



TPRS “Monthly Minute” Odessa High School

October 2026



**“GRADES GO DOWN
WHEN YOU ARE NOT
AROUND...”**

Attendance is essential to school success. Absences, excused and unexcused, can quickly add up to cause academic trouble. Please visit with your corral if you feel that you have lost credits due to attendance.

(Please review the link below for help to improve school attendance. Click on the link or copy and paste the link in a new window.)

ENGLISH: https://attendanceworks.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/AW_HS-flyer-1-pager.pdf

SPANISH: https://attendanceworks.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/AW_HS-flyer_Spanish.pdf



Important Dates To Remember>>>>>

October 1st- MCH Tour and Learning,
Parent Permission slips due by 9/28/26

College Night at Odessa College

- FAFSA Application is available

-Week of Oct.12th-18th- Free College Application,
fees waived

October 2nd – Hygiene Closet, YMCA on
University

October 7th- PSAT/SAT Testing (digital)

October 9th- End of 1st 9 weeks

October 12th & 13th - NO School; Columbus
Day and PD day for teachers

October 13th -Vaccine Clinic @ Travis

October 14th -Start of 2nd 9 weeks

October 15th -1st Nine Week Celebration in
RM 213, Pizza!

October 23rd -TPRS FAMILY MEETING at
Odessa College, 5:15 PM-6:15PM, see
enclosed information

October 28th- Little Bat Project Deadline

Embrace Meetings- October 6th, 13th, 20, &
27th

Saturday October 24th is Princess Day
hosted by Embrace @ Crossroads!



Words of Wisdom

PINK OCTOBER



“The only difference
between where you are
and where you want to
be are the steps you
haven’t taken yet.”

---Rigel J. Dawson



DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that Dad's involvement during pregnancy positively influences health outcomes for mom, dad, and baby? From pregnancy loss, maternal and infant mortality, post-partum health, and parenting transition, father involvement has a key role to play.

Yet, keeping fathers involved is sometimes easier said than done when the path to involvement is not always as clear for men as it is for the mom. But there are some great tools out there that can guide fathers in staying engaged throughout pregnancy and into infancy.

One such tool was developed through a collaboration by the Center for Health Communication, Texas Safe Babies, and SAGA at the University of Texas Austin: the [Fathers Playbook](#) app. This free app is designed to give dads a week-by-week breakdown of what is happening to mom and baby, practical tips for understanding pregnancy, and checklists for financial goals and preparation, which are just a few of its features. Check out the website, where there is also information for providers on how to get materials to share with clients and help them learn about this great resource!

And don't stop there. Let's keep encouraging fathers to stay involved and let them know that they do matter, at all stages of their child's life.

Father's Playbook

About to be a Dad and trying to make sense of pregnancy, what to do, and where to start? The Father's Playbook app is here to help. This app is developed for guys to help them understand pregnancy and prepare them for after the baby comes.

Reminders for Trick or Treating!

[It is not safe to let kids walk the streets by themselves.](#) Make sure that an adult is going with them. If you can't take them yourself, see if another parent can.

[Show your children how to cross a street properly.](#) Always look both ways before crossing the street and only cross at corners or crosswalks. If you have more than one child, ensure the older child takes the hand of the younger child when they cross a street.

[Teach your kids about not getting into strangers' cars or talking to strangers,](#) no matter what the person says to them.



What Are We Up To?

Books for You & Your Baby!

TPRS delivers **FREE books every month** to enrolled students through care packages and campus drop-offs! Why? Because reading with your baby now helps them learn faster, grow stronger, and be ready for school later on. And let's be real—snuggling up with your little one and a book makes for some of the best memories. ♥♥

Want to score a **basket packed with Halloween books, toys, goodies, and a \$25 gift card**? Here's how:

- 👉 Snap a picture and a video of yourself **reading with your baby and the finished bat project**
- 👉 Send it to connie.flores@ectorcountysd.org
- 👉 You're entered into the raffle! 🎟️

Celebrate Books at OHS's

Little Family Library!

Odessa High's **Little Family Library (LFL)** is stocked with dual language and Hispanic culture books right here on campus. With nearly 90% of our student body being Hispanic, it's important that our library reflects who we are and the rich culture we come from.

These books aren't just for fun (though they're a great read)—they also help you level up academically. Research shows that reading in two languages can:

- ☑️ Boost your vocabulary in both English & Spanish
- ☑️ Improve your memory, focus, and problem-solving skills
- ☑️ Spark creativity and flexibility in your thinking
- ☑️ Even give your brain long-term protection later in life
- ☑️ Plus—it makes you more competitive in college and future jobs!

Stop by Odessa High to explore our latest books—including titles by **local author Rolando J. Diaz**. You can even see us featured on Channel 2's *Highlighting Hope* segment: [Little Family Library gives Odessa families free access to books.](#)



SENIOR SECTION:

ECISD PSAT/SAT

Wednesday, October 7th, 2026

Contact your Campus College Advisor

Study resources are available to prepare you. Please contact Ms. Tolbert in the library.

FREE COLLEGE APPLICATION

WEEK: October 12-18th

Application fees are waived for TX residents applying to public colleges and universities.

Many major public universities (like Texas A&M or UT Austin) set priority or early action freshman deadlines around October 15 or December 1, 2026, for Fall 2027 admission.

The 2026-27 FAFSA Opens October 1st!

The Department of Education opened the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) for all students and families on October 1st.

ARE YOU GOING TO PASS 1st Nine Weeks?

Do you think you could do better if you had some help?

Please, reach out to our team in the TPRS office in RM 213.

We have tutoring resources for you.

- **Odessa College**
Tutoring- Available Sunday through Monday and evening hours
 - **AVID tutoring** – by appointment.
 - **AIR TUTORs**- online tutoring
- There is NO REASON FOR YOU NOT TO BE PASSING YOUR CLASSES.**

Call our office to discuss. Do not wait until you are failing your semester!



Did you know as an ECISD TPRS student you are eligible to receive childcare services and transportation to school for **FREE!**

If you attend OHS, COC, or EAA campuses you can go to school and not have to worry about who is going to take you to school or who is going to take care of your child. This peace of mind is **FREE!**

It is proven fact, TPRS students that utilize childcare services improve and/or continue to do well with attendance and grades. **FREE** Childcare also helps with establishing a daily routine for your baby so that s/he will sleep during the night, giving parents a good night's rest.

We encourage you to call the center or our office to set up a tour to see the ECISD facility and meet the staff.

You will love it!





Reading helps strengthen the bond between you and your baby.

Reading helps develop imagination and creativity.

Reading helps with listening skills.

Reading helps with language development.

Reading helps develop a large vocabulary.

Reading helps with cognitive brain development.

Reading helps with empathy.

Reading enhances concentration.

Read to your kids daily; their future depends on it.

Brought to you by: TPRS Babies and Books Initiative, An Early Literacy Jumpstart

OCTOBER'S HALLOWEEN BOOK for PARENTS

Little Bat

Trick-or-treat for something sweet with Little Bat!

Follow Little Bat as he flies from house to house collecting candy and indulging his sweet tooth in this adorable, shaped board book that's perfect little hands. With flocking and bright foil on the cover and rhyming text, this little sensory book will be a big Halloween favorite!

Point out the other animal trick-or-treating characters and the unique treats they are gathering in their pumpkin pails. Finally, when child is ready, practice rhyming words: "treat" and "street", "dark" and "bark", "fly" and "supply", and "snore" and "score".

Benefits of Sensory Books:

- Promotes the development of fine motor skills
- Increases hand-eye coordination
- Develops creativity

Rhyming helps babies and children learn about words, sounds, and language formation.



Little Bat PROJECT

Create a straw and string flapping bat to accompany this book and have some fun with your child!

Use the bat template paper provided. Color it however you like, and cut it out. Trace the cut-out bat on black paper and glue to the back (optional). Use the straw to pull the evenly folded string through the straw. Tape the straw and only the end of strings as shown below, **front or back**. Be creative and add material or detail to your bat.



Send us a picture of your completed bat and video of using it in playtime with your child for a chance to win a prize!

Picture AND video due no later than October 28.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER...

Children learn best when parents are in on the fun!

TVFC VACCINE CLINIC

ECISD Welcome Center at
Travis Elementary
1400 S. LEE AVENUE
TUESDAY 10-13-2026

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Students ages 4 to 18
Please bring immunization record
FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED!



MUST MEET ONE OF THE FOLLOWING TO QUALIFY:

- MEDICAID ENROLLED
- UNINSURED
- AMERICAN
INDIAN/ALASKAN
NATIVE
- UNDERINSURED

IMMUNIZATIONS

AVAILABLE:

DTAP, MMR, POLIO,
VARICELLA, HEP A,
HEP B, TDAP, MCV 4,
HPV, FLU



The Letters in **PURPLE** Stand for

PURPLE

PEAK OF CRYING

Your baby may cry more each week, the most in month 2, then less in months 3-5

UNEXPECTED

Crying can come and go and you don't know why

RESISTS SOOTHING

Your baby may not stop crying no matter what you try

PAIN-LIKE FACE

A crying baby may look like they are in pain, even when they are not

LONG LASTING

Crying can last as much as 5 hours a day, or more

EVENING

Your baby may cry more in the late afternoon and evening

The word *Period* means that the crying has a beginning and an end.

For information follow this link, [I want more information, please.](#)



Get in **FREE** with your **ECISD** ID!

**ECISD students, faculty and staff
can get into all **Odessa College**
Athletic events free!**





Join us for

INTERACTIVE SESSIONS FOR PARENTS & FAMILIES!

LEARN. CONNECT. SUPPORT. EMPOWER.

You play a powerful role in your student's success—let's grow together!

THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER
24

Hosted by
**ODESSA COLLEGE
CAREER CENTER**



CAREER INTEREST SURVEY HANDS-ON ACTIVITY

Students will take a career interest survey to explore their strengths and interests.
BRING YOUR CHROMEBOOK OR PHONE to log in and complete the survey!

THURSDAY
OCTOBER
22

Hosted by
**ODESSA COLLEGE
LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER**



LEARN ABOUT WRANGLER PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP

which pays for your first degree at Odessa College and "Apply Texas" to help you start your college journey early.



TIME
5:15 PM – 6:30 PM



LOCATION
Odessa College
Wood Math and Science Bldg.
RM 119



WHO SHOULD ATTEND?
Parents, Guardians,
and Family Members
invited!

*Your participation
makes a big difference!*

COME BE PART OF A COMMUNITY THAT SUPPORTS
STUDENTS TODAY AND BUILDS A BRIGHTER TOMORROW!





Free baby supplies for children up to 36 months!

Supplies include free diapers, formula, wipes and gently-used maternity and baby clothing.

By appointment only. Call The Life Center - Odessa at 432.617.8378

The **Life**Center

802 N. Washington, Odessa 79761 • 432.617.8378

Earn Baby Bucks to redeem for new baby items from clothing to car seats and strollers, just by attending classes!

free pregnancy classes and education

Classes are taught by qualified instructors, with topics such as:

- Nutrition
- Home Safety
- SIDS and Abusive Head Trauma Prevention
- Raising Emotionally Healthy Children
- Mother and Newborn Baby Care
- Infant Choking, First Aid and CPR
- Breastfeeding/Dad University
- Labor and Delivery
- Car Seat Safety

Call for class or appointment* times in your area!

Midland

432.683.6072
2101 W. Wall Street
Midland, TX 79701

Andrews

432.523.2859
1412 NE Mustang Drive
Andrews, TX 79714

Odessa

432.617.8378
802 N. Washington
Odessa, TX 79761

Big Spring

432.606.5041
1801 S. Main Street
Big Spring, TX 79720

*Parenting education is available by appointment; call for details.

The **Life**Center



Resources

Crisis Phone Numbers:

911 for Immediate Crisis

Permian Basin Community Center Crisis Line

- 24/7 Crisis Intervention/Suicide Prevention
- 1-844-420-3964

The Crisis Center

- 24/7 Crisis Intervention/Suicide Prevention
- 1-866-627-4747

Crisis Text Line

- If you are in crisis, reach out for help. Text HOME to 741741.
- 24/7 Crisis Intervention/Suicide Prevention
- [Crisis Text Line Website](#)

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

- 1-800-273-8255
- suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Teen Parent Related Services Include:



Odessa High School
Home of the Bronchos

- * Counseling Services**
- *Tutoring, Academic/Attendance Review**
- *Health Services**
- * Truancy Intervention**
- * Free Child Care Services and Bussing to/from school**
- *Homebound Education and Services**
- *Dropout Recovery**
- *Credit Recovery/Acceleration through online education**

TEEN PARENT RELATED SERVICES (TPRS) STAFF:

Odessa High School : 456-0029

Connie Flores, Case Worker: 456-5271

Marisela Gonzalez, Specialist: 456-5854

Erica Dangerfield, TPRS Counselor: 456-5851

Marisa Molina, OHS Nurse, 456-5253

Rose Valderaz, Coordinator: 456-8552

Kimberly Bryer, TPRS Homebound Teacher: 456-1006

Hortencia Del Bosque, TPRS Homebound Teacher: 456-8524

