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[Directions to East Lake High School](#)

**9/15/24**

Good Afternoon Eagles Families,

This is Dan Schmittiel, Principal of East Lake High School, with some important reminders and updates for the week. 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 Countryside HS on Tuesday 9/17 away, Largo HS away on Thursday 9/19, and will compete in a tournament on Friday 9/20
- Swim and Dive face Countryside HS at the North YMCA on Wednesday 9/18
- Boys Golf faces Hollins HS and Pinellas Park HS on Monday 9/16 at Mainlands Golf Club
- Girls Golf faces Countryside HS and Tarpon Springs HS at Tarpon Municipal Golf Club on Tuesday 9/17
- JV Football faces Countryside HS away on Wednesday 9/18
- Boys and Girls Bowling faces Clearwater HS at Maple Lanes on Thursday 9/19
- Varsity Football faces Tarpon Springs HS at home on Friday 9/20

Some of our students also participate in the local East Lake Club Hockey – they face Jesuit on 9/21 at TBSA. Good luck to all our Eagles in their extracurriculars!

### **September Resiliency Lesson**

Each year we facilitate five separate Resiliency/Mental Health Lessons to students. This month's topic is an overview surrounding the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System and our SAVE Club on campus. This will be facilitated in all students' 4<sup>th</sup> period classes on Wednesday, September 18 and will result in a modified bell schedule in the morning. Below is the schedule we'll run that day to accommodate the extended 4<sup>th</sup> period for that lesson.

Class Period	Time
1 <sup>st</sup>	7:25am – 8:07am
2 <sup>nd</sup>	8:12am – 8:56am
3 <sup>rd</sup>	9:01am – 9:43am
A Lunch	9:43am – 10:13am
4 <sup>th</sup> Period	10:18am – 11:20am
4 <sup>th</sup> Period	9:48am – 10:50am
B Lunch	10:50am – 11:20am

## Homecoming Week

Homecoming is fast approaching and will take place the week of October 14. With that, our annual Powder Puff Tournament will continue this school year on Thursday, October 17, with the first kickoff at 6pm at ELHS. There will be an informational meeting on Thursday 9/19 during both lunches – please email Coach Khan with questions. For students interested in coaching Powder Puff, there will be an information meeting after school in Coach Khan's classroom, room 3-132. Registrations will be available from Monday 9/23 through Friday 9/27 and players can register through the link below or in Coach Khan's classroom:

- <https://elhsflagfootball.square.site/>

The Homecoming Football Game will take place on Friday, October 18 against Clearwater HS, with the Homecoming Dance at ELHS on Saturday, October 19. We will be sending out more details on the themes for the dance and dress up days in the next few weeks, along with when students can purchase tickets to the dance.

## Parent Morning Drop-Off

Starting Monday, we're adjusting the parent drop-off exit so that you can turn either right or left onto Silver Eagle Drive at the end of the carline. This should help with traffic flow at parent drop-off. We will continue to only utilize right turns onto Silver Eagle Drive at the end of the school day to help with students exiting the student parking lot.

## College and Career Updates

The College and Career Center would like to update you on multiple opportunities ahead:

- BayCare Apprenticeship: Open to High School Seniors, students have a chance to explore the world of healthcare with a 17-week apprenticeship. See the attached flyer for more information. Deadline to apply is October 28th.
  - [BayCare Spring 2025 Flyer.pdf](#)
- Pinellas Technical College, Clearwater Campus annual Open House, Oct 1<sup>st</sup> from 5:30-7:00: PTC has helped many students, unsure of their future, become successful in high demand, well paid occupations. They share our District's vision of 100% student success.
  - [PTC Open House 2024.pdf](#)
- East Lake Community Library Teen Advisory Board: [RESUMES & INTERVIEWS](#), Sept 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-6:30: : This seminar will be on creating resumes and what to expect during interviews. This is a great way for students to get introduced to the hiring process and begin building their resume and interview skills for not only college but also internships and jobs.
  - [TAB Resumes & Interviews.png](#)
- East Lake Community Library - September is Library Card Sign-Up Month! Students who sign up can win coupons to The Sweet Spot and Juan's Mexican Grill.
  - [East Lake Library.png](#)
- Scholarships: \$2,000 [Triple-Impact Competitor Scholarship](#). Eligible to High School Seniors playing high school or club sports. Deadline October 6.
  - [TIC Scholarship Flyer Tampa Bay.pdf](#)

## Additional Reminders:

- **Anonymous Reporting**
  - As 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/>
  
- **Semester Exam Exemption Updates**
  - For those unaware, there have been adjustments made to the exam exemption process for this school year and moving forward, specifically surrounding student absences (*no more than 5 in a specific course*), classroom grades that qualify (*C or higher*), and specific semesters a class can be exempt (*can exempt both semesters if they qualify*). Semester 1 exams will take place from December 17 to December 20 this year. A highlight of those specific changes are:
    - **Student Absences:** Absences count on a course-by-course basis. Students must have less than 5 absences for the specific course that they are hoping to exempt. *In prior years, 5 absences in any course would disqualify a student from exempting any exam.*
    - **Quarter 1 and Provisional Quarter 2 Grades:** Students with a C or better in quarter 1 and a provisional grade of a C or better in quarter 2 qualify for the grade component.
    - **Courses that Qualify:** Students can still exempt up to three classes that qualify (cannot exempt an EOC, AP, or AICE semester exam). Unlike in past years, students that exempt a qualifying course semester 1 can also exempt that same course semester 2 (i.e. if they qualify to exempt World History both semester 1 and semester 2, they could elect to exempt it both semesters).
  
- **Student Expectation Reminders**
  - 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:
    - Power Up Learning – <https://tinyurl.com/w59wevby>
    - Strategic Communications /Power Up – <https://www.pcsb.org/PowerUp>
  
  - Please continue to review the ELHS and PCS dress code with your students. We do expect that allstudents are in dress code each day. For more details on the dress code, please use the link below:
    - <https://www.pcsb.org/dresscode>
  
  - 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.
  
- **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.
  
- **East Lake Theatre Program Fundraiser**
  - The theatre department will be running a fundraiser for the program through September 12<sup>th</sup> – use the QR code within the flyer or click the hyperlink!



- **East Lake Silver Sound Marching Band – DC Trip**
  - 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).
- **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**
  - Please order your yearbook before our Back to School Sale is over. [www.yearbookordercenter.com/job/1232](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com/job/1232) or contact Mrs. Wall at [walln@pcsb.org](mailto:walln@pcsb.org) with any questions. She can also answer questions about senior portraits, senior dedication ads, and our upcoming picture day.

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.*