



**1300 Silver Eagle Drive  
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34688**

**Office: (727)942-5419**

**Fax: (727)942-5441**

[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

**10/20/24**

Good Afternoon Eagle Families,

This is Dan Schmittiel, Principal of East Lake High School, with some important reminders and updates for the week. As always, let's look outside of the academics to support and celebrate our students in their various extracurriculars as our students SOAR to success as we progress throughout the school year both in and out of the classroom. Let's show our school spirit and support our sports teams, clubs, and performing arts this year! Check out this week's events below:

- Swim and Dive compete in the district tournament this week – dive is on Thursday 10/24 and swim is on Friday 10/25, both at The Academy of the Holy Names pool
- Boys and Girls Bowling competes in the district tournament on Tuesday 10/22 at Pin Chasers
- Cross Country competes in the PCAC Championships this Tuesday 10/22
- Boys and Girls Golf competes in the district tournament
- JV Football takes on Palm Harbor University HS on Wednesday 10/23 away
- Varsity Football takes on Largo HS on Friday 10/25 away

**Good luck to all of our Eagles in all of their extracurriculars! Some reminders for the week:**

### **Upcoming SAT/PSAT Testing**

We will have a FREE opportunity for all students to take either the SAT or PSAT. We have shifted testing to Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, where all seniors are scheduled to take a free in-school SAT and all freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will take the free PSAT. For juniors, this is the year where they'll take the PSAT to potentially qualify for various scholarships, including National Merit. There is no need to opt-in for any of these assessments as all students are automatically registered based on the assessment their grade level takes. Juniors will have an opportunity to take a free in-school SAT in March as well.

Testing will begin at the start of the school day, so if your student attends classes off campus or has a release period at that time, please ensure they are on campus for the start of the school day, 7:25am. Additionally, testing locators will be posted by student services and in the main hallways as we approach the testing date. Students will need to bring their school-issued laptop fully charged that day, along with a writing utensil and their laptop charger. More information on testing logistics for October 24<sup>th</sup>, including a day designated to ensure BlueBook is functioning properly, the testing application for both assessments, will be sent out this weekend.

### **College and Career Center Updates**

- **SPC Free Application Day** – SPC will be on campus on November 14<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am to 11:30am in the Media Center for their free application day – see the flyer below for more info:

- **Flyer** - <https://tinyurl.com/ycyhjmbe>
- **College Admissions Info** – College admissions representatives from the University of Central Florida will be on campus October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 12:15pm, USF on October 29<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm, and University of North Florida on October 30<sup>th</sup>, all to meet with interested students. Please have your student register if they haven't already, and a flyer can be found below:
  - **Flyer** <https://tinyurl.com/yt88447h>
- **The College and Career Fair** at Countryside High School has been rescheduled for October 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:30 pm. There will be over 140 colleges, universities, and businesses from across the nation.
  - **Flyer** - <https://tinyurl.com/3azwzt5d>
- **The Pinellas Ed Foundation Senior Scholarships** - application is now open. 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.
  - <https://pinellaseducation.awardspring.com/>
- **Walkers Rising Stars** - One of the most recognized arts awards programs in the country, this yearlong initiative assists high school juniors and seniors in honing audition and portfolio skills. Application deadline is October 20th.
  - [https://www.cognitofrms.com/PinellasEducationFoundation1/\\_2425WalkersRisingStarsStudentApplication](https://www.cognitofrms.com/PinellasEducationFoundation1/_2425WalkersRisingStarsStudentApplication)
  - **Flyer** - <https://tinyurl.com/58nb2ze2>
- **Bright Futures** - The Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA) is now open. Every graduating student must complete the FFAA in order to be eligible for state grants and scholarships, including Bright Futures. <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/>

## **Upcoming Homecoming Week**

To ensure that families have time to prepare and to provide students with a full week experience, we are postponing homecoming week. We will be moving it to the week of November 4<sup>th</sup>, with the homecoming dance taking place on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at East Lake High School. This will also push back the ELHS Powder Puff tournament, which will take place on Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. We will announce information on ticket sales for students that qualify and dress up theme days as we approach that date.

## **ELHS PTSA Update**

As a part of our hurricane relief efforts, the ELHS Theater Boosters, students, and PTSA will be giving away HOCO dresses and suits on Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup> from 7am to 3pm in the theater lobby. Please access the theater or PTSA Facebook/Instagram page for a link to a Google Form if your student would like to make an appointment to check out the available attire during the school day, or just stop by during either lunch or after school. There are multiple sizes with over 100 dresses available. The available attire will be first come, first served – if your student is interested and needs their HOCO attire, have them set up a time and stop by the theater Monday!

## **Additional Reminders**

(Hurricane Relief, Anonymous Reporting, School Lunch Updates, Clothing Donations, Yearbooks, and Mu Alpha Theta Tutoring)

- **ELHS Community Hurricane Relief**

- The East Lake High School National Honor Society and PTSA have partnered to continue our donation drive in support of the many families and staff members that were significantly impacted by both Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton. We are collecting hygiene products, non-perishable food, household items, clothing, and other essentials for distribution to affected families within our school community. Here's a list of urgently needed items:
  - Personal hygiene products
  - Cleaning supplies
  - Towels and blankets
  - Clothing, socks, undergarments, and middle school uniforms
  - Non-perishable food items (packaged goods, snacks, drinks, etc.)
  - Bottled water
- Additionally, we've created an Amazon wish list with additional items that can be donated. You can drop off any donations during the school day. If your family is in need, your student can come by the office throughout the day, or you can set up a time after 1:55pm with the office to take a look and take when you need to support your family. Any assistance helps and we appreciate everyone's support as we come together as a community at The Lake!

- **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 \(getfortifyfl.com\)](#) -

- **School Lunch Update**

- For those unaware, our Food & Nutrition Department at all schools in Pinellas County will serve all meals free of charge to all students through the end of October. This is due to the events of Hurricane Helene. As a reminder, breakfast will continue to be free of charge for all students beyond that time.

- **Clothing Donations**

- In the south end of the school within the teacher parking lot, there's a clothing donation bin. If you have any clothing you're giving away, feel free to drop it off at any time – not only is it for a good cause, ELHS also receives some funding to support the school!

- **Yearbook Sales and Picture Retakes**

- Senior picture retakes will take place on Thursday October 24 in the afternoon in the auditorium lobby. Please also place your senior dedication ad before space is gone at [www.yearbookordercenter.com/job/1232](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com/job/1232) or contact Mrs. Wall at [WallN@pcsb.org](mailto:WallN@pcsb.org) with any questions. She can answer questions about senior portraits, yearbook sales, and our upcoming picture retake day!

- **Mu Alpha Theta Math Tutoring**

- Math tutoring is available in the Media Center every Tuesday and Thursday during both lunches.

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to reach out to your Assistant Principal or Counselor. We look forward to the continuing an amazing year! Always remember that Life is Better at the Lake where we SOAR together – have an amazing rest of your week, let us know what we can do to support, and GO EAGLES!

Dan Schmittiel, Principal  
East Lake High School  
[SchmittielD@pcsb.org](mailto:SchmittielD@pcsb.org)

***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.***