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[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

4/20/25

Good afternoon, Eagle Families,

This is Dan Schmittiel, Principal of East Lake High School, with some important reminders and updates as we continue through the 4th and final quarter of the 2024-25 school year at The Lake and put in final preparations for upcoming high stakes testing. 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	Competed in the District Championship against Sickles HS this past Thursday and were crowned District Runner Up! This week they'll face off against Gaither HS in a best of three game regional quarterfinals. We'll host on Wednesday 4/23 and Thursday 4/24, with game 3 on Saturday 4/26 if needed at Gaither HS. Good luck and what an excellent season so far!
Softball	Wrap up the regular season the following week against Hollins HS at home on Tuesday 4/22
Flag Football	Competed in the district finals against Manatee HS this past Thursday and were crowned District Champions for the first time in Flag Football in ELHS history! They'll compete against Riverdale HS at home on Wednesday 4/23 in the regional quarterfinals.
Track and Field	Continuing their season in the district meet on Tuesday 4/22 at Sickles HS
Tennis	The ELHS girls' tennis team will continue their phenomenal season as they compete in the regional semifinals against St. Petersburg HS on Tuesday 4/22 at home!
ELHS Spring Musical: <i>Into the Woods</i>	Our theatre department will showcase all of their hard work this week Thursday, April 24 through Saturday, April 26 . Tickets are on sale on GoFan now!
Walker's Rising Stars	Walker's Rising Stars Scholarship Competition is an initiative helping students hone their audition, portfolio, and performance skills. The event takes place at Mahaffey Theater on Monday, May 5. Tickets are free and East Lake High School will be represented by four extremely talented students in Theater and Visual Arts where they'll be competing for college scholarships – go out to support their outstanding work! - https://tinyurl.com/2025Walkers
Senior Day	This Tuesday 4/22 we'll celebrate our seniors during SENIOR DAY. More information can be found below on the senior breakfast, senior assembly, cap and gown distribution, and the senior BBQ!

Good luck to all of our Eagles in all of their extracurriculars! Also, as a reminder, students will not have school on Monday 4/21. Some additional reminders for the week include:

AICE Testing – General Paper and Marine Science

Students will take day 1 of the AICE General Paper and AICE Marine Science assessments this Friday. AICE General Paper is 1st thing in the morning and AICE Marine Science will be after lunch. Students will take the day 2 assessment on Tuesday, April 29th. Teachers and students have been working diligently to prep for these assessments, and we can't wait to see their hard work pay off! Locators will be posted outside of Student Services and the Media Center this week, and students will test in the same location on both days. Students are also required to test both days. If you have any questions at all, please reach out to their AICE teacher.

FAST ELA PM 3 Testing – Modified Block Schedule

In less than two short weeks, all of our 9th and 10th grade students will begin taking the FAST ELA Progress Monitoring (PM) 3 assessment through their English classes. This includes English 1, English 1 Honors, English 2, English 2 Honors, English 3 Honors, and Advanced Placement English Composition for any freshmen and sophomore. Students took the PM1 and PM2 assessments as the beginning of the school year to display their growth from the start of the school year, and PM3 will be their chance to SOAR on the final assessment to showcase their hard work this year!

Teachers and students have been working diligently as they progress through the standards and skills within English and Reading courses this school year, while focusing on digging into and practicing the different test strategies to help students tackle the FAST ELA assessment. As in past year, we're asking for your help: attached you'll find the test strategy One Pagers for the FAST assessment. Please take some time between now and your student's testing date to help support them from home on how to SOAR on this test – they have all the tools needed to do SOAR on the FAST! Remember the test is ADAPTIVE, so as students get the questions correct, the complexity increases, which is a good thing – this means their RISING. Remember, students can **AND** should take as much time as they need to finish the test their day of testing. On their testing day, all students will test through at least 10:50am, but if they aren't finished then they can test through the entire school day. Students CANNOT SKIP questions – give every question their best answer, and if they aren't sure then eliminate as many answer options as they can before selecting an answer. EOC testing will have a very similar approach this year as well. Please see the attached One Pagers for more critical strategies and reminders to SOARING on the FAST ELA PM3 starting May 1st!

- <https://tinyurl.com/SoarOnThe2025FAST>
- <https://tinyurl.com/2025TestDayStrategies>

Also, starting Thursday, May 1st, through Friday, May 9th, we will have a modified bell schedule. All 9th and 10th grade students will take their FAST ELA PM3 assessment during their English class with their English teacher during the class period they have English. For example, all students with English 1st period will take the assessment on May 1st, while all other students will attend their 1st period class through 10:50am the same day. See the below attachment for a breakdown of each day's schedule, starting May 1st through May 9th.

- <https://tinyurl.com/37rtcn56>

Attached you'll find our testing calendar and schedule for major testing dates as an additional reminder for the remainder of the year:

- <https://tinyurl.com/42e29sw9>

Spring Show – Into the Woods

Both our theatre and orchestra students have been equally committed to preparing for what will be an amazing spring musical, Into the Woods, and we would like to recognize this collaboration as we've added the pit orchestra to this year's show. Both groups are included via the signature poster and will have candygram bags and t-shirts available at the show. It has been fun seeing these two creative groups work so well together, complimenting each other in the show's preparation!

Get your tickets now for our Spring Musical "Into the Woods" on GoFan. We're excited to announce performances will take place THIS WEEK in the East Lake High School auditorium this Thursday through Saturday, April 24th, 25th, and 26th at 7pm, along with a matinee on the 26th at 1pm. We hope to see you there to see the culmination of all of our student's and staff's hard work!

Thursday 4/24 - <https://gofan.co/event/3527462?schoolId=FL5841>

Friday 4/25 - <https://gofan.co/event/3527627?schoolId=FL5841>

Saturday 4/26 Matinee <https://gofan.co/event/3527652?schoolId=FL5841>

Saturday 4/26 (Evening) <https://gofan.co/event/3527645?schoolId=FL5841>



Class of 2025 Reminders

Attention Class of 2025: This Tuesday, April 22nd, we will have our SENIOR DAY! During the day, we'll have a mandatory Graduation Assembly. The day begins with the ticketed Senior Breakfast event starting at 8:00am at Ruth Eckerd Hall. Students will then transition back to the ELHS auditorium for the mandatory graduation assembly starting at 10:30am. Following the assembly, students will move to the gymnasium to pick up their cap, gown, tassel, and yard sign. During this time, students will also receive their reader cards for the ceremony as well. The cards give the students the opportunity to clarify their information, such as correct name pronunciation. Once students have picked up their caps and gowns, they will then celebrate together as we wrap up the day during the Senior BBQ located right here on the East Lake campus on the football field and track. If you have any questions, please reach out to Ms. Stang or Mrs. Blum.

Also, if any special accommodations are required for graduation day at the Yuengling Center, such as seating in our new Deaf and Hard of Hearing section, please reach out to Mrs. Blum as soon as possible. Some additional upcoming dates for the Class of 2025 can be found below:

- Tuesday 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: Please see Ms. Stang or Mrs. Blum – payments are cash or check only as the link has expired

College and Career Center and Guidance Updates

Saturday SAT Opportunities: For students in 10th through 12th grade focusing on college and/or scholarship prep, make sure to register for a weekend SAT at ELHS! This is done directly through the

<https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat/registration> Upcoming tests are below:

- May 3 SAT
- June 7 SAT (digital testing only)
 - o *Contact your counselor if you have any questions about registering*

SPC Off Campus Summer/Fall Registration: Additionally, if your student is wanting to take Dual Enrollment classes off campus at SPC this summer, registration is now open and due by April 30. Fall Dual Enrollment registration for off campus SPC classes begins on April 7th with a deadline of May 29. Please have your student reach out to their counselor if they are interested.

Below you'll find a variety of College and Career Center updates relevant to students in different grade levels as they plan for their post-secondary journey (<https://www.pcsb.org/Page/43646>):

Elevating Excellent Summer Seminars	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Road to College Senior Seminar (click hyperlink)<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Calling all Class of 2026! This FREE workshop will assist rising Seniors in the college application process. Students will create their FAFSA ID and Common Application account, complete their SSAR/SRAR, work on BigFuture Scholarships and CSS account, if needed. Conveniently located at East Lake High School for the first time! Join Ms. Gallaty this summer to get a head start on the college application process. Two 3-hour sessions offered each day July 21st-24th.- Road to College Underclass Seminar (click hyperlink)<ul style="list-style-type: none">o The Elevating Excellence Road to College is a FREE 3-hour seminar will assist your student in the college readiness process. Students will engage in activities to explore Career Matching, College Matching,
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	<p>Financial Aid, College Budget and Planning and Bright Futures. Two 3-hour sessions offered each day July 16th and 17th.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Money Smarts for Teens - East Lake Community Library 6:00-7:00 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o We're excited to share a valuable opportunity for high school students to build essential financial skills with <i>Money Smarts for Teens</i>, a three-part financial literacy series at the East Lake Community Library in collaboration with Pinellas County Consumer Protection. Open to grades 9-12. o Session Dates & Topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ April 7th – Budgeting & Saving Basics ▪ April 14th – Credit Cards & Credit Scores ▪ April 21st – Avoiding Scams & Renting 101 ▪ Incentive: Students who complete all three sessions will earn a certificate of completion and a \$10 gift card (Amazon, Starbucks, etc.) to celebrate their commitment to financial literacy!
<p>Explore Your Potential - Careers in Healthcare with Johns Hopkins Medical Explorers Program and Orlando Health Pathway Summer Program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have you ever thought about a career in healthcare? Did you know there are dozens of different professions in healthcare varying from direct patient care to business administration to leadership and management? The Medical Explorers Program offered by Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital will help high school students explore the myriad professions within healthcare. If you have ever thought about a career in healthcare, apply for the Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital Medical Explorers Program today! - 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. We hope you will share this exciting opportunity with your students! Please reach out if you have any additional questions.
<p>Spectrum Internship (hyperlink)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ***THIS INTERNSHIP IS SPECIFICALLY FOR HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS ENTERING THEIR SENIOR YEAR*** - This is a learning-intensive High School Internship program designed to give you essential business insights and hands-on experience in the technology field. Training is a full-time, 8-week commitment from June 7, 2024, through August 2, 2024, with the possibility of extending on a part-time basis through your final year of high school. Part-time scheduling during your senior year includes 1 full day each weekend and 2-3 evenings per week, totaling a minimum of 20 hours. - As a Spectrum Intern, you will have access to full benefits, including medical, 401K, and comp services, with potential for tuition assistance once you graduate.
<p>Student Volunteer Opportunities (https://www.pcsb.org/Page/37909)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students can also look in Xello (through their Clever account) to find other scholarships. - Bright Futures - complete the FFAA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPHome/SAPHome?url=home

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SPC Open Door Scholarship for work force training - SPC offers scholarships to help prepare you for your dream job or develop your career. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Through the Open-Door grant program, you can complete short-term training for high-demand jobs in as little as six weeks for FREE. o 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. https://padlet.com/gallatyn/east-lake-college-and-career-center-idyrvtlk9okb080m/wish/XGyBQbkL2q10ZL6K - Closing soon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Give Kids a Chance Scholarship o Deadline 4/30/2025 o Give Kids A Chance is offering scholarship grants in the amount of \$1,250 to high school seniors planning to attend college. The scholarship will be offered to those students graduating from public high schools in the state of Florida. Students who are attending college and who have previously received a grant under this program will also be eligible to apply for additional grants for each year they remain in college and maintain a minimum grade point average if 2.5 on a 4.0 scale (no more than 4 years). Requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Must have a 2.5 average or above ▪ Must document financial need ▪ Demonstrate an interest in school and community activities ▪ Application must be received on or before April 30, 2025 ▪ Two letters of recommendation are required. <p>For more information and to apply, download application</p>
<p>Scholarships https://www.pcsb.org/Page/39425</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PTC – Clearwater, has extended the application period for the Diesel program due to the industry demand for skilled Diesel Technicians. If your student is a junior or senior and interested in learning this high-demand skill, please use this link to complete the application: https://dualenrollment.myptc.edu/ and let me Ms. Gallatyn know you are applying. gallatyn@pcsb.org
<p>PTC Dual Enrollment</p>	<p>Book an appointment via the hyperlink.</p>
<p>Have questions? Need help?</p>	

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 \(getfortifyfl.com\)](#)
- **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/>

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.