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[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

**12/15/24**

Good Afternoon Eagle Families,

This is Dan Schmittiel, Principal of East Lake High School, with some important reminders and updates as we close out the last week of Semester 1! As always, let's look outside of the academics first to celebrate our students in their various extracurriculars along with events taking place on campus. Students are always ready to SOAR to success both in and out of the classroom within our athletic programs, clubs, performing arts, and visual arts.

Check out this week's events below:

- **East Lake HS Madrigal's** Concerts will take place on Tuesday 12/17 at The Gables and Friday 12/20 at Regency Oaks
- **Boys JV/Varsity Basketball** face Sickles HS on Tuesday 12/17 at home and Land O' Lakes HS on Thursday 12/19 at home
- **Boys JV/Varsity Wrestling** compete in the Gulf Duals Tournament at Gulf HS on Friday 12/20 and Saturday 12/21
- **Varsity Football** Holiday Tree Fundraiser continues until trees are sold out, so get one before they're gone – they're being sold at Brooker Creek ES Monday through Thursday from 5:30pm – 8:30pm, Fridays from 5:30pm – 9pm, Saturdays from 9am – 9pm, and Sundays from 11am – 7pm
- **Holiday Theme Week** will take place this week, with daily dress up themes and activities for students and staff

Good luck to all of our Eagles in all of their extracurriculars! Some reminders for the week:

### Senior Updates

- Senior families – time is running out to submit your senior dedication page. Please go to [www.yearbookordercenter.com/job/1232](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com/job/1232) to design your senior ad before December 16<sup>th</sup>. Please contact our yearbook adviser, Mrs. Wall at [walln@pcsb.org](mailto:walln@pcsb.org) with any questions.
- As a reminder, the graduation ceremony for the Class of 2025 will take place on Thursday, May 29 at 9:00am at the Yuengling Center at USF Tampa. More information will be released as we get closer to the event. We can't wait to celebrate the Class of 2025 on May 29!
- Also, if you haven't yet, it's time to look ahead. We're almost halfway through the 2024-25 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](mailto: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/>

### **Week of December 16 (end of Semester 1)**

As a reminder, this week will consist of regular instruction in all classes throughout the week (no midterm exams semester 1 this school year). We'll also have a themed Holiday Spirit Week to close out the semester before Winter Break begins, which starts at the close of the day on Friday, December 20. Grades will be finalized by the week we return from break, so if you have any questions regarding grades, please reach out to your student's teacher. We will also continue FAST ELA PM2 testing based on English teachers tomorrow for all 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. See below for the remaining teacher's schedules for testing. We will also begin make-up testing starting on Thursday (12/19) in the Media Center for students that missed their original testing date.

Date	Media Center (main room)	Media Center (room 4-225)
Monday, 12/16	Rodriguez	Munson
Tuesday, 12/17	Panarelli	Mobley

Attached you'll find the FAST test taking strategies OnePager. If your student hasn't tested yet, please take some time to go through these reminders prior to their test date.

- TESTING STRATEGIES

REMINDERS: <https://www.pcsb.org/cms/lib/FL01903687/Centricity/Domain/110/TestDayStrategies.png>

Additionally, for students that have tested and will continue to this week, attendance is not automatically updated when students are testing. Rest assured that the "Pending" absence in Focus will be manually adjusted to reflect that your student was taking the FAST ELA PM2 assessment within 24 – 48 hours. If you have any questions, please reach out to Kathy Ours, our Attendance Clerk.

December Resiliency Lesson

Each year we facilitate five separate Resiliency/Mental Health Lessons to students. This month's topic surrounds Substance Abuse. This will be facilitated in all students' 4<sup>th</sup> period classes on Wednesday, December 18 and will result in a modified bell schedule in the morning. Below is the schedule we'll run that day to accommodate the extended 4<sup>th</sup> period for that lesson, with shortened 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> period classes.

Class Period	Time
1 <sup>st</sup>	7:25am – 8:07am
2 <sup>nd</sup>	8:12am – 8:56am
3 <sup>rd</sup>	9:01am – 9:43am
A Lunch 4 <sup>th</sup> Period	9:43am – 10:13am 10:18am – 11:20am
4 <sup>th</sup> Period B Lunch	9:48am – 10:50am 10:50am – 11:20am

## Holiday Theme Week (week of December 16)

We will be SOARING INTO HOLIDAY FUN THIS WEEK (week of December 16) with a Holiday Spirit Week. We'll have daily dress up themes, along with student and staff activities which can be found in the attached flier. We can't wait to see all of the holiday spirit this week as we approach Winter Break and the end of semester 1 of the 2024-25 school year!

- **Theme Week Flyer:** <https://tinyurl.com/5ybvvtxr>

# The Most Wonderful Week of the year!

LET'S CELEBRATE THE SEASON AND ENJOY A WEEK FULL OF HOLIDAY CHEER!

PARTICIPATE IN DRESS UP DAYS & ACTIVITIES, AND BE GOOD BECAUSE SANTA SCHMITTDIEL IS WATCHING!

<p><b>Monday 12/16</b></p> <p>Winter Wonderland: Holiday Crafts and purchase a Candy Cane Gram @ lunch to be delivered on Thursday.</p> <p><b>COZY WINTER WEAR</b></p>	<p><b>Tuesday 12/17</b></p> <p>Elf Ensemble: Find the Hidden Elves around campus!</p> <p><b>MATCH WITH AN ELF SQUAD OR:</b> Seniors - Red Juniors - Gold Sophomores - Green Freshmen - Silver</p>	<p><b>Wednesday 12/18</b></p> <p>Sweater Weather: Play some Reindeer Games @ Lunch Last Day to Purchase Candy Cane Gram</p> <p><b>UGLY SWEATER</b></p>	<p><b>Thursday 12/19</b></p> <p>Candy Cane Lane: NHS Candy-Gram deliveries!</p> <p><b>RED &amp; WHITE</b></p>	<p><b>Friday 12/20</b></p> <p>Snow Day: Get ready for a day of wintery fun with a Staff vs. Students Snowball Fight! (Activity Schedule)</p> <p><b>WINTER ACCESSORIES</b></p>
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## Additional Reminders

*(Anonymous Reporting, College and Career Center Updates, Senior Updates - including the 2025 Graduation and Senior Yearbook Ads, Student Parking, Rho Kappa, National Honor Society, and Flag Football)*

- **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 helping us identify and intervene in a proactive way. Please remind your student(s) this is in place to assist with addressing a concern and also a way for someone get any help which may be needed – tips are passed along to appropriate law enforcement and school personnel. FortifyFL is also another reporting system available to report suspicious activity allowing Florida students and the community to relay any safety concerns. Both links can be found below.
    - [Say Something Tips — Sandy Hook Promise](#)
    - [FortifyFL \(getfortifyfl.com\)](https://getfortifyfl.com)
- **Rho Kappa**
  - There will be a Rho Kappa meeting for all members afterschool in the Media Center on Thursday 12/12.
  - Flag Football Spirit Night – Tuesday 12/10 @ Juan's Mexican Grill in East Lake (open-close). Mention East Lake Flag Football and a portion of your order supports the team
- **National Honor Society**

- First semester service hours for both returning and new members are due by December 20<sup>th</sup> to Mrs. Munson in room 4222 or Mr. Eustace in room 3222. As a reminder, at least two of the ten required hours must come from in-person opportunities. Information on current and future volunteer opportunities can be found on the NHS Instagram, the LinkTree, the Remind, and outside Mrs. Munson's room in the media center.
- **Softball**
  - Tryouts will be on January 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> on campus. Please make sure all clearance paperwork is completed and uploaded into HomeCampus. Any questions, see Coach Delk in the Media Center
- **Flag Football**
  - Socks & Soap Collection – Coach Khan & Flag Football are collecting socks, gloves & toiletries for the homeless through Friday 12/20. Please send any contributions to room 3-132
  - Surprise Spirit Night – Flag Football Spirit Night. Thursday 12/19 all day @ The Sweet Spot in East Lake

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to reach out to your Assistant Principal or Counselor. We look forward to a strong finish to semester 1! Always remember 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  
[SchmittielD@pcsb.org](mailto:SchmittielD@pcsb.org)

*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.*