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[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

11/26/2023

Good Afternoon Eagle Families,

This is Dan Schmittiel, Principal at 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 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:

- **JV/Varsity Boys Basketball** faces Boca Ciega HS away on Tuesday 11/28 and Wiregrass HS at home on Thursday 11/30
- **JV/Varsity Girls Basketball** faces Dunedin HS away on Wednesday 11/29 and Seminole HS away on Thursday 11/30
- **Varsity Boys Soccer** takes on Largo HS at home on Monday 11/27 and Robinson HS at home on Tuesday 11/28
- **Varsity Girls Soccer** takes on Steinbrenner HS at home on Tuesday 11/28 and St. Pete HS at home on Wednesday 11/29 (including JV Girls Soccer Wednesday)

We hope to see you there to cheer on the teams and clubs this week, good luck Eagles!

Fall Challenges

Parents, if your student hasn't completed the Fall Challenge for their different core classes yet, there's still time! The challenges close November 28th, so have them complete them tonight! For more information, see the attached flier in the email. These reviews will reinforce all of the learning from their different classes. We'll also be celebrating individual students and classes with high levels of participation in each of the different core areas.

- ([FLYER](#))

FAST ELA PM 2 Prep

Students have been preparing all semester in their English classrooms to prepare for their upcoming FAST ELA PM 2. All 9th and 10th grade students will take this on December 5th (9th grade) and December 6th (10th grade), and the assessment will give teachers, students, and families some great data points to help drive instruction and preparation for May testing. After Thanksgiving Break, we will be offering some extra prep sessions after school on Tuesday (11/28), Wednesday (11/29), and Thursday (11/30) in Mrs. Mobley's classroom, room 9-116, centered around FAST PM 2 practice. This will take place each day from 2-3pm and we highly encourage 9th and 10th grade students to participate.

US History Review

Any student enrolled in our US History Honors course on campus can and should participate in some of our different review sessions beginning Tuesday, November 28th through Thursday, December 7th. These will take place during lunch and after school to cover various topics that will be on the Cycle 2 midterm assessment. Attached to the email is a copy of the flier that outlines the review topics and a Tic Tac Toe incentive for students that participate in multiple reviews. Have them speak with their US History teacher on Monday, November 27th for more information and we hope they take advantage of this great review opportunity!

- [FLYER](#)

Underclassman Photo Retakes

Attention families of underclassman who missed the original photo date. Retakes for any underclassman that missed will take place on November 30th at ELHS.

Scholarship and Community Service Opportunities

Does your student need money for college? There are multiple applications available today!

Students who qualify for a Bright Futures scholarship need to complete the Florida Financial Aid Application. It's an easy application that can be completed in less than 15 minutes. Please encourage your student to complete it over break. For more information surrounding Bright Futures, have your students speak with Natasha Gallaty, our College and Career Coordinator, when we return from break.

- <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPHome/SAPHome?url=home>

The Pinellas Education Foundation provides over 100 different college and technical school scholarships to more than 300 high school seniors throughout Pinellas County, based on criteria established by the Foundation and sponsors. Varied as the sponsors who fund them, scholarships range in focus from the arts to science and math, sports, and community service. Many are based on financial need. Scholarships may be either one-time awards or renewable scholarships for students who continue to meet the scholarship qualifications throughout college. For more information, use the hyperlink below.

- <https://pinellaseducation.awardspring.com/>

Attached you'll find a flier for the Pinellas Education Foundation Take Stock in Children scholarship. If you qualify, we highly recommend you apply – see the attached flier for more information!

- [Take Stock in Children Flyer](#)
- [Take Stock in Children Application](#)

Is your student interested in earning community service hours? Do they need extra curricular activities to add to their college application? Key Club is the answer! Key Club offers opportunities to provide service, build character, and develop leadership. Our next meetings are December 6th and December 13th in Mrs. Lightfoot's classroom, room 3-118. We're also running a canned goods drive to donate to a local food pantry for the holidays. Please drop off your items to Mrs. Lightfoot's classroom between December 1st and December 13th. Email her for more information at lightfoote@pcsb.org.

ESE Career Fair

Families, November 29th, 2023 from 6:00-7:30pm, Pinellas Technical College will be hosting an ESE Career, College, and Life Fair. See the flier for more information surrounding this great opportunity!

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 13th, where students will receive a refresher on the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System as well.
 - [Say Something Tips — Sandy Hook Promise](#)
 - [FortifyFL \(getfortifyfl.com\)](https://getfortifyfl.com)

- **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 5th Annual PRISM Concert on December 15th and 16th at 7pm. Tickets go on sale after Thanksgiving Break and will sell out quick!
- **Senior Reminders:**
 - 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), or Mrs. Skinner (skinnerl@pcsb.org).
 - [ELHS Senior Class | Pinellas County Schools \(revtrak.net\)](#)
- **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.
- **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.
 - Please make sure to review dress code with your student – it can be found on page 56 of the Student Code of Conduct ([2023-2024-Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf \(pcsb.org\)](#)). 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 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.
- **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.