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[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

**11/12/2023**

Good Afternoon Eagle Families,

This is Dan Schmittiel, 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 with Fall Sports Playoffs while we transition to Winter Athletics – let’s continue show our school spirit and cheer on our different sports teams, clubs, and performing arts programs this week – a list of events can be found below:

- **Visual Word & Image Exhibition** will be on display until December 2, 2023 at the Morean Arts Center in St. Pete. On Thursday, November 16, six of our students will be honored at the awards ceremony for their amazing work from 6:00pm to 7:00pm!
- **Varsity Boys Basketball** starts their pre-season off with games at Weeki Wachee HS on Tuesday 11/14 at 7:30pm and Thursday 11/16 at 6:00pm
- **Varsity Girls Basketball** starts their pre-season off with games at Nature Coast HS on Wednesday 11/15 and Thursday 11/16 at 7:30pm both days
- **Varsity Boys Soccer** kicks off their Champions League play Tuesday 11/14 home versus Mitchell HS – come out and show our neighbors to the north why “Life is Better at the Lake”!!!
- **Varsity Girls Soccer** also has three matches this week – Tuesday 11/14 home versus Academy of the Holy Names HS, Thursday 11/16 at home versus Wiregrass Ranch HS, and Friday 11/17 away at Calvary Christian HS
- **JV Girls Soccer** takes on Academy of the Holy Names HS at home on Tuesday 11/14 and Wiregrass Ranch HS on Thursday 11/16
- **Mu Alpha Theta** inductions will take place on Wednesday 11/15
- **Cross Country** and ELHS will be represented by our very own, Sophomore Avery C., at the state championships at FSU on Friday 11/17 – congrats and good luck
- **Bowling Team** recently wrapped up a great season – a special shoutout to the following 2023-24 East Lake High School bowling team members:
  - Keira P. and Raegan M. for making the North County Girls 1<sup>st</sup> Team and Ella G. for making the North County Girls 2<sup>nd</sup> Team!
  - Jayden G., David S., Noah S., Seth G., and Skylar B. for making the North County Boys 2<sup>nd</sup> Team and Aidan R. for receiving the North County Honorable Mention!

We hope to see you there to cheer on the teams and clubs this week, good luck Eagles! Parents, we will also host our monthly SAC meeting on Tuesday at 6:30pm.

### **Fall Challenges**

Starting this week, November 16<sup>th</sup> through November 28<sup>th</sup>, ELHS will be participating in the High School Fall Challenge. This is an extremely powerful opportunity for students to review critical information from all of our tested areas as we approach FAST ELA PM2 and midterm 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 flyer, and we'll continue to send out reminders!

- [HS Fall Challenge 23-24.png](#)

### **November Mental Health Lesson – Modified Bell Schedule**

Tomorrow, Monday, November 13, we'll host our November Mental Health Lesson. The topic will surround the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System, among a few other topics. To accommodate the lesson which will take place during an extended 4<sup>th</sup> period, we will have a modified bell schedule in the morning. Attached to the email you'll find the bell schedule for tomorrow, which includes a shortened 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> period. Lunch will be at the usual time.

- [Mental Health Lesson Modified Bell Schedule\[84\].png](#)

### **Senior Reminders**

On Tuesday 11/14, we'll take our yearly Senior Panoramic photo in the gym. This will take place during 4<sup>th</sup> period that day – we can't wait to see how it turns out! The Senior Class t-shirt is also now available for pre-order through RevTrak until 12/1.

On Friday 11/17, our Senior Class Officers will host our first Senior Sunrise event! This is an opportunity for seniors to have some tea, coffee, and hot cocoa and enjoy some breakfast together on the football field to watch the sunrise together – a great way to send start the day as we approach their well-deserved Thanksgiving Break! Admission is completely free for seniors. We'll open the gates for seniors at 6:30am!

Senior families, we're doing an amazing job with ensuring senior dues/graduation fees are taken care of – we're currently around 65% complete at this point and THANK YOU to those families that have gone in and taken care this! As a reminder, senior dues/graduation fees can be paid via RevTrak and cost \$100 graduation fee, which covers everything graduation related including caps/gowns/tassels, Tropicana. The cost goes up \$5 after Winter Break, so purchase it today! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to your counselor, Ms. Stang ([stangr@pcsb.org](mailto:stangr@pcsb.org)), or Mrs. Skinner ([skinnerl@pcsb.org](mailto:skinnerl@pcsb.org)).

- [ELHS Senior Class | Pinellas County Schools \(revtrak.net\)](#)

### **Upcoming PRISM Concert**

Our Silver Sound Marching Band wrapped up their season last weekend as one of only 5 public high schools in the county to earn straight superior ratings at their music performance assessment! You can hear these students, along with all of our performing arts students at the Lake at our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual PRISM Concert on December 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Tickets go on sale after Thanksgiving Break and will sell out quick!

### **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. Our first Mental Health Lesson of the school year will take place on Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, where students will receive a refresher on the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System as well.
  - [Say Something Tips — Sandy Hook Promise](#)
  - [FortifyFL \(getfortifyfl.com\)](#)
- **Underclassman Photo Retakes:** Photo retakes for any underclassman that missed will take place on November 30<sup>th</sup> at ELHS.
- **Math Tutoring:** This takes place in Ms. Adrian's classroom Tuesday, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at lunch – all students are welcome and we HIGHLY encourage attendance for students enrolled in Algebra 1 and Geometry.

- **Chorus Department Fundraiser:** This year our chorus department has the amazing opportunity to perform at Carnegie Hall in April 2024. The Elks Lodge in Tarpon Springs is graciously hosting a baked ziti dinner on the evening of November 16<sup>th</sup> at 6pm and is donating all proceeds to help support funding for the trip. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchase via GoFan – the hall seats 200 and we hope they’ll sell out. Come out and support the department – chorus students will be serving dinner and entertaining in the evening!
  - <https://gofan.co/event/1180571?schoolid=F15841>
- **Cellphones and Dress Code:**
  - Parents, please continue to remind your students about our cellphone expectations at ELHS (appropriate use during passing time and lunch is permitted). Teachers may utilize them for academic purposes within the classroom but they must be off and put away all other times. Additionally, please remember that if you need to get in touch with your student during the school day, call the office, not their cellphone. We will ensure that they receive the message or call them down to the office at that time if needed.
  - It was amazing seeing all of the school spirit and creative outfits during each of the themed Homecoming week dress up days! As a reminder, we expect students to be back to our usual dress code expectations on Tuesday and moving forward. Before Tuesday, please make sure to review this with your student – it can be found on page 56 of the Student Code of Conduct ([2023-2024-Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf](#)). If a student is out of dress code, they will be sent to the office for a change of clothes, which could also result in a disciplinary referral. These and other discipline incidences are addressed using both the Student Code of Conduct and our ELHS Discipline Matrix throughout the year. Thank you for your assistance and support!
- **Free and Reduced Lunch:**
  - Parents, if you haven’t done so already and your student received free lunch last year or you believe you may qualify, fill out the free/reduced lunch application at <https://www.myschoolapps.com>. Not only will this impact lunch for those that qualify, it will potentially qualify your student for free SAT and ACT testing for college admissions and Bright Futures testing and more. For more information, please reach out to our College and Career Coordinator Natasha Gallaty at [gallatyn@pcsb.org](mailto:gallatyn@pcsb.org).
- **PTSA Membership and Support:**
  - Families and staff, if you haven’t yet, please take a moment to join the East Lake High School PTSA. Membership is only \$15 for individual (\$5 for staff), or you can buy a bundle for the family at a lower cost. You can also make a donation and/or buy some ELHS gear. Please visit the site below and thank you for taking the time to support of our amazing PTSA as they support the outstanding staff and students at ELHS!
  - <https://elhsptsa.memberhub.com/store?limit=21&live=true>

We look forward to continued great things ahead at East Lake High School! 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, stay safe, and GO EAGLES!

Dan Schmittiel, 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.*