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[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

5/29/25

Dear East Lake High School Community,

This is Dan Schmittiel, Principal of East Lake High School, with an important and heartfelt update. First off, congratulations to all our 2025 Eagles graduates – we couldn't be prouder of them reaching this important milestone and good luck with this next chapter in your lives! I shared with our staff earlier this afternoon that I will be stepping down as principal at the end of June and will not be returning for the 2025–26 school year.

After much reflection, my wife and I have made the decision to return to our home state of Michigan to raise our two young boys, Jack and Cooper, closer to family. I have accepted a school administrator position in the Detroit area, and we will be relocating this summer.

This was not an easy decision to make. Serving as principal of East Lake these past three years has been one of the greatest honors of my career. I am incredibly proud of everything we have accomplished together in support of our students, staff, and families. East Lake has truly felt like home to me, and while I am excited for the future, leaving this community comes with a heavy heart.

The district, under the leadership of Area Superintendent Dr. Gonzalez, will be undergoing the process to name the next principal for the 2025–26 school year. I have every confidence that East Lake will continue to thrive and grow under new leadership.

Thank you for your unwavering support, trust, and partnership throughout my time here. I will always be grateful for the memories, the relationships, and the opportunity to be a part of this incredible school community.

With sincere gratitude,

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.