



EAGLE EXPRESS

CHALLENGER
ELEMENTARY
BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION

SCHOOL HOURS

Grades PK-4.....	7:55 AM – 3:15 PM
Front Doors Open.....	7:15 AM
Breakfast Served.....	7:15 am – 7:50 AM
Students Enter Class.....	7:45 AM
Class Begins.....	7:55 AM

***Students must be inside the building by 7:55 AM. Students entering the building after this time will be tardy. If a student is tardy, parents are required to park and come into the lobby to sign them in.**

FRONT OFFICE STAFF

Principal:	Becky Morris
Asst Principal:	Meghan O'Neal
Counselor:	Sissie Coe
Nurse:	Jennifer Rafferty
Admin Asst:	Linda Gomez
Registrar:	Rubycela Rodriguez
Receptionist:	Michelle Trevino
Telephone:	281-485-7912
Fax:	281-412-1105
Mascot:	Eagle
Colors:	Purple and Teal

Welcome to Challenger Elementary and the 2026-2027 school year! We are excited to have you and your child(ren) as a part of our Eagle family. By working together, we will ensure that every student has a safe and successful year at Challenger. We welcome you to visit our school, and we want you to contact us with any questions you may have.



VISITORS & SAFETY

ALL visitors must check in with a current Driver's License and receive a Visitor Tag at the Front Office before going to any other areas of the building. The Visitor Tag must always be worn the entire time you are on campus.

Classroom visits will be permitted with the principal's and teacher's prior approval. Teacher conferences will need to be scheduled during the teacher's conference time.

We appreciate your time and understanding of being required to show identification. The process takes only a few seconds and is well worth the safety of all our children.

CHALLENGER PLEDGE

I must work hard today,
get smarter in every way
Helped by my teachers, my
family, and my friends
If I make some mistakes, I have
what it takes to keep trying
until I really succeed!



THURSDAY FOLDERS

Thursday has been designated as the day that all student work, campus and district level information, and other important messages will be sent home. Please check and read over all material and sign and return all necessary items to school. Your prompt attention will be greatly appreciated.

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL INFORMATION

Car Riders- Parents will receive 2 Challenger car tags on the first day of school. If your family needs more than 2, you can stop by the front office for additional tags at any time for \$2 each. Please ensure the car tag is hanging from your rear-view mirror every day for a quicker dismissal. Do not park or drop off from the street or parking lot. Parents must remain in their car at all times. Car traffic is heavy and unpredictable, making it very unsafe.

- **Car Rider Arrival-** Car riders can be dropped off in the front driveway beginning at 7:15 a.m. and there will be no supervision for your child before this time. We have a lot of car riders at Challenger. To avoid long lines, we recommend arriving prior to 7:40. Please pay attention to the staff members on duty and pull all the way up to keep the line moving. Dropping off in the bus lane is not permitted.
- **Car Rider Dismissal-** Car rider dismissal will be in the front, just like arrival. A car rider tag must be shown to the staff member who is inputting the numbers. Cars that do not have the Challenger tag and do not know the child's specific dismissal number will need to park and report the front office with your ID. For safety reasons, walking up to the car rider line to get your child will never be allowed.
- **Walker/Bike Riders-** Walkers and bike riders are to stay on the sidewalks at all times and should only cross the street where the crossing guard is located at Hughes Ranch Rd and Bryan Ct. from 7:15-7:55 a.m. and 3:15-3:30 p.m.
- **Walker/Biker Arrival-** Students eating breakfast should arrive between 7:15- 7:45 a.m. Bike riders are encouraged to lock up their bikes to the bike rack. Parents may walk your child across the crosswalk, but please say your good-byes here for safety and security purposes.
- **Walker/Biker Dismissal-** Parents who wish to meet their walker/bike rider will wait for them in the location designated on the Dismissal Map. All walkers and bike riders will be released whether parents are or are not meeting their children (except for PreK and Kindergarten students).



Scan the QR Code to
view our Arrival &
Dismissal Maps!

Bus Transportation- The opportunity to ride a Pearland ISD school bus is a privilege and certain expectations for appropriate conduct have been established to ensure the safety of all students. Parents will be notified of any student who does not follow the bus rules. Students are allowed to ride their regular bus only. They may not ride home with a friend. Students in PreK and Kindergarten will only be released from the bus to an approved adult using their child's unique PIN# provided by the parent at the time of registration.

CHANGE OF TRANSPORTATION

It is extremely important to our staff that all students are dismissed safely every day. Frequently changing modes of transportation can cause confusion for children. **Emergency** situations do arise which may require a change in how students go home. *If there is a change in how your child will go home, please notify the front office. Transportation changes must be called in **no later than 2:30 p.m.***

Do not email or text transportation changes to the teacher. Teachers do not check email during instruction time, or they may be off campus.

EARLY PICK-UP

To ensure a smooth and organized dismissal, parents who need to pick up their child early for an after-school appointment should do so **no later than 2:30 p.m.** Thank you for your cooperation!

PICKING UP STUDENTS

If someone other than the parent will be picking up your child, the person's name must be listed in Skyward as family member or emergency contact. The person designated to pick up your child must be prepared to show a driver's license to school officials. .

STUDENT BIRTHDAYS

Your child may bring store bought birthday treats for the class to celebrate their birthday (or 1/2 birthday). Birthday treats will be shared with your child's class either at recess or at the end of the day. Your child's teacher will communicate when they prefer to celebrate birthdays. Teachers appreciate when parents send treats that are single serve (cupcakes, cookies, donuts, etc.) because they are easier to distribute.

Half Birthdays:
June/December
July/January
August/February

Birthday invitations may be sent home from school if every student in the class (or every boy/girl) is receiving an invitation.



Help support our students
and staff by joining our
Challenger PTA



CAFETERIA INFORMATION AND PROCEDURES

Breakfast \$1.50 (\$0.00 Reduced)

Lunch \$2.75 (\$0.00 Reduced)



Money can be easily added to your child's account for additional items they wish to purchase at www.schoolcafe.com. We welcome lunch visitors at Challenger beginning Tuesday, September 8th. **(We are closed to lunch visitors the first few weeks of school. This time is used for teaching routines, procedures, and expectations for the cafeteria.)**

- All visitors will check in at the front reception desk with a photo ID.
- We suggest that you arrive early to ensure that you are ready at your child's lunch time.
- Visitors are welcome to bring in lunch for themselves and their Challenger Eagle, however students can still purchase a meal from the cafeteria when they have guests. If a cafeteria lunch is needed, the student will get their lunch from the cafeteria line and meet their lunch guest in the PTA room.
- Lunch visitors must refrain from taking additional students to the PTA room.
- Please say your goodbyes in the PTA room at the end of your child's lunch time. Visitors should not walk back to the classroom with the class but should report directly to the front office to check out.
- Closed Campus Days: There will be a limited number of days when we will be closed to lunch visitors due to testing, etc. These days will be communicated well in advance through the Eagle Express.
- If you are dropping off a lunch for your child, please make sure you have it here at least 30 minutes prior so that we have time to get the lunch to your child.

***Food deliveries from third parties such as Uber Eats/DoorDash are **not allowed** for students. Parents can drop off lunch for their student with the front office.

ATTENDANCE

School attendance is critical for the quality of your child's education. A child who misses a day of school misses a day of learning opportunities. Should it be necessary for your child to miss a day of school, you must submit your child's absence online or send a written and signed note stating the reason for the child's absence **within 3 days of the absence** with the information listed below.

- Student's first and last legal name
- Grade Level
- Student ID #
- Specific dates of the absence
- Specific reason for the absence
- Parent signature



You can submit doctor notes and parent notes using our [Absence Reporting Portal](#). If a doctor's note is submitted, please make sure that it covers **ALL** days of the absence. If not, please send an accompanying parent note with the above-listed information. Emails will no longer be accepted.

Students are required to attend class 90% of the time it is offered to be able to receive credit and be promoted to the next grade level. All absences, regardless if excused or unexcused, including leaving early and coming in late, count towards the **90% rule**.

Please help make your child's education a top priority by building a habit of daily attendance



Nurse Jenn is excited to begin her 6th year at Challenger! She wants to encourage you to visit the district Health Services information using the QR code below. If you have any questions for her, please email her at raffetyj@pearlandisd.org.

Students at Challenger are not allowed to carry any medications with them. All medications must be brought to the clinic with a note from the parent.

All student immunizations must be current. If an updated immunization is needed you will be notified. Kindergarteners and Pre-Kindergarteners should be fully immunized before the start of school. Please send a copy of any updates to the clinic.



Character Strong

Character Strong is our district-wide character education program. Each month we focus on a different character trait.

August/September ~ Respect

October ~ Responsibility

November ~ Gratitude

December ~ Empathy

January ~ Perseverance

February ~ Honesty

March ~ Cooperation

April ~ Courage

May ~ Creativity

Each month we will share grade-level specific parent letters that include information about the trait of the month, conversation starters and questions to use at home, book lists, parent articles, and activities you can do as a family. We encourage your family to partner with us in the implementation of this program throughout the year!

SCHOOL-WIDE EXPECTATIONS

INTEGRITY
PERSEVERANCE
RESPECT
COURAGE
EXCELLENCE

At Challenger, we all have Integrity, Perseverance, Respect, Courage and strive for Excellence everyday! At the beginning of the year, teachers and students discuss what this looks like in each area of the school.

Teachers and Staff award individuals and classes with positive points for demonstrating these character traits.



with us on social media!



Challenger
Elementary

[pearlandchallengerem](https://www.instagram.com/pearlandchallengerem)



IMPORTANT LINKS

Fill out Pearland ISD Volunteer form (volunteering on campus, helping with events, attending field trips) ([CLICK HERE](#)).

[How is your child getting home? Please fill out this form \(CLICK HERE\)](#)

Challenger Elementary

SPIRIT GEAR



HOODIES

Order your Challenger spirit gear now through Aug. 31th!



T-SHIRTS



**All students are encouraged to purchase their grade level shirt which will be worn on field trips, at music performances, on spirit days, etc.

GRADE LEVEL SPIRIT SHIRTS



BIRTHDAY

Marquee Messages

\$15

Birthday Message

SCAN ME!



You are invited to highlight your child's special day on our Challenger Elementary digital marquee!

The birthday message will be displayed on the school marquee on the date you select (including weekends). The message will loop throughout the day, giving families plenty of time to stop by for a photo!

The cost of this special treat is

\$15 for a birthday message

(Example: HAPPY BIRTHDAY GRAHAM T.)

****This is a one time offer and the deadline is September 4th****

If you child's birthday is between August 19th- September 4th, send an email to gomezl@pearlandisd.org so we can make sure your child's day is not missed.