



1300 Silver Eagle Drive
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34688

Office: (727) 942-5419

Fax: (727) 942-5441

[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

3/9/25

Good afternoon Eagle Families,

This is Dan Schmittiel, Principal of East Lake High School, with some important reminders and updates as we continue through second semester at The Lake. 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:

Events	Dates
Baseball	Seminole HS at home Tuesday 2/11 and Clearwater Central Catholic HS at home Friday 2/14
Softball	Canterbury HS away on 3/10, River Ridge HS away on 3/11, and Northeast HS away on 3/12
Girls Lacrosse	Countryside HS away on 3/11 and Cypress Creek HS away on 3/13
Boys Lacrosse	Wharton HS at home on 3/10, Cypress Creek HS at home on 3/11, and Countryside HS away on 3/13
Flag Football	Boca Ciega HS away on 3/10 and Palm Harbor University HS at home on 3/12
Tennis	Girls and boys will both face Seminole HS away on Tuesday 3/11 and Boca Ciega HS at home on Thursday 3/13
Track and Field	Mustang Invite @ Northeast Christian HS on Thursday 3/13
SAC Meeting	We'll meet on Tuesday at 6pm in the ELHS Media Center and will cover topics specific to quarter 4, relevant testing strategies on upcoming assessments, and more!
Albert Orthodontics "Making a Change and Helping Local Schools" Contest (ends March 21)	Vote for ELHS in the 12 th annual contest, hosted by Albert Family Orthodontics. ELHS could win between \$250 and \$1000 to support programs within the school so take a quick moment to vote for ELHS today! - https://makingachange.albertfamilyortho.com/

Good luck to all of our Eagles in all of their extracurriculars! Let's give a special shout out to Arianna Antoniou and Leila Memon for qualifying and competing in the Girls Wrestling State Tournament this weekend – and congratulations to Arianna for taking 5th place at states, ELHS' first female athlete to place in girls wrestling in school history!

Some reminders for the week:

In-School SAT – All Juniors

All juniors will sit for the FREE in-school SAT on Wednesday, March 12th. Students will test using the Bluebook application. This is a free testing opportunity is available to all juniors and can be used for A) testing concordance, B) college admissions, and/or C) Bright Futures.

Test locations will be posted outside of the Media Center and Student Services, and will include the Media Center, the Gym, and some classrooms. Testing will begin at the start of the day, so all testers should be on campus and in their testing site at

7:25am, the start of 1st period. Testing will go through 10:50am for standard time testers and we will have one lunch on campus on Wednesday for all students.

Wrapping Up Quarter 3

As a reminder, next Friday, March 14th, is the last day of quarter 3. As we wrap up the last two weeks before spring break, if your child has any missing work or currently has a low grade in any of their classes, have them speak with their teachers early this week. There may be opportunity in the next two weeks and during spring break to work on not only improving their grade but also to master the missed material and have a great jumpstart to quarter 4! Also, remember, semester grades are determined by a combination of quarter 3, quarter 4, and semester exam grades, with the exam exemption process fully reinstated this semester.

Spring Challenge (closes March 22nd)

The Spring Break Challenges is open to all students enrolled in Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, US History, and any 9th and 10th grade ELA class. The ELA challenge closes this Friday, March 14th, while all of our EOC classes (Alg 1, Geo, Bio, US Hist) are open until March 28. This is an excellent opportunity to review and practice material they've been covering in class to continue to prepare for upcoming state tests in May. We'll also have some prizes for students and classes with the highest level of performance. Students will access the materials by visiting the "High School Enrichment" application in Clever. More information can be found in the attached flyer: <https://tinyurl.com/SpringBreak2025Challenges>

Pi Day Celebration

Students will have an opportunity to PIE several staff members on Pi Day, this Friday 3/14, during lunch. To participate, students can get a Pie Pass by finding hidden Eagles on campus throughout the week, or by purchasing a Pie Pass in the Eagle's Nest, our PBIS store, prior to Friday.

Prom and Senior Updates

This year, Prom will take place on Friday, April 4th at Ruth Eckerd Hall. More information surrounding tickets will be announced as we move through the month of March.

Senior breakfast will take place on Tuesday, April 22nd this year. The breakfast is an optional ticketed event at Ruth Eckerd Hall, which is followed by a mandatory graduation assembly later in the day at East Lake High School to discuss the graduation ceremony, including cap and gown distribution. The day will wrap up with our senior barbeque on campus for the Class of 2025. More information to come as we progress through semester 2 for both senior breakfast and the mandatory graduation assembly for seniors on April 22nd! And graduation for the class of 2025 is fast approaching! As a reminder, graduation is at the Yuengling Center at USF Tampa on May 29th at 9am.

Also, for families who haven't done so yet, it's also 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). 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 which assist with making the day and ceremony special for our students walking across the stage. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Ms. Stang, our Senior Class Sponsor, at stangr@pcsb.org, or Mrs. Blum, our Graduation Coordinator at blumme@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/>

Additional 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 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**
 - ELHS PTSA needs you! PTSA will have elections in May and will be looking for new board members and committee chairs, along with new memberships as of July 1st. If you are interested in learning how PTSA works and what each position entails, please listen in on the Advocacy Zoom meeting hosted by ELMS with our Pinellas County PTA Treasurer on Feb 26th at 8pm. The information for the call is on our FB/Insta and E-mail.
 - 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/>
- **PBIS and ELHS Soar Survey**
 - We would love to receive your feedback on our positive behavior system we utilize at East Lake High School. Take a few minutes to complete our survey to provide feedback and suggestions on how we can continue to grow! Use the Microsoft Forms survey below:
 - https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=BZM8c9c5GkaGb_3ye_PH_3bKIImNJPslLrAydoDTHjNVUNkUyN0ZOM1UwQldTMEtITkpZNjZPMVhFMS4u&route=shorturl
- **Driver's Ed Program – After School**
 - East Lake High School, along with multiple other schools throughout the county, will be hosting an after-school Driver's Ed program from March 31st through April 11th. Attached you'll find the flier attached with a QR code on how to sign up. The program costs \$250 and seats are limited to first come first serve basis.
 - FLYER: <https://tinyurl.com/zbxer9p2>
- **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>
 - Kite Day volunteers needed, March 15th at Sheffield Park- <https://tinyurl.com/2nu75w96>

- **College and Career Opportunities**
 - On March 18, 2025, during Spring Break, The Beauty and Health Institute will be hosting an Open House event specifically for high school seniors. This event will provide valuable insight into our training programs, curriculum, and the various career opportunities within the aesthetics industry. Additionally, we are now enrolling students for our upcoming Summer and Fall semesters. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/22fhzc27>
- **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
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.