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[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

11/3/24

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. They're always ready to SOAR to success every day both in and out of the classroom within our athletic programs, clubs, performing arts, and visual arts. Check out this week's events below:

- Cross Country competes in the regional tournament this week on 11/9 at North Port HS, with the boys' team advancing and Avery Chatman being the top female individual qualifier for regionals!
- Boys and Girls Golf competes in the regional tournament this week
- Varsity Football takes on Palm Harbor University HS on Thursday 11/7 at home for our homecoming game
- Girls Varsity Soccer faces Palm Harbor University on Monday 11/4 at home, Tarpon Springs HS on Wednesday 11/6 at home, and Countryside HS on Thursday 11/7 away
- Boys Varsity Soccer faces Palm Harbor University on Monday 11/4 at home and Countryside HS away on 11/7
- ELHS Theater Department will perform A Midsummer Night's Dream in our auditorium Thursday 11/14, Friday 11/15, and Saturday 11/16

Good luck to all of our Eagles in all of their extracurriculars, as we wrap up the fall athletics season and shift to winter athletics! Some reminders for the week:

Homecoming Week

Homecoming week begins tomorrow, Monday 11/4. Homecoming dance tickets will continue to be sold for all students this week during lunch. Below you can find the link for the different forms students need to complete for themselves or off campus guests. All information in the forms must be completed ahead of time to receive a code to purchase their ticket on GoFan.

- 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 right after 2nd lunch. 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. On Thursday, we'll have a modified bell schedule to have time for our pep rally during an extended 5th period class. If students have release periods during the day, they'll need to pay close attention to start and end times – see the schedule below:

- Modified Bell Schedule <https://tinyurl.com/2jaa6p2r>

Additionally, each day this week will have a student and staff dress up theme day in the spirit of homecoming. We encourage all students to participate but expect that all that do will remain in dress code and that everything is appropriate and is in absolutely no way offensive. Remind your students to show their school spirit but to also ensure that they stay appropriate with their attire and the message it sends. The daily themes can be found below:

- Monday = Rhyme Without Reason
- Tuesday = Music Genre Day
- Wednesday = Generations Day
- Thursday = Dress Up as Your Favorite Character Day
- Friday = Red, White, and Blue Crue

We can't wait to see the school spirit and engagement this week!

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/>
- <https://tinyurl.com/ELHS2025-GradFee>

Additional Reminders

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

- **ELHS Community Hurricane Relief**
 - o 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**
 - o 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:
 - **Understanding PSAT and SAT Student Score Reports Event** – Join the Florida College Board team in a webinar on Thursday, 12/5 at 6pm for a session surrounding how the digital SAT Suite of Assessments can help students prepare for the SAT and their future. The webinar will cover things like how to connect to valuable tools for college and career planning, access college scholarship opportunities, establish a baseline and check in on college and career readiness, and using AP Potential to identify suitable AP courses. The registration link can be found below:
 - https://collegeboard.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2z5W85xtQCy2W4Ooap3Ytg
 - **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>
 - **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/>
 - **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
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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.