

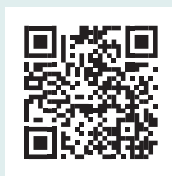
THE POST OAK SCHOOL



Reaching the
GOAL!

THE 2025-26 POST OAK FUND

We appreciate you considering Post Oak as part of your charitable giving. The following pages are meant to help answer questions about the Post Oak Fund—our annual invitation to support the school.



Scan the QR code to visit
postoakschool.org/give.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE, TOGETHER

Thank you for considering a gift to the Post Oak School. As a member of this community, you have joined a long history of extraordinary volunteers and doers. While the partnership between families and the school ensures long-term growth, your support has an immediate impact on the success of Post Oak.

It is our hope this booklet will help illustrate how funds are used, the importance of participation, and other questions we often receive from parents.

THE POST OAK FUND AT WORK

This year's Fund will support initiatives on both campuses:

- Increased financial aid to keep Post Oak accessible for all families
- Professional development (e.g., teacher Montessori training)
- Playground enhancements at the Bissonnet Campus
- A new activity bus for small outings from both campuses

Past gifts have helped the school in various ways:

- Major safety improvements, including replacing the Bissonnet Campus fences and cybersecurity enhancements
- Finishing touches to the Museum District Campus (e.g. covered basketball court, Tinkeria maker lab, and turfed quad)
- Updates to the Bissonnet Campus, including offsetting a \$700,000 HVAC air-handler replacement, and repairing the plumbing and elevator systems
- Roof repairs on both campuses

EDUCATE BEFORE YOU DONATE

Post Oak's bold strategic plan (2023-2028) centers financial sustainability as a leading commitment. Basic operations are primarily fulfilled through tuition, fees, and earned income. These revenues support core operations of the school, including salaries and benefits, program expenses, basic campus maintenance, and other administrative expenses.

We rely on philanthropic investments to remain financially stable and flexible, such as those from the Post Oak Fund and select fundraising events.

THE PHILANTHROPIC GOAL FOR 2025–26 IS \$450,000

The 2025–2026 Post Oak Fund officially launches in late October, at which time outright gifts and pledges can be made. If you wish to make a pledge, we kindly ask for you to do so by November 21; pledges should be paid by May 31, 2026.

Lisa Heyden (P '30) and Zach Smith (P '34 & '37) co-chair this year's effort. They will work with captains from each class who will reach out to parents starting the week of October 27. They are available to answer any questions you have.

For additional response forms or to donate online, please visit postoakschool.org/give. Contact Advancement Director Evan Wildstein with any questions at 281-822-8024 or evanwildstein@postoakschool.org.

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS IN RECENT YEARS

Fundraising success is defined in two important ways: dollars raised and participation. In most years we average 90% participation from our parent community—significantly higher than the 60% average participation from other independent schools around the country—and 100% from our Trustees.

POST OAK FUND RECENT HISTORY				
YEAR	GOAL	CONTRIBUTIONS	ENROLLMENT	PARTICIPATION
2024	\$450,000	\$474,828	493	86%
2023	\$450,000	\$721,973 *	487	90%
2022	\$450,000	\$495,129	502	94%
2021	\$400,000	\$385,066	504	89%
2020	\$380,000	\$376,066	474	89%

** Included \$260,000 for a security enhancement project at the Bissonnet Campus*



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Post Oak Fund?

The Post Oak Fund is our annual philanthropic call for support. Every year we invite Trustees, parents, past parents, alumni, grandparents, and other friends to make essential, tax-deductible contributions. The 2025–2026 fund launches October 22. We ask for responses by November 21 and for all pledges to be paid by May 31, 2026.

We pay tuition—why are we also asked for a contribution?

Unlike many schools, Post Oak takes a conservative financial approach that ensures tuition covers our basic operating expenses. Funds raised through the Post Oak Fund support continuous programmatic and physical improvements. These funds enhance and stabilize the school, and also allow us to respond quickly to needs not covered by tuition expenses (e.g., financial aid, professional development, facility repairs, and beyond).

Why not simply charge more tuition?

If tuition were increased many families could not afford to send their children to Post Oak. This would mean a drop in enrollment, resulting in steeper tuition increases and discretionary spending cuts which ultimately affect your child's education. Additionally, charitable contributions would be even more difficult to obtain.

Is it important to support all school fundraising efforts?

Yes! Many other schools nag families throughout the year. At Post Oak, we have streamlined fundraising to three programs: the Post Oak Fund, Book Fair, and biennial events like Gala and golf tournament. (The 2025-2026 school year is a Gala year!)

The goal is big—do small gifts really make a difference?

Without a doubt, they do! At Post Oak we have a culture of meaningful giving and encourage you to give an amount that is meaningful to you and your family.

Is my gift tax-deductible?

Yes, even though we know that's not the only reason you support the school! Post Oak is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, EIN 74-1486232. All gifts made to the school are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law, and all gifts are promptly accompanied by a written acknowledgement for tax purposes.

Can I choose where the school spends my donation?

Absolutely. While most families encourage Post Oak to use funds where most needed, you may direct your gift toward financial aid and professional development. At times, we redirect gifts if a funding area is oversubscribed.

My company offers a matching gifts program—would the school be interested in this?

Please, and thank you! Matching gifts are an easy way to double—or in some cases triple—the impact of your gift. Please submit a matching gift form (from your company) to the Advancement Office.

WAYS TO SUPPORT THE POST OAK FUND

- MAIL** Fill in the reply form mailed to your family and return it via mail or in person.
- ONLINE** Visit PostOakSchool.org and click “GIVE” at the top of the homepage to make a pledge or gift via credit card. All major cards are accepted.
- EMAIL** Pledges can be made anytime between October 22 and November 21; all pledges should be paid by May 31, 2026. Complete the form online OR email your pledge (name and amount) to Evan Wildstein at evanwildstein@postoakschool.org.
- MONTHLY** To make monthly or recurring gifts, please select that option on the response form. By doing so your credit card will be charged monthly in the amounts you identify.
- MATCH** Matching is an easy way to grow the impact of your gift, and many employers will match part or all of an employee’s charitable gifts. You can let the Advancement Office know if your company matches through your form or email evanwildstein@postoakschool.org.
- STOCK** We welcome gifts of securities or stocks. If you are considering a non-cash donation like this, email evanwildstein@postoakschool.org for transfer information.