruth Eckerd Hall
- Thursday 4/27: Senior Breakfast @ Ruth Eckerd Hall AND Senior Assembly
- A reminder to visit <https://elhssenior.weebly.com> to keep up with all things Senior Class!

### **Summer Driver's Ed Program Opportunities**

Pinellas County Schools will offer two sessions of Driver's Education classes this summer starting June 5th at 10 high school sites throughout the county. The online registration window for students to register is January 25th thru February 2nd. For specific details about the summer drivers ed program including the sites, dates, and the requirements, go to the summer drivers ed link on your school's website or go to <https://www.pcsb.org/driversed>. Don't forget to register starting January 25th!

### **Guidance Updates**

12<sup>th</sup> grade students should take advantage of the Pinellas Education Foundation Scholarship opportunity. Seniors can complete this scholarship here: <https://pinellaseducation.org/initiatives/multiple-pathways/scholarships/>. The scholarship deadline to apply is January 31, 2023.

### **Dress Code Reminders**

The Pinellas County School Board has adopted a dress code for students in all district schools that all schools are making a concerted effort to adhere to. Here is a direct link to the dress code page from the student code of conduct for reference. <https://tinyurl.com/2022-2023PCSBDDressCode>. Families may be contacted to provide a change of clothes if your student does not have something else with them which meets the Student Code of Conduct guidelines.

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to reach out to your Assistant Principal or Counselor. Have an amazing rest of your weekend, stay safe, and GO EAGLES!

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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.*