



East Lake High School

1300 Silver Eagle Dr.,
Tarpon Springs, FL 34688

Phone: (727) 942-5419

Website: www.pcsb.org/eastlake-hs

Eric C. Smith, Ph.D., Principal
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9/12/25

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

We are now mid-way through the first quarter of school. This year is flying by and we are SOARING right with it. Since we are at the quarter mid-point, I have sent out progress reports with your student's current grades. Remember, current grades are always accessible through Focus. Be sure to click on the actual letter grade to see the details and assignments.

As always, we have a lot of information to cover. Please review my email carefully and thoroughly.

Focus:

- Check your student's grades in Focus weekly. Review the mid-point progress report for quarter 1 sent via email on Thursday 9/11.
- 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>

PM1 Testing:

- Testing went very well this week. Students are already breaking down their scores and establishing new goals in their English classes.
- Scores should be updated under test history in Focus.

East Lake Madrigals:

- On 9/11, our chorus had the opportunity to perform a 9/11 memorial service in Palm Harbor. The service was broadcast live, and Governor DeSantis was in attendance. Thank you to Choral Director, Mr. Knabel for leading the way.



Non-Student Day Reminder:

- Next Friday, 9/19, is a non-student day.
- Students will NOT report to school.

Absences and Permission to Leave (PTL):

- Thank you to those that have curbed misuse of this process. This new process is a convenience for parents but if students are abusing, we will have to make a change.
 - Students that complete this form will receive disciplinary consequences.
 - Parents may receive school contact to verify the form.
 - Please check your student's attendance regularly.
 - Focus will send daily communication if your student is absent from any period.
- 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.

Tardies:

- Continue to discuss the tardy process with your student. We hold students accountable for being 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 \(pcsb.org\)](#)

Dress Code:

- While this is not a majority, 2 key issues we have still been addressing on campus:
 - Bike/spandex shorts and shirts that do not cover the stomach.
- Please address with your student and check their attire when coming to school.
 - PCSB Student Code of Conduct PDF:
 - <https://www.pcsb.org/cms/lib/FL01903687/Centricity/Domain/6122/2025-2026-PCS-Student-Code-of-Conduct.pdf>
 - [Code of Conduct / V. Dress Code \(pcsb.org\)](#)

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.
- Students have been doing a great job entering through the front gate by the main office.

Parking:

- 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.

Theatre:

- Mark your calendars!! September 18th @ 6:30 is a FREE Homecoming & Prom attire/Halloween costume fashion show hosted by the Theatre Department.
 - Students will be modeling Dillards and Men's Wearhouse dresses, suits and tuxes.
 - Off the rack clothing and silent auction items from the Theatre Costume Closet for sale at deep discounts.
 - VIP seating available for sale on the booster website <https://www.elhstheatre.com>
 -

National Honor Society:

- NHS new member inductions will take place Tuesday September 30th at 6:00 pm in the auditorium.
- Students are asked to please arrive by 5:30.
- Please ensure all NHS member dues (new and existing) are paid by Thursday September 25th.
- Contact Mrs. Campbell with any questions at campbellaman@pcsb.org.

PTSA:

- Please visit the PTSA site for more information about joining and participating:
 - <https://www.pcsb.org/domain/2207>

School Counselors:

- **10th-12th grade students that are interested in College/Scholarships**
Make sure to register for a weekend SAT or ACT at ELHS! This is done directly through the SAT and ACT websites
 - SAT - <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat/registration>
 - ACT - <https://my.act.org>

Contact your counselor if you have any questions about registering!
- AP acknowledgement form: All students in AP courses must complete the AP acknowledgement form.
 - The form is available in all AP classes (also attached in the email).

- One form per student is required.
- Please complete and submit to your AP teacher as soon as possible.

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

College and Career center:

- College applications opened August 1st. Come see Ms. Gallaty in College and Career Center to get started on or get help with your application, SSAR or scholarships.
- Parents, email GallatyN@pcsb.org to schedule an appointment to learn more about the college application process. Office hours are from 2:00-3:00 every day.
- Student Volunteer Opportunity:
 - [East Lake Library Teen Advisory Board](#): This group is for students in 9 to 12 grade who want to make a difference in the library by sharing ideas, planning events, and promoting reading among their peers. Please complete the application below in its fullest to be considered for the 2025-2026 board. The last day to apply is November 7, 2025.
- In-School PSAT/SAT is October 15th.
 - Underclassmen can register for in-person PSAT prep on Saturday, Sept 20th and 27th from 8:30-11:00 at PHU.
 - [Free PSAT Prep Information](#)
 - Students also have access to [test prep resources](#) through their Clever accounts.
- Clothing and School Supplies Drive:
 - We are excited to announce that we will be opening a clothing and school supplies closet for our students in the near future! If you would like to make a donation, we are looking for:
 - Gently used or new clothing: pants, shirts, hoodies, sweaters, jackets
 - New socks
 - New underwear
 - Gently used or new shoes
 - School supplies: **Backpacks**, notebooks, composition books, pens, pencils
- College Admissions Info:
 - Students can sign up to attend [information sessions](#) with admissions reps from FSU, UCF, LSU and more! These sessions are for students only, but parents, please encourage your students to sign up with their PSCB email!
- Financial Aid
 - Want to learn more about financial aid - FAFSA, Bright Futures, Scholarships? Join us for these upcoming [information sessions and workshops!](#)

Driver's Ed Camp:

- A new program offered by the district for students that currently do not have in-class driver's education.
- Camp 1 – 9/22-10-3, M-F, 3-6pm, at Pinellas Park High School
- See attached flyer for registration

Pictures:

- Picture Day make up is 1 1/4.
- Senior Eagles - it's not too late to schedule your senior portraits to meet the yearbook deadline. Please go to www.leonards.com to schedule your session.
- Contact Mrs. Wall at walln@pcsb.org with any additional questions.

Yearbooks:

- Order your yearbook and senior ad at www.yearbookordercenter.com
- Questions on yearbook, photos, or senior dedication ads? Contact Mrs. Wall at walln@pcsb.org.

Athletics:

- GameDay Reminders:
 - No back packs or large bags
 - Small clear bags ok (see attached flyer)
 - 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.
 - Display sportsmanship – no taunting refs or the other team, no foul language
- Volleyball is now 3-1 on the season after a convincing defeat of the SPSHS Green Devils last night. The varsity team will compete in 4 matches at the Florida Gem tournament at the Wiregrass Ranch Sports Complex (Wesley Chapel) today and Saturday.
- Eagle Boys Golf teams faced off against Boca Ciega and Osceola this week, defeating both schools. The girls' golf was rained out. - Next week the Eagles face off against Hollins and Pinellas Park on 9/18 @ Cove Cay
- Varsity Football was cancelled due to rain last Friday. They take on the Mitchell mustangs tonight at 7 pm . Next week they will travel to Tarpon Springs to face off against the Spongers.
- JV Football also had an off week. They play next Wednesday at Tarpon Springs.
- XC ran at the IMG summit. Truman Houk and Katelin Wilcox led both teams again with top 10 finishes. The Varsity boys' team had a strong 6th place finish out of 17 teams and the Varsity girls team finished 14th out of 20 teams while missing 2 of its top 5 girls this weekend. Next race is Sept 20th at North Port.
- Our Eagle Bowling teams competed against Osceola Warriors Thursday night. The next match where they look to rebound will be Sept 18th against Lakewood at Sunrise Lanes.
- Our East Lake swim/dive varsity boys & girls both won their meets against Countryside Thursday night. They will look to continue their winning ways next Saturday at the PCAC swim meet.
- Power Puff has moved from 10/29 to Tuesday 10/28
- Flag Football:
 - "Stop by Ridgemoor Publix and show your support for our Flag Football ladies as they begin their return to Regionals and beyond!"



JOIN US!
SATURDAY 9/13
9 AM - 6 PM
@ RIDGEMOOR
PUBLIX
FOR OUR
ANNUAL TAG
DAY





**SUPPORT YOUR
FAVORITE FLAG
FOOTBALLERS
WHERE
SHOPPING IS A
PLEASURE**



HELP US WITH OUR:
 · TRAINING PROGRAMS
 · TOURNAMENTS
 · TRAVEL
 · DEFENDING OUR
 DISTRICT TITLE !!!
 · RETURN TO
 REGIONALS !!!!!



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.

Free-Reduced Lunch:

- The application for free and reduced lunch is available by visiting <https://www.myschoolapps.com>
- If your child had an approved free/reduced meal status last year, it will expire on Sept. 23.
 - A new application must be submitted for the 2025-26 school year to continue receiving meal benefits.
 - If a new application is not submitted, then, beginning Sept. 24, your student will need to pay for lunch.
- All students at East Lake High School are eligible to receive a free breakfast every day with no application needed.
- We encourage all families who believe they may be eligible to apply. There are additional scholarship funds and assistance available for standardized testing fees for students from qualifying families.
 - For assistance with free or reduced meals, contact Susie Zufall
 - zufalls@pcsb.org or 727-547-7151

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>

Have a great weekend everyone and remember...SOAR High Eagles



Eric C. Smith, Ph.D.

Principal

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