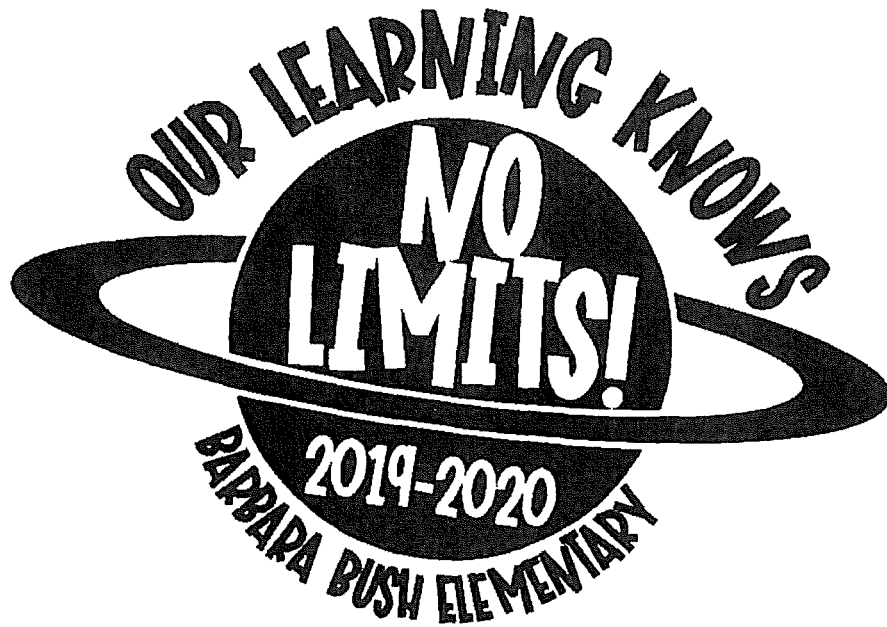


# Bush Elementary Prospective Parent Information



Barbara Pierce Bush Elementary School  
13800 Westerloch  
Houston, Texas 77077  
281-368-2150  
<http://www.houstonisd.org/bushelem>



# Bush Elementary School Attendance Zone

2020 - 2021

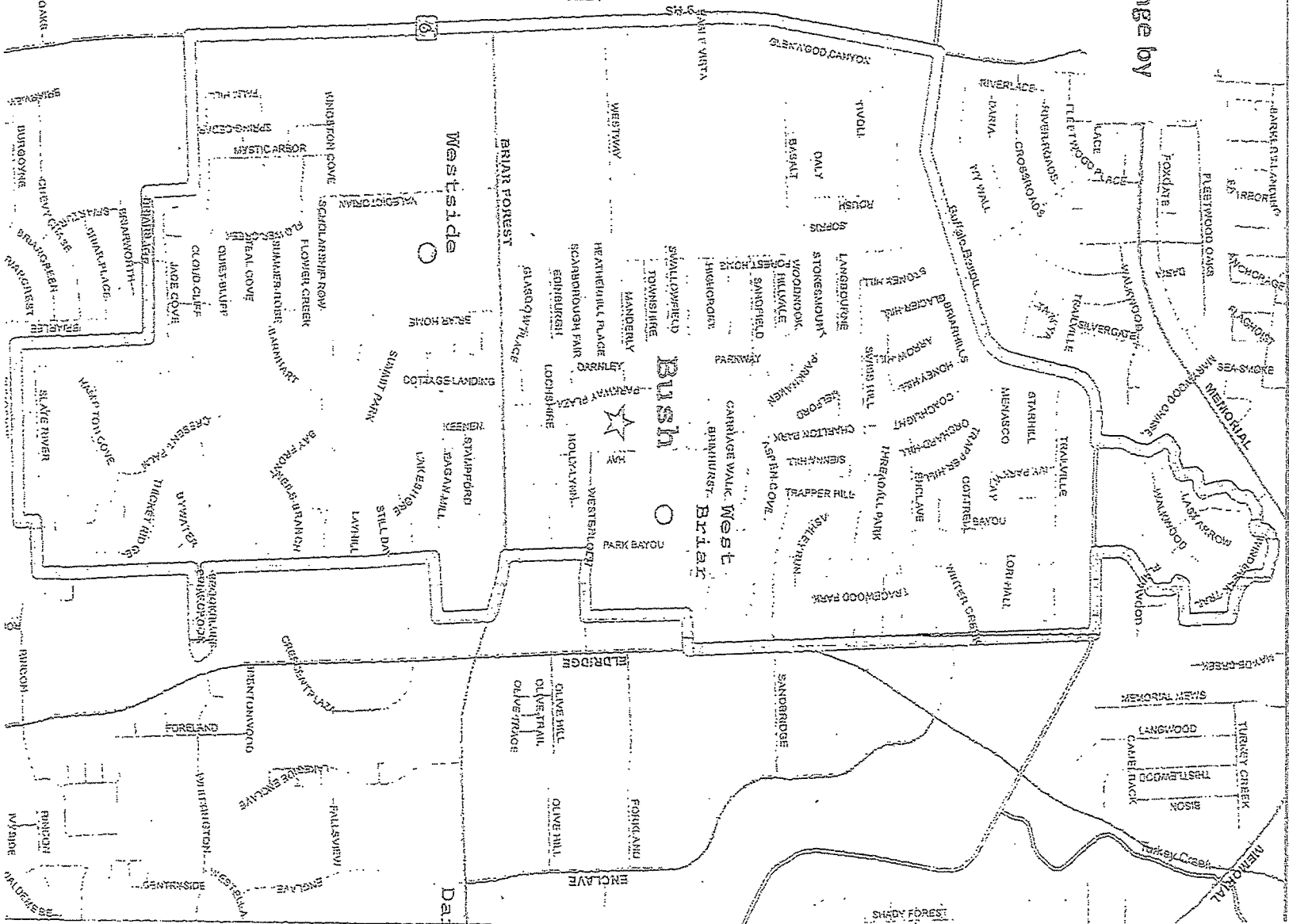
(subject to change by  
MSD)

## APARTMENTS ZONED TO BUSH:

- Villages of Briar Forest
- Aventura on Briar Forest
- Aliso Briar Forest
- Sunrise Briar Forest
- Vista Energy Corridor
- Alexan Enclave

Elementary

- Bush
- Nearby Campuses
- Freeway
- Major Roads
- Bayous



## **BARBARA PIERCE BUSH ELEMENTARY**

13800 Westerloch

Houston, Texas 77077-1900

281-368-2150 \* FAX 281-368-2153

<http://www.houstonisd.org/bushelem>

Barbara Bush Elementary School opened at mid-term in 1992. During its history, Bush Elementary has established a tradition of academic excellence. Bush is a neighborhood school that serves students living within the geographic attendance zone. The student body is very multicultural and represents many countries of origin.

Our instructional program is diversified and exciting. It is a balance of tried and true methods, such as the systematic teaching of phonics, along with newer, more holistic approaches to learning such as Guided Reading and our Laser i3 science program. All students benefit from instruction by teacher specialists in P.E., music, computer, art, and library. Beginning in first grade, classroom teachers are “paired” to facilitate the delivery of instruction so they become experts in their subject areas.

Bush continues to be a highly rated school as compared to neighboring districts. According to the 2019 school rankings by the Children At Risk foundation, Bush is rated as an A+ school. In the new TEA accountability system, Bush Elementary earned a score of 95, which TEA ranks as an A school.

There are approximately forty-three different languages spoken by our students at home including: Spanish, French, Russian, Japanese, Chinese, Arabic, and Korean. Bush has a certified English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher on every grade level to meet the needs of our English Language Learners (ELL).

Bush also offers a Vanguard Neighborhood program beginning in kindergarten. Students identified as GT are homogeneously grouped in each grade level. In addition, all our teachers are GT certified to meet the needs of all our students. For more information on the testing process, please refer to the “GT Q & A” section of this packet.

One of the greatest assets of the school is the supportive parent base. Bush began with a high spirit of parental ownership and involvement that has continued to grow through the years. It is evident in the “standing room only” crowds at every school event. The PTO provides funds to support the rigorous academic and enrichment programs that help make our school so successful. For example, they purchase library books, playground equipment, and computers for our students.

Bush Elementary is an example of what can be accomplished when school district officials, building administrators, teachers, parents, and students work together to create an exciting and rigorous learning community for children.



**BARBARA P. BUSH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
13800 Westerloch, Houston, Texas 77077 \*281-368-2150 \* FAX 281-368-2153

## APPLICATION PACKET FOR NEW K-5 STUDENTS

### REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS

State Law requires that only a parent or legal guardian can enroll a child in school. The following items are required to register in an HISD school. **All original documents must be presented at the time of registration.** To ensure that you have all necessary documents, please place a check next to each requirement to indicate that you have included that item.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Proof of birth date** (original/official copy of Birth Certificate or passport)  
Student must be four on or before September 1, to enter prekindergarten, five on or before September 1, to enter kindergarten or six on or before September 1, to enter first grade

\_\_\_\_\_ **Proof of residency** in the Bush attendance zone (**TWO original** documents required)  
If you lease, one item must be the current lease and the other a current electric bill. If you own, the documents may be 2 current utility bills. **Both documents must indicate the parent's name and address.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Social Security Card** (preferred, but not required)

\_\_\_\_\_ **Parent's or legal guardian's driver's license**

\_\_\_\_\_ **End of year/final report card from previous school (1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade students)**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Completed application packet**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Proof of Immunizations (must be in English and signed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in the United States.) Immunizations must be complete before a child can be enrolled in school. If you have questions about the immunizations, please check with your child's doctor. To ensure that your child meets the immunization requirements, place a check in the box next to each type of immunization.**

- ☐ **Diphtheria and Tetanus:** At least **Four** doses; last booster must be on or after the fourth birthday
- ☐ **Polio:** at least **Three** doses; last booster must be on or after fourth birthday
- ☐ **MMR:** total of **Two** doses on or after first birthday
- ☐ **Hepatitis B:** **Three** doses
- ☐ **Varicella (chicken pox):** **Two** doses on or after the first birthday or a reliable history of the disease.
- ☐ **Hepatitis A:** **Two** doses required. First dose must be given after first birthday.

All registration documents must be complete before a child is considered "registered." Classroom assignments will not be made until all documents are complete. If a student registers in the spring and is not in attendance on the first day of school, they are not enrolled; and if they do arrive late, we cannot guarantee a place in the classroom.

# DRESS GUIDELINES

We at Barbara Bush Elementary School feel that attending school is the most important job our children will ever have. We feel that the way our children dress influences their attitude towards school.

In an effort to provide the best possible learning environment, the Bush Excellence Committee (BEC) approved an official uniform for Bush Students.

## Bush Uniform Policy

Clothing Item	Styles	Colors	Special Comments
<b>Tops</b>	Long or short sleeve polo-style shirt	Solid red, white or navy	Official Bush Logo shirts are permitted. Oversized shirts are <b>not</b> permitted
	Oxford cloth, button down shirt	Solid white	Long or short sleeve
	Official Bush Logo T-Shirts	Red, white or navy	<b>ONLY</b> official Bush logo T-shirts are permitted.
	Long sleeve shirts worn under uniform tops	Solid Red, White or Navy	No other colors are permitted under uniform tops.
	<b>ALL SHIRTS MUST REMAIN TUCKED IN</b>		
<b>Bottoms</b>	Pants or Capri pants	Solid navy or khaki	Must fit at the waist.
	Walking shorts, skorts or skirts	Solid navy, blue denim or khaki	Must be finger-tip length or longer. Must fit at the waist.
	Plain blue jeans	Blue denim only	No holes, or rips, no low riders, no fringe, no oversized legs, no embroidery
	Bush plaid skirt, walking shorts or skorts	Bush plaid only	Available at Academy Uniforms. Must be finger-tip length or longer.
	Tights, leggings, pants worn <b>under</b> skirts, shorts, or dresses	Solid red, white, navy, denim or khaki	Leggings are permitted only under skirts, shorts, or dresses, and <b><u>cannot be worn by themselves as pants.</u></b>
<b>Dresses</b>	Dresses or Jumpers	Solid red, white, navy, denim, khaki and/or Bush plaid	Must be finger-tip length or longer
<b>Sweaters</b>	Solid colored sweaters	Solid Khaki, navy, red, white	Solid colors with no embroidery.
<b>Jackets worn in the classroom</b>	Jacket, sweater or sweatshirts	Solid red, white, or navy	Official Bush logo sweatshirts are permitted.
<b>Outdoor Jackets</b>	Jacket or coats worn outdoors only	Any color	Jackets worn to and from school and at recess only.
<b>Shoes</b>	Closed toe and closed heel rubber soled shoes (flat heels only)	Any color	Laces must be a proper length. Shoes must be worn with socks. No cowboy boots. (Except for Go Texan Day)

**Official Bush logo wear may be purchased at the Bush PTO School Store. The School Store hours are Tuesdays and Fridays 7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. and Fridays 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

Uniform items may be purchased at many area stores including Target, Academy, and Walmart. Other uniform clothing, including our “Bush plaid”, may be purchased at **Flynn O’Hara Uniforms, Shoppes at Memorial Villages, 1022 Wirt Rd, Suite 322, Houston, TX 77055, phone number 346 201-3490.** Also, you may purchase items via their website [www.flynnohara.com/school/TX099](http://www.flynnohara.com/school/TX099). **Promo code for free shipping is FREESHIP50** This link is for ordering Bush Elementary approved dress code items.

### **General Guidelines**

- On days that the students attend P.E., girls wearing a skirt or jumper should wear modesty shorts underneath these items.
- Stud earrings are recommended for safety purposes.
- No caps, hats, or bandanas are allowed inside the building.
- **Only solid red, white, or navy long sleeved shirts will be permitted under uniform tops on cold days.**
- **Only plain headbands or headbands with bows are allowed.**
- Students may wear scout uniforms on meeting days.

### **Items considered inappropriate for school:**

- Cosmetics
- Oversized or skin-tight pants
- Bicycle pants/shorts, compression shorts, gym-type shorts
- Exercise pants/sweat pants
- Extreme hair styles and extreme hair colors

The following procedures will be followed when a child is not dressed in compliance with dress code guidelines:

1. Classroom teacher will notify student and parent of the dress code infraction.
2. Upon a second occurrence, the student will be sent to the clinic so that an office staff member can call the parent.
  - Parent will have the option of providing dress code clothes or the child will be given clothes to wear for the school day. (Please wash and return clothes the next day.)
  - If clothes cannot be provided, the parents will be asked to bring dress code clothes.
  - Students will not return to class until dress code infraction has been corrected.
  - A Dress Code Violation letter will be sent home with the student to inform the parent of the infraction. Please sign and return this letter.
3. Chronic and repeated dress code infractions may result in a Discipline Referral to the office.

**NOTE: HISD Code of Student Conduct states: Violation of a school’s mandatory school uniform policy is a Level II Act of Misconduct.**

**We appreciate the cooperation of the Bush parents in supporting the uniform policy and dress guidelines.**

# General FAQs

- **How do we get into Bush?**
  - Students must currently live in our attendance zone and we must have space available.
  - Principal is unable to grant transfers into Bush due to our overcrowding.
- **Do we have to be zoned to Bush to attend there?**
  - Yes
- **When will registration dates be announced?**
  - Registration dates are typically announced in the spring (look on the school website and weekly school newsletter).
  - 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade registration is in June (subject to change) Dates TBA
- **What are the school hours?**
  - 7:30 a.m. – 2:50 p.m.
- **Can my child ride the bus?**
  - Buses are only available for students who reside in Memorial Thicket.
- **What time can I drop my child off in the morning?**
  - Supervision begins at 7:20 a.m.
- **Can my child eat breakfast at school?**
  - Currently, breakfast is free for all students and offered from 7:15 a.m. – 7:30 a.m. in the school cafeteria.
- **How do I know that my child will get to the right dismissal place?**
  - The teachers will ask before school starts whether your child is a bus rider, daycare rider, carpool rider, or walker. The teachers drop the students off at their respective dismissal locations. Any time a change is made in dismissal plans, the teacher must be notified at least a day in advance. This should not happen often.
- **What is the latest I can pick up my child in the afternoon?**
  - 2:50 p.m.
- **How do I know what is for breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria?**
  - Breakfast and lunch menus are available online at <https://www.houstonisd.org/Page/68611>.
- **Can I come and eat lunch with my child?**
  - Weather permitting, you and your child are welcome to sit outside at the picnic tables in the courtyard to enjoy lunch. If it is wet/chilly, the courtyard will be closed for lunch, so please do not plan to come eat lunch with your child because there is no room for parents in our cafeteria due to overcrowding.

- **My child is a vegetarian, what can he/she eat at school?**
  - A monthly cafeteria menu is available on-line. If your child has special dietary needs, we strongly encourage you to send students to school with a packed lunch.
- **Can the nurse give my child medicine at school?**
  - Yes, with physician's orders (HISD form) along with medication labeled with a prescription.
- **My child is severely allergic to peanuts, what precautions do you take at school?**
  - Please speak to the nurse regarding any life-threatening allergies.
- **My child has allergies, can he/she bring Benadryl to school in his/her backpack?**
  - Children are not allowed to bring any medication to school. Please speak to the nurse regarding medication at school.
- **What type of backpack can my child use?**
  - Students need a backpack that is large enough to fit a folder. No roller backpacks are allowed at school.
- **What/when is ancillary?**
  - Ancillary is a daily 45-minute period when students attend specialist classes: music, art, drama, technology, physical education, and library. This also gives a 45 minute time for teachers to plan, prepare, and meet with parents about their child's progress.
- **Are there any after school programs?**
  - We do not have after-school care; however, we do have a variety of after-school activities: chorus, art, chess, Number Sense, Name that Book Club, orchestra, and seasonal PE sports.
- **Can my child have a cell phone?**
  - Yes, but it must be turned off and in their backpack during the instructional day, but can be used after 2:50 p.m.
  - See Cell Phone policy in Parent Handbook available on the Bush Website.
- **Where can I buy Bush apparel?**
  - Currently, our school store is open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. and during lunch on Fridays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. School apparel may also be purchased online at <http://bbepeto.3dcartstores.com/>
- **Where can I find out other information about Bush Elementary?**
  - For additional information, please visit the Bush Elementary School website at <http://houstonisd.org/bushelem>. The Parent Handbook and weekly school newsletters (Pawprints) are located on this same website.



# GT Questions

- **How does my child qualify for GT?**
  - Your child must take a battery of assessments and based on his/her performance, a matrix is completed to determine if he/she meets HISD's GT qualification standards.
- **When can my child be tested for GT?**
  - There is **ONE** GT testing cycle for Grades 1-4. Gifted and Talented Neighborhood applications are usually due in December. Please check the Gifted and Talented website (<https://www.houstonisd.org/Domain/32983>) periodically to see updates of application deadlines.
  - If your child is applying to a Vanguard Magnet school and has not already been identified as GT, then you must apply online at <http://www.houstonisd.org/magnet>.
- **Do you test PreK students for GT Kindergarten?**
  - No, Bush is not able to participate in the Entering Kindergarten GT Testing program. However, if your child is identified as GT through the Entering Kindergarten testing process at a Vanguard Magnet school, he/she will be placed in a GT Kindergarten class here at Bush. Parent is responsible for providing a copy of the completed matrix in order to be placed in a GT class.
- **Do all kindergarteners get tested for GT?**
  - All kindergarten students who are not already identified as GT (through the Entering Kindergarten process) will be universally assessed in kindergarten for spring services and future grades in elementary school.
- **Do 5<sup>th</sup> graders get tested for GT for middle school purposes?**
  - All 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who are not already identified as GT will be universally assessed during the fall of 5<sup>th</sup> grade for spring services and secondary school.
- **If my child applies for a Vanguard Magnet school (ie. T.H. Rogers, Askew, etc.), does he/she also apply here at Bush?**
  - No. If your child is applying for a Vanguard Magnet program at another school, complete the application/testing process with that school only. Do not submit another application to Bush.
- **If my child (who is zoned to Bush) is tested and qualified at another HISD school, does he/she need to test again at Bush?**
  - No. If your child qualified at another school within HISD, then we just need a copy of the GT matrix to ensure proper placement.
- **If my child tests and does not qualify, can he/she test again?**
  - Students can only be tested once per calendar year. Therefore, if a student tests during the testing window this year, then he/she will be able to test during the testing window during the following school year.
- **My child qualified for the GT program in Katy, can he be in a GT class at Bush**
  - Bring all documents you have identifying your child as GT.

# PreKindergarten (PK) Questions

- **How do we register for PK?**
  - HISD has taken over the lottery process for all PK programs. To be considered for the PK lottery at Bush Elementary School, parents need to apply online at <http://hisdchoice.com/>. Priority is given to students who are four on or before September 1st and who have an older sibling already enrolled at Bush Elementary. Then next priority is for students who are four on or before September 1st and live in the Bush zone.
- **Do we have to be zoned to Bush to attend PK?**
  - Yes, due to limited spaces available in our PK, no out of zone students will be included in the lottery for the Bush PK spaces.
- **Who qualifies to attend PK?**
  - Students must qualify for PK following the federal guidelines that are outlined on the website listed above. Tuition PK will not be available at Bush Elementary.
- **Is PK all day?**
  - Yes, 7:30 a.m. – 2:50 p.m. (Subject to change)
- **Do PK students need to be toilet-trained?**
  - Yes. All PK students must be independent in the restroom and be able to feed themselves at school.
- **Is there after school care?**
  - No, however, there are many private daycares that drop off and pick up from Bush.
- **My child will be 4 years old on September 15<sup>th</sup> of this year, can he start PreK this school year? He will be four, just 2 weeks after the September 1.**
  - State Law requires that students must be 4 years on or before September 1<sup>st</sup>.
- **How many spots are available for PK?**
  - 22