



1300 Silver Eagle Drive  
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34688

Office: (727) 942-5419

Fax: (727) 942-5441

[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

4/27/25

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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 our different extracurricular programs offered throughout the school. Check out this week and major upcoming events below:

<b><u>Events</u></b>	<b><u>Dates</u></b>
Baseball	Saturday the team faced Gaither HS in game 3 of the regional quarterfinals series and won in an exciting 7 <sup>th</sup> inning! They'll move on this week and face Sickles HS on Wednesday, Thursday, and potentially Saturday for regional semifinals. Wednesday and Thursday's games will take place at Sickles HS, with Saturday's taking place at ELHS if a game three is needed.
Softball	Our Lady Eagles will face Palm Harbor University HS on Tuesday 4/29 to compete in the district semifinals
Flag Football	Last week our Lady Eagles won their regional quarterfinals game. We'll host Manatee HS on Monday 4/28 to compete in the regional semifinals
Track and Field	Several of our athletes will compete in the Regional Meet this Friday 5/2 as they qualified from a great performance at the district meet
Tennis	The ELHS Lady Eagles Tennis team have made it to the State Series! They'll face off against Naples HS on Monday 4/28 to start the State Series in Altamonte Springs
Walker's Rising Stars	Next week, Walker's Rising Stars Scholarship Competition is an initiative to help 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! - <a href="https://tinyurl.com/2025Walkers">https://tinyurl.com/2025Walkers</a>
State Testing Webinar	We'll be hosting a virtual webinar Tuesday night 4/29 at 6pm – the goal is to ensure parents walk out with the tools to help support a final push from home surrounding testing strategies students have been focusing on within the classroom to SOAR on the FAST ELA PM3, EOC, and Advanced Placement testing. We'll also cover some specifics surrounding the upcoming calendar, such as our modified schedule from May 1 <sup>st</sup> through May 9 <sup>th</sup> , Advanced Placement versus state testing, and more. You'll also have an opportunity to ask questions which we'll address in the moment in the webinar. We hope to “see” you there!
Algebra 1 Parent Night	On Thursday 5/1, our Algebra 1 team will host an in person and virtual meeting for all families with students enrolled in Algebra 1. This will be a follow-up to Tuesdays meeting with very specific topics surrounding the Algebra 1 course and EOC which will be taken later in the month of May.
AVID Pinning	The AVID Pinning Ceremony event celebrating our seniors committed to the AVID program within East Lake High School and Pinellas County Schools. This will take place at Largo HS at 6pm on Thursday 5/1
AICE Testing: Day 2	Day 2 of AICE General Paper and AICE Marine Science will take place on Tuesday, 5/29 in the Media Center. Students will test in the same location as Friday and must have sat for Day 1 to continue testing. Good luck!
FAST ELA PM3	We'll begin FAST ELA PM3 testing for all 9 <sup>th</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> grade students starting Thursday 5/1 through Friday 5/9 through English classes. All 1 <sup>st</sup> period English classes will take the FAST ELA PM3 assessment Thursday 5/1 and all 2 <sup>nd</sup> period English classes will take it on Friday 5/2, for all freshmen and sophomores.

Good luck to all of our Eagles in all of their extracurriculars! And congratulations to all of the students and staff involved in putting on some breathtaking performances with our Spring Musical: Into the Woods this past week – their commitment to preparing for such an amazing final product was evident! Some additional reminders for the week include:

## **FAST ELA PM 3 Testing – Modified Block Schedule**

This Thursday 5/1 we will begin FAST ELA PM3 testing. There will be a modified bell schedule from Thursday 5/1 through Friday 5/9. This will include a block schedule each morning from 7:25am to 10:50am, one lunch, and a modified set of three classes in the afternoon each day. Please pay close attention to the schedule each day, as the times of each class is the same but the class periods themselves will vary. We'll start Thursday off with a 1<sup>st</sup> period block where all 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students in an English class 1<sup>st</sup> period will take their FAST ELA PM3 assessment. Students in an English class a different period will test on their designated block day. All other students will be in the block class period for continued instruction, support, and review during this same block time, from 7:25am to 10:50am.

- <https://tinyurl.com/37rten56>

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 which help students tackle the FAST ELA assessment. Later this week we'll be sending out callouts to all 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade families with further information regarding the upcoming FAST ELA PM3 testing, as it begins this Thursday 5/1 through the following Friday 5/9. Attached you'll also find several OnePagers with critical strategies and reminders to SOARing on the FAST ELA PM3 starting May 1<sup>st</sup> – please take some time to review these with your students as added preparation before the FAST!

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

The link below will take you to our testing calendar and schedule for major testing dates as an additional reminder for the remainder of the year:

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

## **Class of 2025 Reminders**

Attention Class of 2025: This Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 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 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://elhssenior.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#](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 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> 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 76 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>):

<b>Saturday SAT Opportunities</b>	<p>For students in 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade focusing on college and/or scholarship prep, make sure to register for a weekend SAT at ELHS! This is done directly through the <a href="https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat/registration">https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/sat/registration</a> Upcoming tests are below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 3 SAT</li> <li>- June 7 SAT (digital testing only) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <i>Contact your counselor if you have any questions about registering</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>SPC Off Campus Summer/Fall Registration</b>	<p>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 76 with a deadline of May 29. Please have your student reach out to their counselor if they are interested</p>
<b>Elevating Excellent Summer Seminars</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">Road to College Senior Seminar (click hyperlink)</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Calling all <b>Class of 2026!</b> 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.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <a href="#">Road to College Underclass Seminar (click hyperlink)</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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, Financial Aid, College Budget and Planning and Bright Futures. Two 3-hour sessions offered each day July 16<sup>th</sup> and 17th.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Explore Your Potential - Careers in Healthcare with Johns Hopkins Medical Explorers Program and <a href="#">Orlando Health Pathway Summer Program</a></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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? <a href="#">The Medical Explorers Program</a> 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!</li> <li>- 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.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Spectrum Internship</a> (hyperlink)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>***THIS INTERNSHIP IS SPECIFICALLY FOR HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS ENTERING THEIR SENIOR YEAR***</b></li> <li>- 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</li> </ul>

	<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Student Volunteer Opportunities</b>  <a href="https://www.pcsb.org/Page/37909">https://www.pcsb.org/Page/37909</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Students can also look in Xello (through their Clever account) to find other scholarships.</li> <li>- <b>Bright Futures</b> - complete the FFAA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <a href="https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPHome/SAPHome?url=home">https://www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org/SAPHome/SAPHome?url=home</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>SPC Open Door Scholarship for work force training</b> - SPC offers scholarships to help prepare you for your dream job or develop your career. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>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. <a href="https://now.spc.edu/open-door">https://now.spc.edu/open-door</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Pinellas Technical College</b> - Earn free tuition for the first term by attending National Technical College Signing Day April 10th. <a href="https://padlet.com/gallatyn/east-lake-college-and-career-center-idyrvtlk9okb080m/wish/XGyBQbkL2ql0ZL6K">https://padlet.com/gallatyn/east-lake-college-and-career-center-idyrvtlk9okb080m/wish/XGyBQbkL2ql0ZL6K</a></li> <li>- <b>Closing soon:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <a href="#">Give Kids a Chance Scholarship</a></li> <li>o <b>Deadline 4/30/2025</b></li> <li>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 of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale (no more than 4 years). Requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Must have a 2.5 average or above</li> <li>▪ Must document financial need</li> <li>▪ Demonstrate an interest in school and community activities</li> <li>▪ Application must be received on or before April 30, 2025</li> <li>▪ Two letters of recommendation are required.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>For more information and to apply, <a href="#">download application</a></p> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Scholarships</b>  <a href="https://www.pcsb.org/Page/39425">https://www.pcsb.org/Page/39425</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 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</li> </ul>

	application: <a href="https://dualenrollment.mypc.edu/">https://dualenrollment.mypc.edu/</a> and let me Ms. Gallaty know you are applying. <a href="mailto:gallatyn@pcsb.org">gallatyn@pcsb.org</a>
<b>PTC Dual Enrollment</b>	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: <a href="https://dualenrollment.mypc.edu/">https://dualenrollment.mypc.edu/</a> and let me Ms. Gallaty know you are applying. <a href="mailto:gallatyn@pcsb.org">gallatyn@pcsb.org</a>
<b>Have questions? Need help?</b>	<a href="#">Book an appointment</a> via the hyperlink.

## **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**

- 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 [ptsaehs@gmail.com](mailto:ptsaehs@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  
[SchmittielD@pcsb.org](mailto: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.***