



The Bearkat Big Picture

**A COMMUNITY GUIDE
FOR THE POST OAK SCHOOL**

2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

Ready

FOR YOU!

Welcome to the 2025–2026 school year! This guide provides a quick glance at information to help you prepare for the year. More details are available in the Parent Portal on our website.

To stay in the know, please read *The Post* (an email you'll receive on Fridays) for event updates and other important news.

We are grateful your family is a part of The Post Oak School community, and are excited for a wonderful year ahead.



@postoakschool



What Does That Mean? Common Post Oak Abbreviations

ASEP	After-School Enrichment Program	IB	International Baccalaureate
A-Term	April Term	M-Term	March Term
BC	Bissonnet Campus	MDC	Museum District Campus
EL	Elementary	MS	Middle School
FD	Full-Day	POPA	Post Oak Parent Association (you!)
J-Term	January Term	PRI	Primary
LE	Lower Elementary	UE	Upper Elementary
HD	Half-Day	YCC	Young Children's Community
HS	High School		

STAY IN THE KNOW

How do I ...

Learn about what's happening

DIGITAL

The Post weekly email
Website/Parent Portal
School Calendar
Teacher & POPA newsletters
Post Oak Facebook group
Social media (FB, IG, LI)

PRINT PUBLICATION

Roots Magazine

Engage in parenting support

PARENT SUPPORT

Fall and spring conferences
The Post Oak Experience
Parent Education offerings at each level
Sessions with Post Oak counselors
Coffees with the head and directors
Read *The Post* for more opportunities!

Connect with other families

Visit the Parent Portal > Practical Info to find a list of topics from A to Z

COMMUNITY EVENTS

POPA Parent Welcome Gathering
Level Socials
Family Fun Day
POPA Community Service Days
POPA Brew & Do
Barkats sporting events
Dads Club events
Moms Club events
Gala
Book Fair
POPA End-of-Year Party

EVENTS/MEETINGS

Orientations
Parent Education events
Transition meetings for next level
Alumni Voices (virtual event)

Prepare for what's to come

Communication, Parent Resources, and Other Notes

We appreciate your efforts to stay informed and connected with our school community. For general school information, please refer to the updated *Family Handbook*, which is available online via the Parent Portal. The *Family Directory* is available via the downloadable directory app in Veracross. The *Family Calendar* outlines the major events of the year. It can be synced with your mobile calendar or downloaded in PDF form; a limited number of printed calendars are available upon request from the front office.

Website and Parent Portal

The Parent Portal (postoakschool.org/parents) includes news, calendars, links to resources, the Partnership Agreement, and the *Family Handbook*. You can access the portal from the top menu under “Parents” or click the right-hand menu and choose “Parent Portal.” Some pages may be locked to the public, requiring you to sign in. Your user name and password are the same as those for My Backpack.

The Post

On Fridays you’ll receive *The Post*, a digital newsletter that’s distributed via email. It includes general announcements; information about upcoming events; community news; educational articles; and links to forms, registration, or other action items.

My Backpack

My Backpack™ (MBP) is an online portal to update contact information, register for classes, and more. The *Getting Started with My Backpack User Guide* and login link can be found in the Parent Portal on our website.

If you have questions about logins or have forgotten your user ID, please contact the Technology Office at 281-822-8063 or tech@postoakschool.org.

Magnus

The school uses Magnus, a web-based system for form management, where parents have continuous access to their child’s health records, as well as the ability to make updates when needed. Additionally, Magnus handles field trip permission slips and other school-related forms. Please see the *Family Handbook*, Health & Safety section, for more information about Magnus.

Visitor Registration

The school utilizes Raptor, a visitor registration system that enhances school security by scanning visitors’ driver’s licenses, comparing information to a sex offender database, alerting campus administrators if a match is found, and (assuming no match was made) printing a visitor badge that includes the person’s name, photo, date of visit, and destination within the building. Raptor provides a consistent system to track visitors while also protecting our students.

All visitors to the school must present a valid state or government-issued photo identification card to the receptionist. Parents need only to present their ID once, and on subsequent visits their names will be entered manually to create a visitor badge. No additional data will be shared with any outside company or organization.

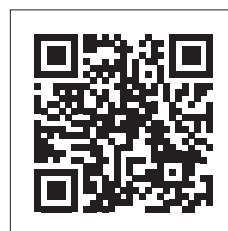
Parent Education Events

Post Oak offers parent education events to strengthen child-parent-teacher relationships. These programs and speakers focus on Montessori educational principles and practice, parenting skills, and child development topics. Detailed program information is available in *The Post* closer to each event date.

Most parent education events offer childcare for current Post Oak Primary and Elementary students. Parents are required to make reservations in advance online so we can provide adequate space and staffing; walk-ins cannot be accepted. The cost of childcare for these events is \$5 per child.

Room Parents

Room parents are part of the Post Oak Parent Association (POPA) leadership team. They are communicators between the teacher or division director and class parents. Room parents help support the work of the teacher in many ways—from shopping to organizing parent volunteers.



Visit the Parent Portal for quick links to My Backpack, Magnus, the Family Handbook, and more.

Bissonnet Campus Arrivals and Dismissals | YCC through Grade 6

Important Safety Notes

- ♦ Mobile devices must not be used while driving on campus. They may only be used while parked.
- ♦ The campus speed limit is 5 mph.
- ♦ Per state law, safety belts must remain buckled until your vehicle comes to a complete stop at the arrival area. Buckle all safety belts before you resume driving.

Entering and Exiting Campus (See Map)

- ♦ All cars must enter through gate A.
- ♦ Gate C is a right-turn-only exit.
- ♦ During arrival/dismissal, Avenue B becomes one-way with traffic moving south from Fournace Place.
- ♦ Do not enter the arrival/dismissal line via Wedgewood Drive—it's considered cutting in line.
- ♦ Color-coded car signs will be issued at the start of the school year. Please display them when you enter Avenue B so we can direct you to the appropriate line.
- ♦ **If you have both Primary & Elementary students, drop-off/pick-up for all of your children is at the Peace Circle.**

Pedestrian Crosswalk and Gate

- ♦ Drivers, please do not block the pedestrian crosswalk. Pay attention, stop, and allow any waiting pedestrians to pass through the crosswalk.
- ♦ Pedestrians, please use the crosswalk and pedestrian gate.

Parking on Campus

Park only in designated spaces to allow for unobstructed traffic flow. Please do not park in reserved parking spaces, including those designated “buddy parking.”

Efficiency

- ♦ Please do not engage staff in discussion during arrivals or dismissals. If you need to get a message to your child's teacher, call or send them an email.
- ♦ Stay in your car when you are waiting in line. If you need to get out, please park in a visitor space in the parking lot.

BISSONNET CAMPUS ARRIVALS

Reestablishing the arrival and dismissal flow usually takes a few weeks, so we especially appreciate your patience at the beginning of the school year. The few extra seconds you wait often helps the child who is gaining independence.

Young Children's Community Arrival | Avenue B side

- ♦ YCC arrival time is from 8:35–8:50 a.m., unless your child is in before-care (see below). If you arrive before 8:35, you will be directed to exit campus and circle back in after Elementary arrivals conclude.
- ♦ For YCC families with children at other levels, a separate drop-off is required for your older children. This staggered schedule is mindful of safety for both parents and children.

Primary Arrival | 8:15–8:40 a.m. | Peace Circle Figueroa & Nickerson LE | 8:15–8:30 a.m. | Peace Circle Families w/ PRI & EL students | 8:15–8:30 a.m. | Peace Circle

- ♦ To maintain the flow of arrivals, please stay in your car. Once stopped, unbuckle your child if you can do so from the driver's seat. If you are unable to do this without getting out of your car, we are ready to unbuckle your child for you.
- ♦ When you are in the Peace Circle, please leave your car in park until all children in front of you are safely out of their vehicles and you are directed to exit the circle.
- ♦ Do not drive around cars that are in the process of dropping off a child. It is unsafe for the child and staff.

Upper Elementary Arrival | 8:15–8:30 a.m. | Avenue B side

Cars arriving on the Avenue B side before 8:15 a.m. are requested to leave the space open at the Full-Day YCC gate by parking behind the “Wait Here” sign.

Before-Care Early Arrival | Beginning at 7:30 a.m.

- ♦ YCC before-care program students may enter through their classroom doors from 7:30–8:00 a.m.
- ♦ Primary and Elementary students enrolled in the before-school program must enter through the front lobby from 7:30–8:00 a.m.
- ♦ Primary and Elementary students with siblings who are Middle and High School shuttle riders may enter the lobby at 7:50 a.m.
- ♦ Other students arriving earlier than 8:15 a.m. must wait in their cars.

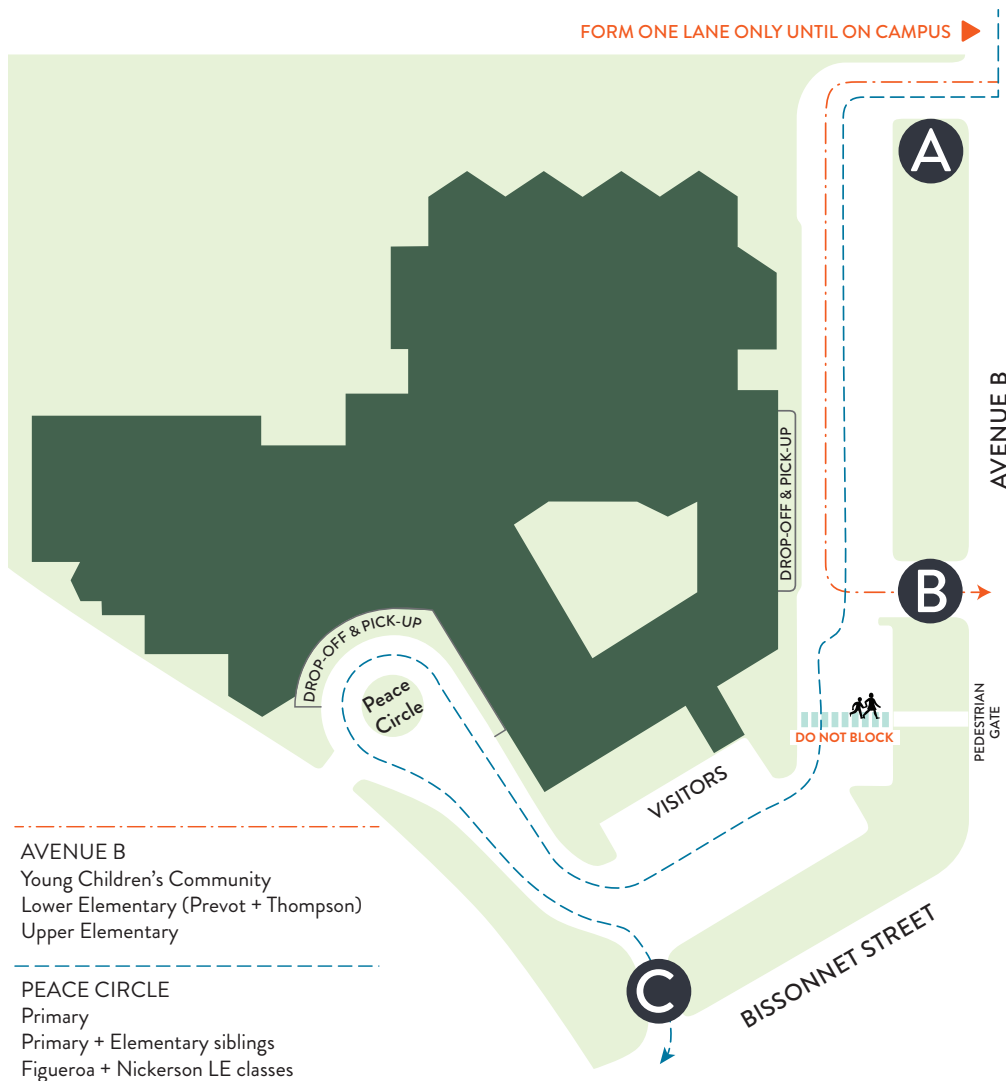
Late Arrival | after 8:30 a.m.

At 8:30 a.m., the doors into the school are locked on the Avenue B side. At 8:40 a.m., the doors to the Peace Circle are also locked. Primary and Elementary students arriving after those times must enter the school through the front door with a parent or other designated guardian; adults should park in the visitor spaces at the front of the school and then walk children into the reception area of the school. A staff member will guide children to their classes as needed. Late arriving YCC students enter through their exterior classroom doors.

Arrival Schedule and Traffic Flow

LEVEL	TIME	ENTRY	DROP-OFF AREA	EXIT
YCC Before-Care	7:30–8:00 a.m.	A	Avenue B classroom door	B
PRI Before-Care	7:30–8:00 a.m.	A	Front Office	B
LE/UE Before-Care	7:30–8:00 a.m.	A	Front Office	C
Full-Day YCC & Half-Day YCC	8:35–8:50 a.m.	A	Avenue B classroom door	B
PRI	8:15–8:40 a.m.	A	Peace Circle	C
LE (Prevot & Thompson) All UE	8:15–8:30 a.m.	A	Avenue B	B
LE (Figueroa & Nickerson)	8:15–8:30 a.m.	A	Peace Circle	C
LE/UE with PRI siblings	8:15–8:30 a.m.	A	Peace Circle	C

For more parking, inter-campus shuttle, and arrivals/dismissals info, visit the Parent Portal.



Avenue B travel is **one-lane only**; do not form two lanes—emergency vehicles must be able to pass.

BISSONNET CAMPUS DISMISSALS

All Drivers Using Avenue B

Entrance

- ◆ Please do not block the Full-Day Young Children’s Community (FDYCC) gate area.
- ◆ If you arrive on the Avenue B dismissal side outside of your designated time, please leave the space open at the FDYCC gate by parking behind the “Wait Here” sign.
- ◆ FDYCC has dismissal from 2:40–3:00 p.m. After 3:45, FDYCC dismissal continues until 5:30 p.m.

Changes in Pick-up Routine

If your child is to be picked up by anyone other than the person who usually picks them up (or who is listed for authorized pick-up), or if your child is going home with a friend, please notify your child’s teacher in writing at least 24 hours prior to pick-up. If there is a last-minute change of plans and you need to notify the school less than one day prior to pick-up, the school will accept hand-written notes on the same day or a phone call or email to the front office (frontoffice@postoakschool.org). Last-minute phone requests need to be followed by an email. All requests are subject to verification, and anyone picking up a child may be required to provide personal identification. These measures are in place for the protection and safety of your child—and for your peace of mind.

Late Pick-up

- ◆ At the end of the dismissal period, children who have not been picked up are taken to the front office. Late-arriving parents must park, come into the reception area, and sign out children from care.
- ◆ We will make the children comfortable while they wait. However, it is natural for a child to be anxious if you are late; please call the school if you know you will be late.

Dismissal Schedule and Traffic Flow

LEVEL	TIME	ENTRY	DROP-OFF AREA	EXIT
Half-Day YCC	11:35–11:50 a.m.	A	Avenue B side	B
Full-Day YCC	2:40–3:00 p.m.	A	Avenue B side	B
YCC After-Care	3:45–5:30 p.m.	A	Avenue B side	B
Half-Day PRI	12:00–12:15 p.m.	A	Peace Circle	C
Full-Day PRI	3:00–3:20 p.m.	A	Peace Circle	C
PRI After-Care	3:45–5:30 p.m.	A	Front Office	B
EL w/PRI siblings	3:20–3:30 p.m.	A	Peace Circle	C
LE (Figueroa & Nickerson)	3:20–3:45 p.m.	A	Peace Circle	C
LE (Prevot & Thompson) All UE	3:20–3:45 p.m.	A	Avenue B side	B
ASEP	4:40–4:50 p.m. or per schedule	A	Peace Circle	C

Designated Dismissal Areas

Regular Dismissal

- ◆ **Young Children’s Community:** at your child’s classroom door on the Avenue B side
- ◆ **Primary:** at the Peace Circle
- ◆ **Elementary with Primary siblings:** at the Peace Circle
- ◆ **LE Figueroa & Nickerson classes:** at the Peace Circle
- ◆ **LE Prevot & Thompson and all UE):** Avenue B side

Dismissal to After-School Enrichment Program (ASEP)

Elementary students are dismissed directly to ASEP classes from their classrooms.

Dismissal from ASEP

All Bissonnet Campus ASEP classes dismiss to the Peace Circle for pick-up.

General Inter-Campus Shuttle Information

Inter-Campus Shuttle

If your student plans to ride the bus between the Bissonnet Campus and Museum District Campus, please pay attention to the following guidelines:

Shuttle Rider Drop-Off at Bissonnet Campus

- ♦ If you have an MDC shuttle rider *and* a BC student, you must drop off both students inside the campus gate. Please do not drop off the shuttle rider outside the gate and U-turn on Avenue B to enter the parking lot from the northbound lane or back your car down Avenue B to turn into the gate.
- ♦ Shuttle riders are expected to get themselves on the bus, which is parked by the campus pedestrian gate on Avenue B.
- ♦ Please have your shuttle riders here on time. The shuttle leaves promptly at 8:00 a.m.

Shuttle Rider Behavior Expectations

- ♦ All students must face forward with feet on the floor.
- ♦ Seat belts must be on and snug.
- ♦ Students may not switch seats once the bus is moving.
- ♦ Students may not talk to the bus driver.
- ♦ In the case of any incident where students are at risk of getting hurt, the bus driver will pull over and stop the bus.
- ♦ Riding the bus is considered being in school. All of the expectations of student behavior, as outlined in the *Family Handbook* (available via the Parent Portal), apply when on the bus. In the event that a student fails to meet the expectations above, they are at risk of losing shuttle privileges.

Please feel free to reach out to Debbie Henderson at debbiehenderson@postoakschool.org if you have any questions regarding the shuttle service.

Morning Shuttle—8:00 a.m.

from Bissonnet to Museum District

- ♦ For Middle School and High School students who wish to ride the morning shuttle, please email Debbie Henderson (debbiehenderson@postoakschool.org) with the name of your student and the days of the week they will be riding the shuttle.
- ♦ Shuttle riders may arrive at the Bissonnet Campus between 7:50 and 8:00 a.m. Shuttle riders should go directly to the bus.
- ♦ Elementary or Primary siblings may be dropped off at the same time, as care will be provided for them until class starts. Elementary students may walk themselves into the front lobby; Primary students must be escorted from their cars to the front lobby.
- ♦ The bus leaves at 8:00 a.m. and does not wait for students who are late.
- ♦ The bus arrives at the Museum District between 8:20 and 8:30 a.m., depending on traffic.

Afternoon Shuttle—3:35 p.m.

from Museum District to Bissonnet

- ♦ Middle School students wishing to ride the afternoon shuttle should inform their advisors of the days they will be riding the shuttle. Advisors will make sure the student gets onto the shuttle.
- ♦ High School students who wish to ride the shuttle are responsible for getting themselves onto the shuttle directly after school. The bus leaves at 3:35 p.m. and does not wait for students who are late.
- ♦ The bus arrives at the Bissonnet Campus between 3:50 and 4:00 p.m., depending on traffic.
- ♦ Elementary or Primary siblings will have care provided for them until 4:00 p.m.
- ♦ All students must be picked up from the BC front lobby by 4:00 p.m. unless they are attending a Barkats practice. No care is available for Middle School and High School students at the Bissonnet Campus after 4:00 p.m.

Public Transportation

Houston Metro route #56 stops on Montrose Boulevard at Autrey Street right next to the MDC. Metro route #65 travels east-west on Bissonnet between the Museum District Campus (Bissonnet at Montrose) and the Bissonnet Campus (Bissonnet at Avenue B). Travel time is about 15 to 20 minutes. For more information, please visit www.ridemetro.org.

Museum District Campus | Grades 7 through 12

General Notes

Our campus borders a residential area. Please be courteous and aware of all local traffic—especially along Autrey Street.

The Museum District Campus has a one-way driveway around the buildings to allow for off-street drop-offs and pick-ups. Traffic moves around the buildings clockwise, entering from Autrey Street and exiting on Montrose Boulevard.

If you are picking up or dropping off your child, please enter from the Autrey Street driveway, and then pull around to the Middle School entrance or High School entrance. When exiting campus, you may only turn right onto Montrose Boulevard (southbound).

Please do not park or leave your car unattended in the driving lane.

MUSEUM DISTRICT CAMPUS ARRIVALS

The Middle and High School buildings are open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Students should plan to arrive by 8:15 a.m. Classes begin at 8:30 a.m.

Students are required to be on campus from the beginning of their first commitment of the day until the completion of their last commitment. Students are expected to attend all class commitments, field experiences, school trips, class meetings, sports, activities, and any other required school function.

Middle School

- ♦ The school day begins at 8:30 a.m. Students should arrive at school by 8:15 a.m. to allow time to prepare for their day.
- ♦ Attendance is taken when classes begin at 8:30 a.m. Students are expected to be present and prepared for class at that time. Students not in class, even if they are on campus, will be counted tardy.

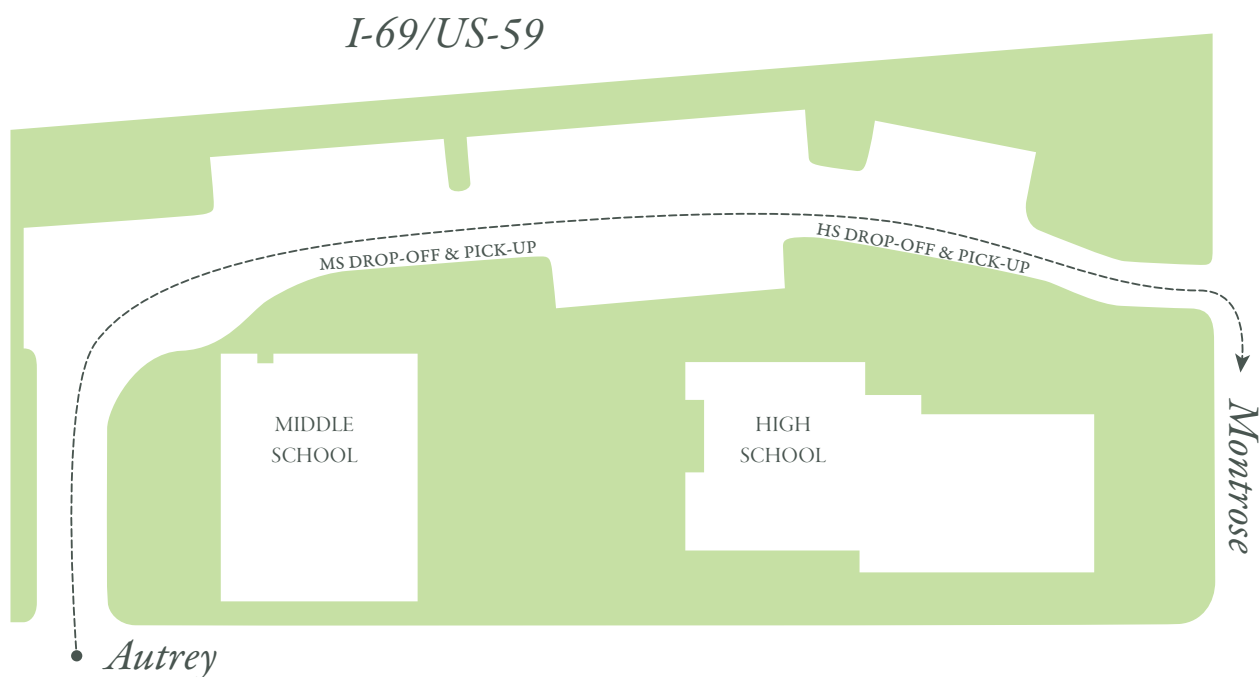
High School

- ♦ The school day begins at 8:30 a.m. Students should arrive at school by 8:15 a.m. to allow time to prepare for their day.
- ♦ Attendance is taken when classes begin at 8:30 a.m. Students are expected to be present and prepared for class at that time. Students not in class, even if they are on campus, will be counted tardy.

Late Arrival and Early Dismissal

Students arriving after 8:30 a.m. must sign in at the Museum District Campus office. A parent must provide a written reason for the late arrival.

We consider more than five tardies for the year to be problematic. Advisors are expected to speak directly with parents about late arrivals. If there is no improvement, then advisors are expected to inform the administration that tardies are excessive. At that point, the division



director will contact the parent and together they will discuss how to manage more timely arrivals. In some extreme cases, tardies may affect the decision to offer a student a re-enrollment contract for the following school year.

MUSEUM DISTRICT CAMPUS DISMISSALS

The campus is open until 5:00 p.m.

Middle School Dismissal

The school day ends at 3:30 p.m. Dismissal is from 3:30–3:45 p.m. The Middle School building is open until 5:00 p.m. daily. Occasionally the building will be subject to an early building closure, which will be communicated to families in advance so other arrangements can be made.

High School Dismissal

The school day ends at 3:30 p.m. The High School building is open until 5:00 p.m. Occasionally the building will be subject to an early building closure, which will be communicated to families in advance so other arrangements can be made.

If a student needs to leave school before 3:30 p.m., they must sign out at the Museum District Campus office, providing a verbal or written excuse from the parent with the reason for the early departure. It is the student's responsibility to discuss with their teachers what may have been missed.

MDC STUDENT PARKING

Students who wish to drive to school must register their car according to the instructions at the end of this section. Please be aware that student parking spaces are limited on campus.

Student cars driven to campus must remain parked for the duration of the school day. No student may leave campus by car during the school day—even their own car—without permission from the Museum District Campus office. Violation of this understanding may result in the loss of the privilege of having a car on campus, loss of riding permission, and/or other disciplinary action.

The Post Oak School reserves the right to inspect the contents of student automobiles on campus. Each student is responsible for everything in their car.

Student drivers may transport themselves to school-related events. Student drivers may not transport other students to school-related events (e.g. school-arranged

community service, internships) unless a parent or guardian of both the driver and the passenger(s) have submitted signed waivers to the school.

Contact the MDC office for more information (MDCOffice@postoakschool.org).

Parking Registration and Permits

All vehicles must be registered using the Student Driver Registration Form, which is available on our website (Parent Portal | Transport & Parking | Student Drivers tab). A completed form is required for each vehicle the student may drive to school.

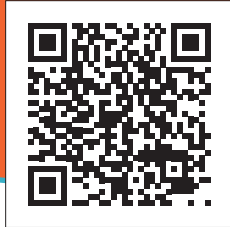
- After completing the Registration Form, obtain your permit from the MDC office. This permit must be displayed in the car at all times while it is parked on campus.
- Receiving a parking permit does not guarantee a parking spot in the lot.
- Parking spaces are available on a “first come, first served” basis, and ONLY with a permit clearly visible on the vehicle.
- Twelve buddy spaces are available for a total of 24 student parking spots. Student parking is restricted to the spaces numbered 6 to 17.
- If no spaces are available in the school lot, please consult the link on our website to a City of Houston map showing designated parking areas in the neighborhood (Parent Portal | Transport & Parking | Student Drivers tab). Students may park anywhere outside the restricted areas.

For more parking, inter-campus shuttle, and arrivals/dismissals info, visit the Parent Portal.



Important Ways to Get Involved

ENGAGE



Attend parent-teacher conferences, POPA Welcome Gathering, events, orientations, workshops, and read the *The Post* weekly email to keep up to date on activities.

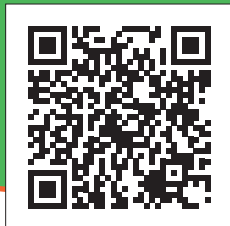
Help out for an hour or as often as you can at events or in the classroom. Your gift of time and talent benefits the students in numerous ways. Also look for the POPA Community Service Days to join other families in support of our greater Houston community.

VOLUNTEER



Your support gives the school flexibility to grow, adapt, and seize new opportunities. We aim for 100 percent parent participation at a level meaningful for your family—because every contribution counts and strengthens the community!

DONATE



Engage with the Community

The Post Oak School hosts a variety of events designed to bring families together throughout the school year.

POPA Family Socials

Children enjoy time to play and mingle while parents get to meet one another!

- ♦ **YCC:** Saturday, September 27
- ♦ **Primary:** Saturday, September 13
- ♦ **Elementary:** Thursday, August 7
- ♦ **Middle School:** Tuesday, September 2
- ♦ **High School:** Thursday, August 14 (parents only)

POPA Welcome Gathering September 18

Meet and mingle with other parents at this kick-off to the school year (for all parents, trustees, faculty, and staff).

This adults-only event includes heavy hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and great company.

POPA Brew & Do beginning in October (Bissonnet Campus only—see dates on next page)

Most first Friday mornings from 8:45–11:30 a.m., beginning in October, join POPA chairs and fellow parents for good coffee, fun conversation, and small classroom projects—simple things like shape cutting, laminating, and more. No sign-up required, feel free to drop in whether you have 20 minutes or two hours!

Dads Club Social October 15

Our Dads Club invites all parents to join this informal off-campus evening gathering.

Family Fun Day November 8

Our annual Family Fun Day is a long-standing tradition that's entertaining for the whole family. Enjoy the company of your fellow Bearkats with a day of great music, activities, crafts, food trucks, and more! Free event held at the BC.

Grand Friends Days November 20 (BC/MDC) & 21 (BC)

Grand Friends are invited to the school to share time with your child. Watch *The Post* email for updates.

Community Service Day January 19

MLK Jr. Day is a time of service at Post Oak. There's no school that day, but we join together in support of a local service project. Watch *The Post* for this and other service events during the year.

Moms Club Social February 26

Our Moms Club invites all parents to join this informal off-campus evening gathering.

Biennial Gala March 21

Join us at Hotel ZaZa in the Museum District for a night of fun and festivities! Along with the Post Oak Fund, this is one of our two major fundraisers of the year.

Dads Club Poker Night Spring 2026

Love to play poker? Be ready for a great night out! All Post Oak adults are invited to participate.

Book Fair April 11

Book Fair is a family literacy event in the Bissonnet Campus gym—complete with booths, activities, and lots of book fun!

Dads Club Family Movie Night April 24

Bring a picnic, lawn chairs, and the whole family to enjoy a movie on the BC gym back field! Families with children at all levels are welcome to this fun, free event.

POPA End-of-Year Celebration May 12

All Post Oak parents, including our newest community members whose children will start in the fall, are invited to this adults-only social gathering. Join parents, faculty and staff as we raise a glass, thank our many volunteers, honor parents of our graduates, and prepare to wrap up the school year.

Commencement May 22

Join us for the commencement of our senior class. All parents, family, alumni, and students are invited as we acknowledge the accomplishment of this class upon the completion of their Post Oak studies.

Parent Education & Workshops

Post Oak offers a wealth of parent education events to strengthen child-parent-teacher relationships. These programs and speakers focus on Montessori educational principles and practices, parenting skills, and child development concerns. Details are published in *The Post* weekly emails prior to the events. Most parent education events offer childcare for current Post Oak Primary and Elementary students. Parents are required to make reservations in advance online so we can provide adequate space and staffing; walk-ins cannot be accepted. The cost of childcare for these events is \$5 per child.

The Post Oak Experience **Tuesday, September 9**

All levels. An information social for parents to hear about the Post Oak Montessori learning and developmental arc from YCC to High School.

Montessori Journey

MDC (MS & HS)

Thursday, September 25

BC (YCC, PRI, EL)

Thursday, October 9

All levels welcome at both nights. Engage with faculty, explore materials at your own pace, and dive into a variety of work in this popular hands-on event.

Parent Education Events

TBD

All levels. Hear from a visiting speaker or engage in an interactive presentation about education, parenting, environment, technology, or other relevant topics.

Intro to Elementary

Thursday, November 6

Young Children's Community & Primary. Parents of YCC and Primary children are invited to learn more about continuing on a Montessori path into Elementary.

Middle School (MS) Experience **Tuesday, November 11**

UE & MS. Students describe travel, community service, academics, and other aspects of MS life. UE students are encouraged to attend with their parents.

YCC Transition to Primary

Thursday, December 4

YCC. Discover more at the evening session with our Early Childhood director and Primary teachers.

Lower EL Transition to Upper EL **Wednesday, December 10**

Lower Elementary. Discover more at the evening session with our Elementary director and UL teachers.

Alumni Voices

Thursday, January 8 (virtual)

All levels. Hear firsthand experiences from our alumni as they return to reflect on their time at our school and how a Post Oak education prepared them for life.

Redirecting Children's Behavior

TBD

All levels. This popular class for parents is taught by Deborah Fry, Ph.D. Help your child grow in a way that enhances self-esteem, teaches responsibility, and promotes cooperation and self-mastery.



POPA Brew & Do is a great way to meet other parents while helping teachers accomplish a variety of easy-to-do work for their classrooms. Stay for a chat with a division director or head of school to discuss all things Montessori. Drop in from 8:45–11:30 a.m.

FALL 2025:

October 3 | November 7 | December 5

SPRING 2026:

January 9 | February 6 | April 10

Volunteer

Many activities at Post Oak simply would not happen without the commitment and hard work of our parent volunteers. POPA Welcome Gathering, Book Fair, Family Fun Day, and other occasions are organized by parent committees under the leadership of the Post Oak Parent Association chairs.

What is POPA?

As the parent of a Post Oak student, you are a member of the Post Oak Parent Association (POPA)! The leadership organizes many of the community events and activities happening throughout the year. POPA chairs encourage all parents to sign up and volunteer, and they are happy to answer any questions about events and volunteer opportunities.

POPA Chairs (2024–2026)

Sheryl Abrahams P '26 and '28

sheryl.w.abrahams@gmail.com

Jessica Matos P '30 and '32

jessmatos@gmail.com

Meredith Smith P '34 and '37

meredsmith@gmail.com

Dads Club & Moms Club

Dads and moms host special events such as the annual social, Poker Night, Movie Night, and other gatherings that help build community.

Room Parents

These outstanding parents support lead teachers in many ways, from providing various forms of communication, to helping plan class events, and more.

Class Captains (Post Oak Fund)

Each fall, captains help engage families and others in supporting the Post Oak Fund—the school's annual fundraising effort.

Mystery Box Coordinators

Coordinators plan for and create Family Fun Day mystery boxes by collecting funds and items, and then decorating the boxes for the Family Fun Day raffle.

Volunteer Opportunities

- Field trips, special events, and other class projects
- Parent education programs
- Special community events like Family Fun Day
- Bissonnet Campus library, art room, or school office
- Post Oak Fund and other fundraising projects
- Post Oak Parent Ambassador (admissions events and activities)
- Beautification projects around the school
- Room parent—direct support to the classroom teacher (Contact the teacher if you are interested.)
- Introduce elements of your cultural heritage or professional experience to your child's class. (Contact the teacher to discuss ideas.)
- Join other Post Oak families for service projects throughout Greater Houston.
- Share your alma mater experience with a high school student interested in your college or university.
- Help with lunch for faculty on conference days.

POPA Brew & Do (BC)

Most first Fridays of the month from 8:45–11:30 a.m., beginning in October, POPA hosts a work day when BC and MDC parents help teachers with a variety of small tasks. Come for an hour or stay all morning! Your help is always appreciated and you'll get to meet other Post Oak moms, dads, and relatives. Grandparents and grand friends are always welcome!

Signing Up Is Easy

Sign up on our website to volunteer for school events or other ongoing projects.

Speak with your child's teacher about helping in the classroom: chaperoning field trips, cooking with students, helping with class events, offering a cultural presentation, becoming a room parent, or volunteering as a class captain for the Post Oak Fund.

Thanks for helping out!

Sign up and let us know what activities interest you.



Give

At The Post Oak School, philanthropy fuels bold ambitions. While tuition and fees cover daily operations, your generosity makes it possible to grow, innovate, and stretch. Fundraising ensures our community remains not only financially stable but flexible, inspired, and forward-moving.

Each year, we invite families to support two primary fundraising efforts: The Post Oak Fund and select special events. Collectively, these efforts support:

- professional development, including Montessori training for faculty;
- campus and program enhancements, from facilities to real-world learning;
- student financial aid, so more families have access to a Post Oak education; and
- other meaningful initiatives that emerge each year.

The Post Oak Fund

Our most important annual fundraising effort, the Post Oak Fund, supports the heart of the mission. This school year, the goal is \$450,000. Just as every family and student matter, so does every single contribution. That's why we aim to meet the financial goal and strive to achieve 100 percent parent participation. We kindly ask for all gifts to be fulfilled by May 2026.

Look for specifics about the 2025–2026 fund early in the school year. And don't forget, many companies offer matching gift programs, so your generosity goes even further! Your chairs for the 2025–2026 Fund are Lisa Heyden (P '30) and Zach Smith (P '34, '37).

Biennial Gala

Our signature celebration will take place on Saturday, March 21, 2026. Every other year, this joyful evening brings the Post Oak community together for great vibes, music, food, and more—all in support of the school's ongoing growth and excellence. Your chairs for the 2026 event are Elyza Jain (P '34, '37) and Mani Walia (P '31, '33, '38).

Book Fair

With story time, costumes, performances, and author insights, Book Fair stocks your child's bookshelves and helps the school libraries thrive! The annual occasion returns to the Bissonnet Campus on Saturday, April

11, 2026. Post Oak receives a percentage of all sales, benefiting both campuses.

Endowment

Established in 2003, Post Oak's endowment generates ongoing support for financial aid and core programming. For families interested in overall operational excellence, supporting the endowment is an excellent way to ensure the school's long-term strength.

Other Ways of Giving

You can make an immediate and lasting impact on Post Oak through gifts from donor-advised funds, stock transfers, and other sources. For any questions and to explore other opportunities, contact:

Evan Wildstein (P '41), Advancement Director
281-822-8024 (direct)
evanwildstein@postoakschool.org

The Post Oak school is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, EIN 74-1486232. Gifts to the school are tax deductible as allowed by law, though that's not the only reason families give!



Gave the date!

POST OAK PARENT ASSOCIATION

WELCOME GATHERING

Thursday, September 18, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

Details and invitations coming in August.

POPA Chairs: Sheryl Abrahams, Jessica Matos, and Meredith Smith

The POST OAK SCHOOL

OUR MISSION

*The Post Oak School is a diverse and welcoming
Montessori community that honors and guides
lifelong learners as they create their own bold pathways
in leading purposeful lives.*

Bissonnet Campus: 4600 Bissonnet Street, Bellaire, Texas 77401
Phone 713-661-6688 | Fax 713-661-4959

Museum District Campus: 1010 Autrey Street, Houston, Texas 77006
832-538-1988 | Fax 832-538-1926

www.postoakschool.org