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[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

**8/18/24**

This is Dan Schmittiel, Principal of East Lake High School, with some important reminders and updates for the week. We had an excellent first week of the school year and can't wait to see what our students accomplish this year! As always, let's look outside of the academics to support and celebrate our students in their various extracurriculars – our students are always ready to SOAR to success as we progress throughout the school year both in and out of the classroom. This week we continue with our Fall Athletics season. Let's show our school spirit and cheer on our different sports teams, clubs, and performing arts programs throughout the year – a list of this week's events can be found below:

- JV/Varsity Volleyball faces Northside Christian HS on Tuesday 8/20 away and Keswick Christian HS away on Thursday 8/22
- Varsity Football faces Camden County HS in Georgia on Friday 8/23 away

Also, we're excited to announce that the East Lake Silver Sound Marching Band has been accepted to represent the State of Florida in the 2025 National Independence Day Parade in Washington D.C. There is still time to join our marching band, and the group is looking for piano players and dancers that want a way to get involved with one of our largest organizations on campus. See Mr. Black in the band room during lunch or after school to find out more, or email him at [blackI@pcsb.org](mailto:blackI@pcsb.org).

### **Weekly Progress Reports and Tardy Communication**

This year I will continue to send weekly progress reports every Wednesday beginning the second full week of each quarter. You can expect this to begin Wednesday, August 21st. Also, if your student was at East Lake High School last year, you're familiar with the Student Conductor tardy system that we use at East Lake High School. We plan to begin utilizing that system mid-week this week and will communicate reminders to families prior to the first day. Students have received reminders on the expectation and policy this past week as well. If a student is tardy, they will get a pass from one of the tardy kiosks on campus, and parents will also get an email notification to ensure they are aware.

### **Parent Car Loop/Student Parking Lot**

As we move into next week, please continue to ensure that you use the parent car circle. As a reminder, drop-off and pick-up should only be occurring using our parent car circle that begins at the north end of campus – the map is connected.

[Drop Off Diagram for Parents - Car Line.png](#)  
<https://tinyurl.com/bdzy9bcv>

## **ELHS PTSA**

The ELHS PTSA would like to thank everyone that came to the meeting on Tuesday! We will be posting meeting information on the school website under the Get Involved/PTSA tab – come check it out! Next week we will begin our Membership Drive from August 19th to August 30th. We will be giving some comp tickets to an ELHS home football game this season. This will go to one family that has already signed up for the PTSA this year and another family that signs up during the Membership Drive! Please help us meet our goal of 300 members this year. The PTSA's annual budget is using this number to meet their support proposals but would love to exceed that. Also, if you are considering becoming a family or business sponsor, there's also an opportunity to join our sponsorship tiers listed on our membership site, see the link below. Additionally, you can buy spirit wear on the site below to support our PTSA and rep the school!

- <https://elhsptsa.givebacks.com>
- <https://east-lake-high-school-class-of-gear.itemorder.com>

## **Student Laptops, Lockers, and Locks**

Student laptop distribution will begin this upcoming week, starting with 9th and 10th grade students throughout their math classes on Tuesday 8/20. If you haven't completed your Technology Equipment Acceptance and Responsibility form in Focus yet, please make sure to do that this weekend so that we can issue that laptop this week. Mr. Anderson will send out reminders throughout the week as well. If your student is still interested in requesting a locker, please have them stop by Student Services. If they also need to purchase a lock, they'll need to bring \$5.00 with exact change.

## **Power Up Learning Power Down Distractions, Dress Code, and More**

Parents, please assist by continuing to review student expectations throughout the school year. Our goal is to ensure students get the most out of every period, engaging with content, their teachers, and peers to deepening learning. We will continue to focus on Powering Up Learning to assist with removing the distractions of cellphones and headphones throughout the year. To learn more, see the links below:

- <https://tinyurl.com/w59wevby>
- <https://www.pcsb.org/PowerUp>

Parents, please also continue to review the ELHS and PCS dress code with your students. We do expect that all students are in dress code each day. For more details on the dress code, please use the link below:

- <https://www.pcsb.org/dresscode>

## **Code of Conduct**

Additionally, we want every student to have an amazing high school experience and be involved in any and all of the extracurricular activities that we have on campus, but some discipline infractions could get in the way of that. Any major offense including infractions like vaping, use or possession of an illegal substance, fighting, etc. will result in your student not being able to participate in certain after school events, including homecoming, prom, etc. Multiple repeat referrals may also result in a loss of that privilege at all. Please make sure to review this with your student as well.

## **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 that helps us identify and intervene in a proactive way. Please remind your student(s) that this is in place to assist with addressing a concern and also a way for someone get any help that may be needed – tips are passed along to appropriate law enforcement and school personnel. FortifyFL is also another reporting system that is available to report suspicious activity which allows Florida students and the community to relay any safety concerns. Both links can be found below.

- Say Something Tips <https://www.sandyhookpromise.org/say-something-tips/>
- FortifyFL <https://getfortifyfl.com/>

## **Counselor and Assistant Principal Updates**

This school year, we will have an adjustment to our Assistant Principal student assignments to match our counselor team. The breakdown will be as follows:

Alphas A-D = Chiquita Godwin (Assistant Principal) and Ashleigh Reger (School Counselor)  
Alphas E-K = Megan Hatfield (Assistant Principal) and Kayleigh Bordenkircher (School Counselor)  
Alphas L-Q = Dwight Latimore (Assistant Principal) and Leah Liguori (School Counselor)  
Alphas R-Z = Shawn Anderson (Assistant Principal) and Jennifer Fernandez (School Counselor)

## **College and Career Center**

The College and Career Center is open! Contact Ms. Gallaty, [GallatyN@pcsb.org](mailto:GallatyN@pcsb.org) or visit our [virtual resource center](#) for help planning for life after high school. Whether it's college, career or military we have resources to help.

## **National Art Honor Society**

NAHS will have a 20-minute general information meeting on Thursday 8/22 after school in room 3-104.

## **Freshmen Class**

Any freshmen interested in running for a student government officer position, there will be an informational meeting on Wednesday 8/21 in Mr. Lange's room, 3-245.

## **Clothing Donations**

In the south end of the school within the teacher parking lot, there's a clothing donation bin. If you have any clothing you're giving away, feel free to drop it off at any time – not only is it for a good cause, ELHS also receives some funding to support the school!

## **Yearbook Sales**

Eagle families - our yearbook is now available at a special back to school price. Please go to our website for more information on how to order your yearbook today. You can also purchase your senior dedication page at this same website. Any questions regarding yearbook or senior photos - contact the adviser at [WallN@pcsb.org](mailto:WallN@pcsb.org)

## **Flag Football**

There will be a Flag Football new player interest meeting on Wednesday after school on August 28th in room 3-132. See Coach Khan for more information!

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to reach out to your Assistant Principal or Counselor. We look forward to the amazing year ahead! Always remember that Life is Better at the Lake where we SOAR together – 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.*