



HAWK TALK

SEPTEMBER 2024

Issue 1

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year at Lake Howell High School! As we embark on this exciting journey together, we are filled with optimism and enthusiasm. Our theme for this year, "We Are One," encapsulates our commitment to working together as a unified community to achieve great things.

I am thrilled to share that Lake Howell High School has earned an "A" rating this year, a testament to the collective efforts of our dedicated stakeholders. As we celebrate 50 years of excellence, we reflect on a legacy built on academic, athletic, and artistic achievements. This milestone would not be possible without the exceptional work of our faculty and staff, the dedication of our students, and the unwavering support of our community and business partners. Your continued involvement is crucial and deeply appreciated.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our administrative team, school counselors, faculty, and non-instructional staff for their hard work over the summer in preparing for this school year. We also extend our gratitude to our PTSA and School Advisory Council for their ongoing support. If you are interested in becoming involved with PTSA or SAC, please reach out to Marsela Hawkins at marsela_hawkins@scps.k12.fl.us or Amber Welch at amber_pearson@scps.k12.fl.us.

Please join me in giving a warm Silverhawk welcome to our new administrative team members: Assistant Principal Marsela Hawkins, Assistant Principal Melissa Kimball, School Administrative Manager Jennifer Moran, and Dean of Students Jeff Myers. We are also excited to welcome our new teachers and non-instructional staff to the Silverhawk family!

As we begin this school year, we anticipate both challenges and opportunities. We invite your active participation and support in our journey towards excellence. Together, we can build on our rich tradition and make this year exceptional.

Lake Howell High School... We Are One!

And as always, GO SILVERHAWKS, AND STAY HAWK STRONG!

Michael Howard
PRINCIPAL OF LAKE HOWELL H.S.
407-746-9000



IG: @Principal_MHoward FB: #HawkStrong

Lake Howell High School...*Together We Rise!*

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GO SILVER HAWKS!

MINGA News

Dear Students and Families,

As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance school safety, communication, and an engaging school environment, we are thrilled to introduce a new tool that will play a pivotal role in our daily school operations: MINGA.

What is MINGA?

Minga is an easy-to-use app that provides our campus with Safety & Security, Student Behavior, Communication & Engagement, and Campus Operations. Minga empowers our school to create a safe, connected, and engaged campus. All in one place. Below are some of the features that students and families will be able to access:

Digital Student IDs	Secure and reliable access to student IDs – anytime, anywhere. Minga’s Digital Student ID
Digital Hall Pass	Minga’s Digital Hall Passes ensure hallway access for students and reduced interruptions to teaching time. Not only do Digital Hall Passes improve safety and security on campus, they also increase student punctuality and accountability,
Community	Students can easily keep up to date with their school community and events. Staying in the loop is effortless, with quick access to events, news, announcements, and other updates at a glance.
Behavior & Rewards	Minga enables your child’s school to effectively manage tardiness and monitor student behavior, inspiring motivation through rewards. Stay easily informed about your child’s progress throughout the school day.

How to Get Started:

Students and families can download the MINGA app for free from their app store. You can find more information about MINGA in the links below.

- **Students:** https://www.canva.com/design/DAFnPQB4z7U/y1Lo8uUAC3bGmB_RamFyQ/view?utm_content=DAFnPQB4z7U&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=viewer
- **Families:** <https://21649818.fs1.hubspotusercontent-na1.net/hubfs/21649818/Minga%20PDF%20Guides/Minga%20Introduction%20-%20Family%20Edition%20-%202022-23.pdf>

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. Here’s to a fantastic school year ahead!



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Student Services is excited to welcome Ms. Catron and Mrs. Morris to our student services team! Please see counselor breakdown below:



A-DA	Fidline Morris
DE-HOWA	Carolyn Ellis
HOWE-M	Mackenzie Catron
N-SAND	Lisandra Francis
SANE-Z	Meghann Bratton

Student Services will be utilizing Skyward, Ecampus, and Instagram to send out notifications and information. Follow us on Instagram: LHHS_StudentServices. Visit the Student Services course in Ecampus for valuable information such as community service, scholarship information, important announcements and college visits.

Seniors – Senior credit checks will begin the first week of September to discuss graduation requirements and post secondary plans.

It is now time to start preparing for your post-secondary plans. Please pay attention to college application, transcript and test score deadlines. To request a transcript be sent please use the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/LHHSTranscriptRequest>. This link is also available on the LHHS website under Student Services. You may request an electronic copy be sent to the college directly or you can request a hard copy to be picked up at the front desk in student services. We will review this information with each senior student during their senior credit check. We will also review relevant information for all grade levels during our Road to Graduation presentation on September 19, 2024.

Tips for Seniors & Parents from College Financial Services

- Find out about grants & scholarships that are available in your state; make sure you understand the requirements (www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org)
- Find out if the schools of your choice have their own financial aid applications that need to be filled out. Be sure to request one now if you have not done so.
- Don't assume that you will not qualify for need-based financial assistance. Apply even if you think you won't qualify. Students who receive financial assistance come from a wide variety of family income levels since many factors affect eligibility.
- Make sure you know about all the deadlines. Deadlines vary from school to school and program to program, deadlines are very rarely extended!

- Keep a record of all documents you send; record when and to whom you sent them.
- The application for the 2025-2026 FAFSA (the year students will attend college) is anticipated to open on October 1, 2024. We will send any updated announcements through eCampus. Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov, the official website for the free financial aid form. We will have a Financial Aid 101 presentation on October 23, 2024.

Scholarship Information- Scholarship information is beginning to arrive. As this is received, the information is placed on the LHHS Student announcements, LHHS Instagram and eCampus. We will also list scholarships on the website at <https://lakehowell.scps.k12.fl.us/student-services>. Seniors should be checking weekly for this information.

Florida State Grants & Scholarships Application (this includes Bright Futures.) Any student who applies for the Bright Futures Scholarship **MUST complete an online application** at www.floridastudentfinancialaidsg.org. Once the application is completed, each student will receive a PIN number for future access. It is important that you do not lose this information as you will need to access your scholarship for the next four years with this login and pin. We encourage all seniors to apply once the application opens as it also evaluates them for other state grants and scholarships they may be eligible for. **This application process should be available for the 2025 senior class on October 1, 2024. Counselors will complete this application with seniors through social studies classes, if the student is taking it on campus.**

PSAT/SAT/ACT- The PSAT will be given on October 16, 2024. The PSAT is given once a year and is good practice for the SAT. All 9th, 10th, and 11th graders will test. This is the only chance for juniors to compete in the National Merit Scholarship Competition. 12th graders will take the SAT this day.

Once your student receives their PSAT Scores, they can link their scores to Khan Academy for personalized prep <https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/sat>.

Students can also register online at: www.collegeboard.org for the SAT and at www.actstudent.org for the ACT. Please note the registration deadlines are usually one month before each test date.

- **SAT DATES:** 10/5/2024, 11/02/2024, 12/07/2024, 03/08/2025, 05/03/2025
- **ACT DATES:** 09/14/2024, 10/26/2024, 12/14/2024, 02/08/2025

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Lake Howell
 Law Club

Mock Trial - In May of 2024, the Lake Howell Mock Trial team competed in a virtual competition known as Empire Spring Leagues. In preparation for this competition, the team members tiringly perfected material for over two months.

Well, it turns out their hard work paid off! Lake Howell was a dominant force and managed to place 1st overall, being the only team to go undefeated and beating over fifty other teams across the world. The team was thrilled to see all their hard work pay off and be given the chance to compete in the Premier Leagues over the summer. This November, the team will be competing at another Empire Competition in person located in Chicago, Illinois. Bailey McDowell, a member of the Law Club, mentions her excitement for the upcoming competition, "I am so excited for our Chicago trip! The whole team has been working over our summer break to prepare, and we cannot wait to compete". Law Club members are looking forward to the competition and are ready to take on any challenges that lie ahead!

Along Empire, this past June, the mock trial team sent another team to Mock On's virtual competition, Tournament of Champions. Here, the team argued a murder mystery case based off the characters from Clue. The mock trial team had a strong finish placing third in the nation. This was their first time competing at Tournament of Champions and was a great way to end the year.



Moot Court - In addition to Mock Trial, Law Club members had the opportunity of participating in Moot Court. This April, the Lake Howell Moot Court team was invited to compete in a Yale competition located in New Haven, Connecticut. Members spent months preparing and finalizing their oral arguments for the competition. While competing at Yale, the team toured the city of New Haven, and the group rode the Amtrak for the first time and saw Yale's beautiful campus in person. Overall, the team had a blast traveling together and can't wait for the upcoming season this fall.

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Winter Sports Dates

- **Basketball (Boys):** October 28th, 2024 - suttonmt@scps.k12.fl.us (Mike Sutton)
- **Basketball (Girls):** October 28th, 2024 - klusmalm@scps.k12.fl.us (Lenlee Klusman)
- **Competitive Cheer:** October 16th, 2024 - betsizr@scps.k12.fl.us (Ryann Betsinger)
- **Soccer (Boys):** October 14th, 2024 - g.tinoco@hotmail.com (Eduardo Tinoco)
- **Soccer (Girls):** October 14th, 2024 - whiddec@scps.k12.fl.us (Courtney Whidden)
- **Weightlifting (Boys):** October 7th, 2024 - jeffrey_myers@scps.k12.fl.us (Jeff Myers)
- **Wrestling:** November 4th/11th, 2024 - TBD

Lake Howell's Hawk Shop (DECA School based Enterprise)

The LHHS Hawk Shop was founded in 2023 under the leadership of Ms. Lauren Axelrod, the Business Ownership students, and the Lake Howell DECA chapter. Students have been planning, organizing, researching, marketing and designing the store since 2023. This year, we are excited to announce the introduction of a DTF printer, which will be utilized by the Hawk Shop to provide designs in bulk to all students, businesses, alumni, teachers, and whomever expresses interest in custom apparel and accessories. The store focuses on creating custom cups, shirts, bags, car accessories, and home products.

While we had our struggles, I always tell my students that if I accepted failure after hearing the word NO several times, I would have never opened my restaurants. ~ Ms. Lauren Axelrod (Business Ownership Instructor, LHHS)

The goal has always been to have a premier spirit shop on campus that rivals others in the state. While there is a long road ahead, the students are determined to see that goal through. Every year, we progress closer to our goal.

Even though we struggled a lot this year as a program and in class, we all pushed through and founded the Hawk Shop. I want to see the Hawk Shop come out on top of ALL THE SCHOOL STORES. So, with that, I hope this program continues to succeed. ~ Business Ownership Founding Senior



- Don't forget to check out our designs online: <https://sites.google.com/myscps.us/entrepreneurship-lhhs/shop>
- Visit Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/lakehowellhsdeca/>
- DECA Officer Application: <https://forms.gle/eFy1yKmPuyWr5mw6>
- DECA Interest Survey: <https://forms.gle/xZJfkZFJJVEjESPs7>



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Socials: @lhtc4937

Hawk Talk Theatre Company

The Lake Howell Theatre Company is gearing up for their Fall Musical: Little Women! Based on Louisa May Alcott's life, Little Women follows the adventures of sisters Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy March. Jo is trying to sell her stories for publication, but the publishers are not interested – her friend, Professor Bhaer, tells her that she has to do better and write more from herself. Begrudgingly taking this advice, Jo weaves the story of herself and her sisters and their experience growing up in Civil War America. Performance dates are October 24-26 at 7pm and will showcase our performing arts department for the very first time! Please email lhtc4937@gmail.com for more information. If you would like to stay abreast of all thing's theatre company related, please follow us on Instagram, Twitter, or Facebook @lhtc4937 or check out our website at www.lhtc4937.com!

Hawk Talk LHTC A/V TECH

Interested in all things technical? Want to try your hand at lighting and sound design? Have experience in programming, fog, strobe, and haze machines? Want to help run auditorium events on campus and make a stipend for assisting LHHS auditorium rentals? Come join the LHTC A/V TECH Organization! Our interest meeting will take place September 6 at 2:30pm in 5-101. Please email lhtcavtech@gmail.com for more information. If you would like to stay abreast of all thing's LHTC A/V TECH related, please follow us on Instagram @lhtcavtech.



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Hawk Talk Culinary Arts



The Class of 2025 is already hard at work helping to get the main kitchen in order and practicing the faculty menu. We hope to be able to have our official opening for faculty lunch the week following Labor day. The underclassmen are also jumping right into our content with all levels learning different aspects of Food Safety and Sanitation. Did you know that every senior that graduates with industry certifications helps to bring money back into our program to keep it improving (this is true for all CAPE academies on campus). This past year through our CAPE funding we were able to purchase new



holding cabinets for hot food, a new slushy machine to replace an older model, a brand new Cookie Printer we are looking forward to introducing to our culinary sales very soon, as well as other items used by our students. These industry certifications are manager-level within the industry and students are certified for 5 years. This means those certifications could very well help them secure jobs within the industry after high school.



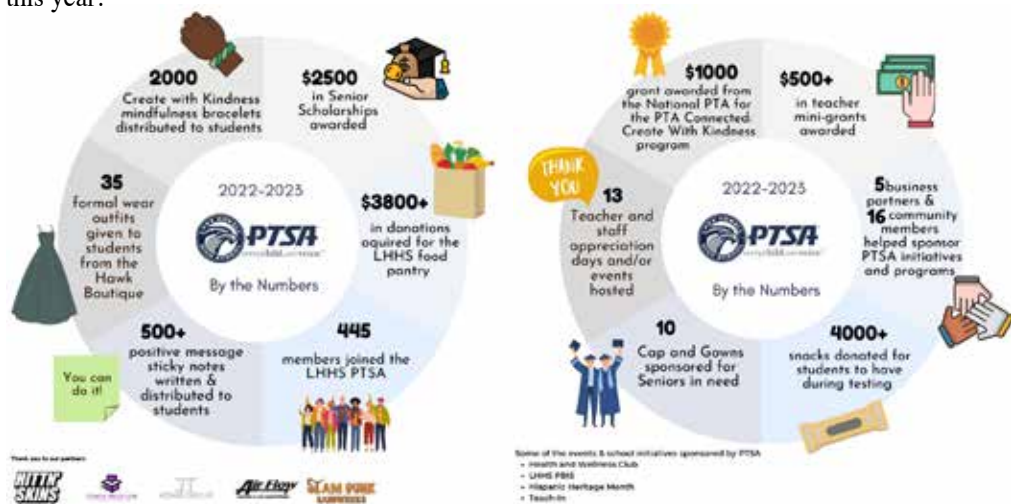
If you are interested in learning more about our program, or would like to contact us for a catering or specialty order, you can always follow us on our social media pages (**LHHS. Culinary** on Instagram, and **Lake Howell Culinary Arts** group on Facebook), or check out our Google Site at <https://sites.google.com/myscps.us/lakehowellculinaryarts/home>. Our students would love to help prepare food for your next event, celebration or

even just a family meal. We have many preset menus, or we can create one just for your event.

Pictured: Tiffany Hunt practicing pastry braiding skills; Elias Collazo, Jazmine Justice and Arrianna Zawacki participating in the Seminole County Public School Culinary Chili Cookoff; Dalas Isaac making a grilled wrap at Sandwich Station

Lake Howell PTA

Look at all of the things we accomplished together as a PTSA for Lake Howell High School this year!



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