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[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

10/27/24

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 regional tournament this week
- Cross Country competes in the district tournament this Wednesday 10/30 at the Ed Radice Complex
- Boys and Girls Golf competes in the district tournament this week
- JV Football takes on Hollins HS on Wednesday 10/30 at home
- Varsity Football takes on Countryside HS on Friday 11/1 away
- East Lake Silver Sound Marching Band competes in MPAs this Saturday 11/2 at Palm Harbor University HS

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

Additionally, we will have tryouts this Monday for both girls basketball and boys basketball:

- **Girls Basketball:** We'd like to welcome our newest Eagles Staff, Coach Vanriper, who will be coaching our girls basketball team this year. The Lady Eagles Girls Basketball Team will be holding open tryouts on Monday 10/28 and Tuesday 10/29 from 6pm to 8pm in the ELHS gym. Please arrive in the gym lobby near the concession stand at 5:30pm. Every young lady is welcome to tryout as long as all district athletic paperwork is complete prior to being allowed to participate. We will be having two teams this season, and Coach V is looking forward to seeing you next week!
- **Boys Basketball:** Boys basketball tryouts will take place this upcoming Monday 10/28 and Tuesday 10/29 in the ELHS gym from 4pm to 6pm both days. Similarly, all students are welcome to tryout as long as all district athletic paperwork is complete prior to being allowed to participate.

Some reminders for the week:

Quarter 1 Grades

This past week began quarter 2 of the 2024-25 school year. With that, grades were finalized this past Friday, October 25th. Report cards will be posted to both student and parent Focus accounts on Tuesday 10/29. If you have any questions regarding any of the grades, please reach out to that specific teacher. I will continue sending weekly progress reports this Wednesday 10/30.

Senior Updates

Seniors, if you haven't yet, it's time to look ahead. We're over ¼ of the way through the school year and graduation will be among us in the blink of an eye! Not only is it crucial to be working hard in their classes and planning for their post-secondary journey, they also need to prepare for the ceremony itself. Though we don't have a confirmed date yet, 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*). You'll also find a flyer with quick QR links to both. 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 that 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.

- 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/>
- FLYER:

Homecoming Week

Homecoming week will begin next Monday 11/4. Homecoming tickets will begin to be sold for juniors and seniors this week Thursday 10/31 and Friday 11/1 during lunch. Ticket sales will continue for all students on Monday 11/4. Below you can find the link for the different forms students need to complete for themselves or off campus guests:

- Homecoming Forms:
<https://www.pcsb.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=110&ModuleInstanceID=66823&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=159118&PageID=213>

The week will be filled with fun school spirit and a variety of different events. This will include our Varsity Football game against Palm Harbor University HS on Thursday 11/7, with a pep rally earlier in the day. We'll also have our annual Powder Puff Tournament on Friday 11/8, and wrap up the week with our homecoming dance at ELHS on Saturday 11/9. We'll send out our dress up themes for each day this week.

Additional Reminders

(Hurricane Relief, Anonymous Reporting, and College and Career Center Updates)

- **ELHS Community Hurricane Relief**
 - The East Lake High School National Honor Society and PTSA, along with the middle school are still taking hurricane relief donations. You can drop off supplies at any time throughout the school day. If your family is in need, please set up a time to stop by and take what you need from either the high school or middle school donations.
- **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://FortifyFL.com)

- College and Career Center Updates

- Our College and Career Center continues to provide student supports surrounding planning for their post-secondary journey. Some reminders on items like SPC Free Application Day and College Admissions, Take Stock in Children, and Financial Aid Opportunities can be found below:
 - **SPC Free Application Day** – SPC will be on campus on November 14th from 9:30am to 11:30am in the Media Center for their free application day – see the flyer below for more info:
 - <https://tinyurl.com/ycyhjmbe>
 - **College Admissions Info** – College admissions representatives from the University of Central Florida will be on campus October 23rd at 12:15pm, USF on October 29th at 1:00pm, and University of North Florida on October 30th, all to meet with interested students. Please have your student register if they haven't already, and a flyer can be found below:
 - <https://tinyurl.com/yt88447h>
 - **The College and Career Fair** at Countryside High School has been rescheduled for October 29th from 6:00-7:30 pm. There will be over 140 colleges, universities, and businesses from across the nation.
 - <https://tinyurl.com/3azwzt5d>
 - **Take Stock in Children Scholarship Program** is now accepting applications from students in grades 6-9. The deadline to apply is December 15th. This program offers a unique opportunity for students who aspire to attend college but face financial challenges. Participants receive a college scholarship, mentoring, and guidance from a dedicated college success coach. See the attached flyer to apply.
 - <https://tinyurl.com/24-25TakeStockEnglishApp>
 - <https://tinyurl.com/24-25TakeStockSpanishApp>
 - **Financial Readiness with USF Pathe** - Learn the basics of finance and start saving. Open to all high school students and parents, Nov 20 at 5:30 at East Lake Community Library.
 - <https://tinyurl.com/yym442r3>
 - **The Pinellas Ed Foundation Senior Scholarships** – the application is now open for seniors. 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/>
 - **Walkers Rising Stars** – One of the most recognized arts awards programs in the country, this year-long initiative assists high school juniors and seniors in honing audition and portfolio skills. The application deadline has been extended to October 27th at midnight.
 - https://www.cognitofrms.com/PinellasEducationFoundation1/_2425WalkersRisingStarsStudentApplication
 - <https://tinyurl.com/WalkersRisingStartsGuidelines>
 - **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/>

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 amazing year ahead! Always remember that Life is Better at the Lake where we SOAR together – 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.