



East Lake High School

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11/7/25

Good afternoon, East Lake families,
This is Dr. Smith with your weekly call-out:

We are only 2 weeks away from Thanksgiving break and I am already in grateful mode for our awesome staff. Let's start with Homecoming. Hands down, best Homecoming dance experience I have ever had as an educator. Mrs. Stang and Mr. Lang did an outstanding job planning for this event and our student body had an incredible night. Thank you to all the chaperones that participated in making this event run so smoothly. Our Homecoming game was also a huge success. Mrs. Delk organized and scheduled for all the halftime festivities and Coach Bloznalis did an outstanding job with announcing the entire event (all 50+ seniors and court festivities at halftime).

A big thank you to all that were involved with the academic celebration today. We celebrated our honor roll and principal's list recipients for quarter 1. Those students enjoyed a social party at the end of the day with games, music, and pizza. All students that earned straight As or all As and Bs will bring home a certificate. This was a great event and our students were very appreciative. We will host another celebration after quarter 3 grades next semester.

PCS Annual Stakeholder Surveys are now live. Please review my information below and click the link to take the survey. As Principal of East Lake, I do value your feedback and input. I really do want to hear your thoughts on our school.

As always, there's a lot of important information to review this week, so please read the full message carefully.

Thank you for your continued support and have a great weekend,

NEW INFO & UPDATES

PCS Annual Stakeholder Survey Opening Soon: Please Complete for ELHS – We Value Your Feedback

- As a reminder, the stakeholder survey for the 2025-26 school year will be open from Tuesday, November 4, through Friday, December 19.
 - The survey will be conducted by Sogolytics, an external partner, to ensure response anonymity and transparency in reporting.
- Families can access the survey through the district webpage: www.pcsb.org/survey
 - *Survey Flyer:*
 - <https://www.pcsb.org/cms/lib/FL01903687/Centricity/Domain/110/2025STAKEHOLDERSURVEY.pdf>
 - *Survey Direct Link:* <https://edu.sogolytics.com/r/2526PinellasParentPublic>

Discovery Night:

- ELHS Discovery Night is this Wednesday 11/12 from 6:00-8:00. We will start in the auditorium and then tour the campus.
 - If you know any potential students/families interested in East Lake High School, please share the message. We will have a host of information and representation at the fair.

District Assistance (Food Security Resources & Support)

- To help ensure that every family has access to the support they need, we have compiled a list of helpful resources available through both our district and local community organizations. We encourage you to visit the link below to explore these services and connect with assistance that may be helpful to your family.
 - Please visit www.pcsb.org/food and click on the "Emergency Food Security Resources and Support" button.

AROUND CAMPUS

Tutoring:

After School Tutoring:

- Mondays and Wednesdays from 2-3 in the media center.
- Mondays - English and Math tutoring.
- Wednesdays - Science and Social Studies.
 - Students will still receive assistance in any subject, regardless of the content focus.

Mu Alpha Theta (Math Tutoring):

- Math tutoring offered Tuesdays and Thursdays during lunch.
- Room 9211, you may bring your lunch with you.
- Arrive no later than 10 minutes after the bell. A teacher will be at the door to building 9 upstairs

ESOL Tutoring:

- Tutoring on Teams for ELs starts Monday, November 3rd! This year, we will offer the following sessions:
 - English Test Prep for high school students on: Monday and Wednesday
 - 5:30 p.m. - 6:30pm.
 - Algebra Test Prep for high school students on Tuesday and Thursday
 - 5:30 p.m - 6:30 p.m.
- Any newcomers on Tuesday and Thursday 5:30pm-6:15pm — these sessions will provide additional practice in reading, writing, listening, and speaking, and will *not* be test-prep focused. The sessions will also be shared with middle school students.
- Please note, we will have two separate links: one for newcomers and another for English and Algebra sessions. See attached flyers
- Tutoring is free, and no prior registration is required.

Testing Calendar:

- We have created a comprehensive testing calendar and it is currently live on our website (link below).
- While the majority of dates are set, there is always the possibility of a change (e.g. weather, facility issues, etc...). Any changes will be announced to the school community and updated on the calendar.
- Please review and if you have any questions, reach out.

- <https://www.pcsb.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=110&ModuleInstanceID=66823&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=170167&PageID=213>

Yearbooks:

- Don't miss out on placing your senior dedication ad! Deadline is next week.
 - Go to www.yearbookordercenter.com to design your ad, **before it's too late**
 - Deadline to place your ad is November 11th!

CLUBS, ATHLETICS, & PERFORMANCE

Performance:

Band:

- Please congratulate the members of the Silver Sound Band when you see them. This past Saturday, the band performed their competition show, *Play Ball!*, for the final time at our district's Music Performance Assessment. They are evaluated in the areas of music performance, visual performance, general effect, percussion, and color guard. Our band received straight superior ratings from all adjudicators!
 - A special thank you to Mr. Lange who came out to cheer on the band this Saturday, and thank you to all of you who support the performing arts at The Lake!

Theatre:

- The Theatre Department has been recognized for their outstanding work on *The Importance of Being Earnest*. The Broadway Stars of the Future Reviewers have released their Fall Spotlight of Achievement honors and recommended the production cast and team to advance to the Final Award ceremony in these categories:
 - Performance in a Lead Role: Markos Halkias as Algernon Moncrieff
 - Performance in a Featured Role: Joa Kilbride as Lady Bracknell
 - Direction of a Play: Dr. Terri Power
 - Hair and Makeup Design: Victoria DeVries and Aurea Norris
 - Prop Design: Elise Bergum and Aurea Norris
 - Stage Management: Sam Trinidad
 - The awards will be announced on April 29, 2027 by the Straz Center. Congratulations to our Troupe!
- Next week on Thursday November 13th the Dance Workshop with choreographer Lyla Ruth will take place in the theatre from 2:30-4:00pm.
 - The workshop is open to all and is to prepare students for the upcoming Anything Goes auditions.
 - Wear comfortable clothes and bring tap or jazz shoes if you have them.

Athletics:

- Football is in the playoffs!
 - Home game: Friday, 11/14 at 7:30
- GameDay Reminders:
 - No back packs or large bags
 - Small clear bags ok
 - No unsealed beverages or outside food
 - No re-entry
 - There will be no crossing over between home and away. Home fans enter/exit at the south gate as normal. All visitors will enter/exit at the north gate from the basketball courts.

- Air horns are not permitted in the stadium. Please do not bring them, you will be asked to leave.
- Display sportsmanship – no taunting refs or the other team, no foul language

Playoffs for Fall Sports:

- All fans attending are required to purchase tickets for state playoffs series in all sports. Even if the event is held at our home court/field. Students will be required to pay for a ticket during the playoffs.
- East Lake Athletic Excellence:
 - Volleyball: District Champion 6A-9, Regional Finalist. Tied for 1st PCAC North. Record 26-4
 - Football: District Champions 6A-10, Playoff Host
 - Swimming: District Champions and Boys District Runner Up
 - Boys Golf: PCAC Champions, Top 3 District, Regional Appearance
 - Girls Golf: Top 3 District, Regional Appearance
 - Cross Country PCAC Champion- Kaitlyn Wilcox,

Flag Football Preseason Informational Meeting:

- Wednesday, November 19 @ 6 PM
- Room 3-132
- Email Coach Khan with questions - Khana@pcsb.org

Updates:

- The Eagle Boys and Girls Golf teams competed in the Regional tournaments this week. Both teams narrowly missed qualifying for States. Congratulations to the Boys and Girl's Golf for their contribution to a GREAT season.
- Boys & girls Swim Competed in the Regional Thursday, 11/6. The Girls placed 4th out of 16 teams. Our Boy's placed 5th over all out of 16 teams. We are anxiously awaiting to see how many state qualifiers East Lake may have.
- Varsity Football (7-2) Playoffs start Nov 14th. The Eagles will host a playoff game next Friday at 7:30 pm
- The XC team will compete in Districts at North Port HS Sat, Nov 8th.
- EL Girls Soccer are already 3-0 on the season with wins against Countryside (8-0), Land O' Lakes (1-0) and Cypress Creek (3-0)
- The next game will be 11/12 as Eagles host Alonso @7pm and then they are traveling across town to Tarpon on 11/13.
- Boys' Soccer also has seen success to the start of their season as they are 1-0. They defeated Countryside 7-0 this past Tuesday. They face off against Tarpon as the visitors on 11/13.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK:

- Soccer: Delaney O'Hara junior who scored 2 goals last week as a defender.
- Cheer: Aspen Stucky, and Bella Comini
- Bowling Boys: Anthony Paradise and Anthony Stoskus for making North County 1st Team. Noah Santos and Felix Williams for making North County 2nd Team. Thomas Magro for North County Honorable Mention.
- Bowling Girls: Keira Purser for making the North County 1st Team. Addison Post and Kinsey McMillian for making North County 2nd Team. Victoria Gonzalez for North County Honorable Mention.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

College and Career Center/Community:

- **Financial Aid - Seniors Only**
 - [Pinellas Ed Foundation Senior Scholarships](#) - Each year, they award more than \$700,000 in scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$20,000 to graduating Pinellas County. Deadline to apply is January 31st.
 - [FAFSA](#) is open! Apply early! Email Ms. Gallaty - gallatyn@pcsb.org - for help completing it.
 - Bright Futures - Complete the [FFAA](#) and turn in your paid/volunteer forms in Student Services. Register for the SAT/ACT/CLT to get the qualifying test scores!
- **Career Exploration Opportunities**
 - [Register to take the ASVAB](#) for Career Exploration or Military entrance. Nov 13th at 8:00 am
 - [SPC Debt-Free Degree Nights](#) - Apply to SPC for FREE and discover financial aid opportunities
- **[PCS Parent Newsletter](#)**
 - Join us for our next *Guiding Success Series* Podcast on Monday, November 10, 5:30–6:30 p.m. This podcast will cover graduation requirements, assessments, and acceleration opportunities. The link to register to receive the podcast YouTube link is embedded in the newsletter.

Turkey/Thanksgiving Dinner Assistance

- Clearwater/Upper Pinellas -Clearwater Salvation Army
 - <https://clearwater.salvationarmyflorida.org/clearwater/holiday-assistance/>
 - <http://www.saturkey.com/> (Oct 15 - Nov 15: first come, first serve - must register in advance)
- St. Petersburg/All Pinellas County - ICare St. Pete
 - <https://allevents.in/st-petersburg/thanksgiving-turkey-dinner-giveaway/200028931652930>
 - Nov 24 - Just City of St. Pete residents
 - Nov 25 - All Pinellas County
- Veterans & Active Military Only - Harvest for Heroes
 - Nov 20 from 11am - 2pm at 1401 Court Street, Clearwater
 - Meal kits free to first 400 veterans and active military in attendance
 - <https://floridavets.org/event/harvest-for-heroes/>
- Pinellas Park - Thanksgiving Giveback
 - Free Thanksgiving meal at the event
 - Nov 15, 11:30am - 1pm

DISCIPLINE & STUDENT BEHAVIORS

Dress Code:

- Please address this with your student and check their attire when coming to school.
 - No bike/spandex shorts, tank tops, or shirts that do not cover stomach.
 - PCSB Student Code of Conduct:
 - [Code of Conduct / V. Dress Code \(pcsb.org\)](#)

Tardies:

- Tardies will reset in quarter 2. Students need to print a tardy pass if they are late to class

- See disciplinary consequences below.
- Tardies follow a progressive disciplinary pattern:
 - 1st-3rd – warning, minor infraction, parent contact
 - 4th-5th – lunch detention, parent contact
 - 6th-7th – after-school detention, parent contact
 - 8th – 1 day consequence IC, parent contact
 - 9th – 2-3 days consequence IC/ABS, parent contact conference
 - 10th – Parent conference

Cell Phones and Headphones:

- Cellphones are only allowed before/after school and during lunch.
- Headphones are not allowed to be used during instructional time. They may be used at lunch.
 - Students need to be able to hear information and directives during class transitions. Please discuss this with your student to put away their headphones during passing periods.
- A teacher may approve device use but this will be rare.
 - [Strategic Communications / Power Up \(pcsb.org\)](https://www.pcsb.org/power-up)

PARENTS AND SCHOOL SUPPORT

PTSA:

- Beautification committee.
 - Various projects around campus include landscaping and painting.
 - Seeking donations of materials, and volunteers to help with the hands-on work.
 - If you are interested in assisting the committee, please email us, we would love to have your help! Email below:
 - ptsaelhs@gmail.com
- Please visit the PTSA site for more information about joining and participating:
 - <https://www.pcsb.org/domain/2207>

Amazon Wish List:

- Amazon Wish List for our student and staff incentives.
- Items will be shipped directly to the school.
- Thank you for your generosity in helping support our staff recognition efforts and PBIS program to reward positive behavior and elevate the student and staff experience at ELHS.
 - https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/253Q4REJLNTT8?ref=cm_sw_r_apin_ggr-subnav-share_NM5Q4XZBVQX8W4JFRKJT&language=en-US

SCHOOL PROCEDURES AND PROCESSES

Absences and Permission to Leave (PTL):

- Parent/guardian to complete form ONLY. Students that complete this form will receive disciplinary consequences.
- Parents may receive school contact to verify the form is accurate.
- Please check your student's attendance regularly.
- Focus will send daily communication if your student is absent from any period.
- Students are not allowed to leave campus for lunch, even with parent permission. Please, do not request a PTL for lunch with a return to campus.

- Click the appropriate link on the website (see below) and you will complete a brief form
 - No need to call or email.
 - <https://www.pcsb.org/Page/20925>
 - Please be patient as processing, running passes, and student transitions will take time.

School Entry/Exit & Safety:

- Gates open at 7:00 AM along with the Cafeteria
 - Buildings and classrooms open at 7:15 AM
 - 5-minute warning bell at 7:20 AM
 - 1-minute warning bell at 7:24 AM
- Doors remain locked during the day per safety policy following the 7:25 AM start bell.
 - Students are to never prop open doors or let anyone in on campus.
 - Late arrivals must enter through the front office.

Parking:

- The senior parking lot is for 12th grade students ONLY. Underclassmen can NOT park in the senior parking spaces.
- Parents, do NOT pull into the senior parking lot or park in spaces. You must use the car line to drop off.
- Parking tags must be purchased to park on campus.
- Park ONLY in the space you were assigned.
- Tag pickup is in student services. Please see Mrs. Ramos before/after school or during lunch.
- Use this link to purchase a parking tag:
 - <https://pcsb.revtrak.net/High-Schools/east-lake-high/elhs-underclassmen-parking/>

Car line (drop off and pick up):

- All drop off and pick ups need to move through the car line.
 - Please, DO NOT drop off in neighborhoods, in the student parking lot, or on the side of the road.
- Leave a little earlier to ensure you get to school on-time.
 - School will start at 7:25am and the north gates will close to all students to maintain security of our campus.
 - All late arriving students will report to the front gate at the main office and will receive a tardy pass.

PERMANENT REFERENCE

Graduation 2026:

- Graduation dates have been announced by PCS.
- East Lake HS 2026 graduation ceremony will be held on Friday, May 22 at 3:30 pm and we are back at Tropicana Field.
- Further information will be provided as we move closer to the date. You can always review the district site below as information will be updated as well.
 - <https://www.pcsb.org/graduation>
- Attention Class of 2026:
 - Graduation fees are now live! Please visit the senior weebly page (<https://elhssenior.weebly.com/>) to pay both your walking fee and order your cap & gown.
 - Please reach out to Mrs. Blum if you have any questions.

Focus:

- Check your student's grades in Focus every week.
- Grades are always accessible at any time to view on Focus.
 - Click the letter grade of the course to view details about assignments.
- Please review the link below for additional steps in assisting with Focus needs.
 - <https://www.pcsb.org/newfocus>

Student Passwords:

- Students: use a secure password to access your PCSB R2.D2 account.
 - DO NOT use your student number, School name or mascot, favorite teacher's name, or anything easy to figure out as part of your password.
 - DO NOT share your password under any circumstances.
- If you feel your account has been compromised, let a teacher know as quickly as possible and change your password.
 - If you need assistance, let an administrator know.
 - Ultimately, you are responsible for all activity linked to your student account.

Anonymous Reporting:

- The Pinellas County Schools utilizes the See Something Say Something system from *Sandy Hook Promise* as a tool to help keep our campuses and students safe.
- Students and families can submit tips anonymously about concerns so the school can intervene in a proactive way.
- Tips regarding school safety, student welfare etc. can be submitted and a school official or law enforcement will investigate it immediately to get someone the help and assistance they may need.
 - To report a tip to See Something Say Something, visit <https://www.sandyhookpromise.org/say-something-tips/>
 - FortifyFL is another reporting system available to report suspicious activity and allow Florida Students and the community to report safety concerns.
 - To access Fortify Florida visit <https://www.getfortifyfl.com>



Eric C. Smith, Ph.D.

Principal

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