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[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

3/30/25

Good afternoon Eagle Families,

This is Dan Schmittiel, Principal of East Lake High School, with some important reminders and updates as we move into quarter 4 at The Lake. Looking outside of the academics first, students are always ready to SOAR to success both in and out of the classroom within all of our different extracurricular programs offered throughout the school. Check out this week and major upcoming events below:

<u>Events</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Baseball	Anclote HS at home on Tuesday 4/1 to celebrate our seniors during SENIOR NIGHT, Clearwater HS away on Wednesday 4/2, and Calvary Christian HS at home on Thursday 4/3
Softball	Palm Harbor University HS away on Tuesday 4/1 and St. Petersburg HS at home on Wednesday 4/2
Girls Lacrosse	River Ridge HS away on Tuesday 4/1
Boys Lacrosse	St. Petersburg HS at home on Tuesday 4/1 to celebrate our seniors during SENIOR NIGHT and Robinson HS at home on Thursday 4/3
Flag Football	Riverview HS at home on Monday 3/31 and Tarpon Springs HS at home on Wednesday 4/2 to celebrate our seniors during SENIOR NIGHT
Track and Field	Florida Relays @ University of Florida on Friday 4/4 and Saturday 4/5
ELHS Improv Show	Theatre Arts Department presents their annual improv show, "Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind". They'll perform 30 scripted comedic scenes in 60 minute! Join us on April 1 st at 7pm in the auditorium with FREE admission (donations welcomed). - https://www.pcsb.org/cms/lib/FL01903687/Centricity/Domain/110/ImprovShowFlier.jpeg
Prom Tickets	Ticket sales will continue for all seniors and guests Monday 3/31 and open to all juniors and guests on Tuesday 4/1

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

Prom – Enchanted Forest

Prom will take place this Friday, April 4th at Ruth Eckerd Hall with the theme of ENCHANTED FOREST this year. The event will run from 7pm to 11pm. Tickets will continue on sale for seniors and guests tomorrow and on Tuesday April 1 for juniors and guest tickets. As in past years, students can't have any major discipline infractions or be failing any courses from their Q3 grades to purchase a ticket. For more information, please reach out to our Junior Class Sponsor, Mr. Reisinger at reisingerri@pcsb.org.

BEST Writing Assessment

This week, all 9th and 10th grade students will participate in the BEST Writing Assessment. All 9th and 10th grade will test on Thursday, April 3 using their school issued laptops. Locators will be posted both outside of the Media

Center and Student Services next week. Students will begin testing at the start of the school day on Thursday, with testing ending before B Lunch.

April and May Testing Calendar

As we move into quarter 4, we have many very important testing dates ahead, with AICE, Advanced Placement, FAST ELA PM3, End of Course exams (Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, and US History), Industry Certification testing, and final exams. Attached you'll find a few documents that outline the calendar and schedule for major testing dates for the remainder of the school year:

- *Spring Assessment Schedule 3/24/25 Update* <https://tinyurl.com/2xxmu2wk>
- *May Calendar / Final Exam Schedule* <https://tinyurl.com/yyz9ms8x>

Class of 2025 Reminders

- Friday 4/4: Prom @ Ruth Eckerd Hall
- Friday 4/11: Grad Bash @ Universal Studios
- Monday 4/22: Senior Breakfast @ Ruth Eckerd Hall, Mandatory Senior Assembly @ ELHS, and Senior BBQ @ ELHS
- Tuesday 5/20 to Friday 5/23: Senior Exams
- Thursday 5/29: Class of 2025 Graduation @ the Yuengling Center in Tampa at 9am
- *A reminder to visit <https://elhsenior.weebly.com> to keep up with all things Senior Class!*
- *If you haven't paid for A) your Cap and Gown and B) your Grad Walking Fees, use the links below:*

Cap & Gown: [https://hub.jostens.com/ls/7ed522a8-6ef6-433e-a669-a571dd80545b/sf-NdDkQWd6joHAF#/
Grad Walking Fees:](https://hub.jostens.com/ls/7ed522a8-6ef6-433e-a669-a571dd80545b/sf-NdDkQWd6joHAF#/) <https://pcsb.revtrak.net/hs/east-lake-high/elhs-senior-class/elhs-graduation-walking-fee/>

Exam Exemption Reminders

Exam exemptions are available to students who qualify again this semester, and recap of the criteria are below:

- How many can a student exempt:
 - o Students can exempt up to three exams they qualify for
 - o *Seniors can exempt all classes they qualify for (semester 2 only)*
- What classes can a student exempt:
 - o Students cannot exempt any AICE, Advanced Placement, Algebra 1 EOC, Geometry EOC, Biology EOC, US History EOC (*they will sit for all of these prior to final exams*), or Dual Enrollment exam
 - o Each year, qualifying exams exempted semester 1 can also be exempted semester 2
- When will exemption forms be distributed:
 - o One week prior to final exams – the date will be sent out to students and families closer to the end of the semester
- How do absences impact qualifying:
 - o Absences are tracked course-by-course this year and moving forward and they cannot have more than 4 absences in a class to qualify
 - o For example, if they have 5 absences in one class and 4 absences in another, they can exempt the class with 4 absences if they have qualifying grades as well
 - o *If they exempt the exam but get greater than 4 absences in the course prior to the final exam schedule, they will no longer be able to exempt the exam*
- How are grades impact qualifying:
 - o Students must earn a C or higher in Q3 and have a provisional grade of a C or higher to qualify
 - o *If they exempt the exam but their grade drops below a C in the course prior to the final exam schedule, they will no longer be able to exempt the exam*

Additional Reminders

- o **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 which helps 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 they may need – tips are

passed along to appropriate law enforcement and school personnel. FortifyFL is also another reporting system which is available to report suspicious activity and allows Florida students and the community to relay any safety concerns. Both links can be found below.

- [Say Something Tips — Sandy Hook Promise](#)
- [FortifyFL \(getfortifyfl.com\)](https://getfortifyfl.com)

○ **Driver's Ed Program - Summer**

- East Lake High School, along with multiple other schools throughout the county, will be hosting our usual Summer Driver's Ed Program. Below you'll find a link to register. The program costs \$250 and seats are limited to first come first serve basis.
- Summer Driver's Ed Link: <https://www.pcsb.org/Page/43586>

○ **PTSA Updates**

- The ELHS PTSA is seeking nominations for the 2025-26 school year and will have open elections in May. Are you interested in making a difference in our school community? Join the PTSA Executive Committee. Please submit your interest for our four open board positions to our three nomination committee co-chairs listed on Instagram and Facebook. Voting will take place at our May General Meeting directly before the SAC meeting May 13th at 6pm in the ELHS Media Center. ALL ARE WELCOME! If you have any questions, email ptsaelhs@gmail.com
- Share some LOVE and APPRECIATION TO OUR AMAZING TEACHERS AND STAFF! The ELHS PTSA is beginning an ongoing year-round request to "FUEL THE FACULTY". We are looking for small snack and drink donations for a snack cart which rolls around the office and halls. PTSA is kicking off this effort in February with their Sign-up Genius posted on their Facebook and Instagram pages. Please see the links below to access the social media pages on how to sign up: <https://bit.ly/4jsZuaQ>
- Consider starting your membership off with the PTSA or making a donation this month - both assist with supporting the teachers and students at The Lake each day! 100% of all membership fees and donations go directly back to the school. And check out their Facebook and Instagram pages for more information!
 - <https://www.facebook.com/EastLakeHSPTSA>
 - <https://www.instagram.com/eastlakehighptsa/>

○ **College and Career Center Updates**

- **Bright Futures** - complete the FFAA: <https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPHome/SAPHome?url=home>
- **Scholarship Opportunities:** <https://www.pcsb.org/Page/39425>. Students can also look in Xello (through their Clever account) to find other scholarships.
- **SPC Open Door Scholarship** for work force training - SPC offers scholarships to help prepare you for your dream job or develop your career.
 - Through the Open Door grant program, you can complete short-term training for high-demand jobs in as little as six weeks for FREE.
 - This opportunity covers 100% of tuition and fees for eligible programs after all other federal and state financial aid is applied. To qualify, you must be a Florida resident. Scholarships are offered on a first come, first served basis while funding is available. <https://now.spc.edu/open-door>
- **Pinellas Technical College** - Earn free tuition for the first term by attending National Technical College Signing Day April 10th. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/4hpt4h8z>

- **Orlando Health Bayfront Hospital** is excited to welcome you for our 2nd Annual Healthcare Pathway Summer Program. This free, two-day healthcare introductory program is open to high school students entering their junior or senior year. Introductions to careers in radiology, respiratory care, surgical technology, phlebotomy, nursing, laboratory, are available and so much more. The second day, the students are broken up into small groups where they gain hands-on experience in various departments, behind the scenes. <https://tinyurl.com/54cwp4sn>
- **East Lake Community Library** - We're excited to share a valuable opportunity for high school students to build essential financial skills with Money Smarts for Teens, a three-part financial literacy series at the East Lake Community Library in collaboration with Pinellas County Consumer Protection. <https://tinyurl.com/2p9mbpun>
- **Have questions?** Need help? [Book an appointment](#) with College and Career Center Director Mrs. Gallaty!

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to reach out to your Assistant Principal or Counselor. Let's continue SOARing to new heights this semester at The Lake! Have an amazing rest of your weekend and GO EAGLES!

Dan Schmittiel, Principal
East Lake High School
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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.