







October 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 -Open House for PK-2nd grades ONLY 6:00 Magnet Open House	2	3 Magnet Tour 9:00 am	4 Strings Parent Class 7:45 am	5
6  OCTOBER BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH	7 Parker Spirit Night @ La Madelaine 6:30am-9:00pm.	8 5 th grade Spelling Bee 7:45 am	9 FALL HOLIDAY – NO SCHOOL	10 Magnet Tour 9:00 am	11 -PTO Free Dress Day -Strings Parent Class 7:45 am -4 th grade Spelling Bee 7:45 am -3 rd grade Spelling Bee 12:15pm	12 School Choice Event @ Washington H.S. 9:00 am – 12:00 noon
13 	14  Columbus Day	15	16 Walk to School -Coffee w/Principal 7:45 am -Kinder Field Trip to Main Street Theater *Parker Spirit Night @ Papa Johns on Hillcroft All Day	17 Magnet Tour 9:00 am Strings Magnet Matinee 2:50 pm	18 EARLY DISMISSAL Pre-K Career Day	19 
20 	21 Field Trip 3er. Gr/Miller Outdoor Theater *Parker Spirit Night @ Café Piquet 4-9 pm.	22 Picture Day 😊 PTO Meeting 6:00 pm	23	24 Magnet Tour 9:00 am *M.S. Coordinators Visit w/4 th and 5 th grade Parents 6-7 pm	25 -Pre-K Field Trip – Old MacDonald's Farm -Strings Parent Class 7:45 am -Title I PAC Meeting 8:00 am	26 
27 BOOK FAIR 10/28-11/1 ALL WEEK	28 	29 Family Night & Open Mic. @ 5:00 pm	30 Strings Hauntcert @ 2:50 pm	31 Magnet Tour 9:00 am Strings Hauntcert @ 2:50 pm		

Family Night at Parker Elementary

A delicious BBQ Dinner will be served while enjoying
the entertainment of our Open Mic Concert
(Want to participate? Register for Open Mic is required with the Magnet Office)
and Scholastic Book Fair in the Library

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

5:00-8:00 p.m. (dinner served 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.)

Cost: \$8 per dinner ticket

Tickets can be purchased at www.parkerpto.org/familynight
or with this form...

*****NO tickets will be sold at the door this year*****

BBQ Dinner Ticket includes: Brisket sandwich, chips, side, drink & dessert


BBQ Potato Ticket includes: BBQ topped potato, side, drink & dessert

Vegerarian Ticket includes: Baked potato, side, drink & dessert

(Take-Out is Available)

Orders taken until 3PM Fri., October 25th
NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR!

Tickets will be held at will-call in the foyer.



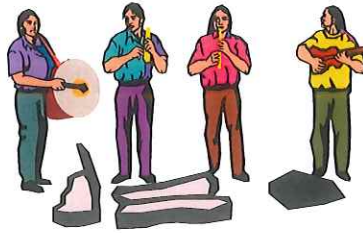
_____ **\$8 BBQ Dinner Ticket:** Brisket sandwich, chips, side, drink & dessert
_____ **\$8 BBQ Potato Dinner Ticket:** BBQ Topped Potato, side, drink & dessert
_____ **\$8 Vegetarian Dinner Ticket:** Baked Potato, side, drink & dessert

\$ _____ Amount Enclosed
(Make checks payable to **Parker PTO.**)

Student's Name: _____

Homeroom Teacher/Grade: _____

CD 9/25/19



Parker's 16th Annual
Open Mic Concert
Tuesday October 29, 2019
Calling all Family Members, Moms, Dads, Uncles, Aunts
And Alumni (16 yrs. and older)

Hey kids, do you have a family member who plays a musical instrument? Is your uncle, aunt, mom or dad a great singer? Does grandpa like to kick out the jams? Well, tell them that they are needed to perform at this year's 16th Annual Open Mic Concert! Just think how much fun it will be to see your father or mother dust off that old trombone, guitar or Sarrusaphone and perform for all your friends at Parker Elementary. It's a great show every year, but we need you to "convince" your family members to join us. Space is limited, so return this form ASAP to the Magnet Office. Each Performer will perform one selection.

Name: _____ Child's Name _____

Relationship to child: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____ Cell Phone _____

What instrument do you play? _____

What schools did you attend? _____

Who did you study music with? _____

Brushes with Greatness?! _____

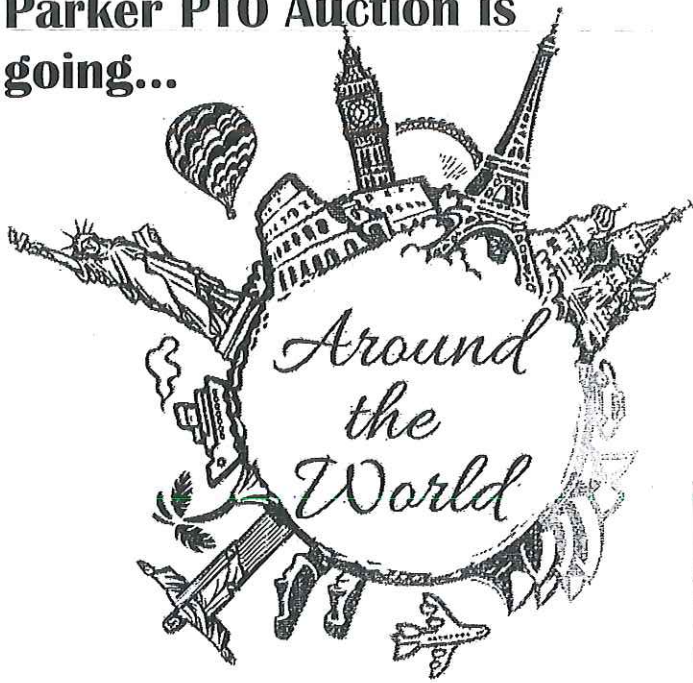
What song (s) would you like to perform tonight? _____

What is your favorite breakfast cereal? _____

Please return this form to the Magnet Office by Oct.22, 2019

9130119

Parker PTO Auction is going...



Save the Date

**Friday November 15,
2019**

**6:30 at Braeburn
Country Club**

Dinner, Drinks, Bidding

Childcare will be provided at a fun-filled Kids Night Out event.

Early Bird discounted tickets (\$45) go on sale October 1.

The funds raised at our annual silent auction event provide classroom materials, outdoor enhancements, furnish our music teachers with instruments and supplies, and supplement our school's budget to provide EVERY student the best educational experience at Parker!

How can YOU help?

Host a social

Parties hosted by Parker families and/or teachers are a win-win: fun for our community and funds for Parker! Socials can be for kids and/or adults, will have limited space, and be available for purchase first at Auction, and then online. Proposed socials must be registered at www.parkerpto.org/auction by **November 11**.

A few fun ideas: PJs & Pancakes Breakfast, Pizza & Movie Night, Wine Tasting on your favorite patio, Gift-wrapping swap, S'mores by the Campfire, Ornament decorating at a pottery studio- get creative!

Build a basket

Each classroom or teaching team will be asked to contribute a basket or auction item that will be displayed and available for purchase by bidding at the Auction. PTO will be sending out information via room parents, but please contribute ideas and items generously! Baskets are due by **November 11**.

Sponsor a table

Do you, a friend, or relative have a business you would like to be recognized in the centerpiece of a table at the Auction? Acknowledgement will be given with your name or logo at these levels:

\$100: Large dinner table (20 available). 1 event ticket included

\$500: Registration table. 2 event tickets included.

Contribute an item for the auction

Would you or your business like to offer a service package, tickets, vacation rental, or big ticket item for auction? We would love to feature your donation! All donations are tax-deductible, and no items or services are too small- we can bundle items together for the best bidding!

Head to www.parkerpto.org/auction for additional details, ideas, & sign-ups.

Questions: Contact Chrissy Pichot, Auction Chair, at BusinessDevelopment@parkerpto.org

11/15/19

Magnet & Program Choice Transfer Prekindergarten Enrollment FAQ

WHO CAN ATTEND PREKINDERGARTEN IN HISD?

To be eligible, a child must meet the following two criteria:

- Be four years of age on or before September 1st of the enrollment year
- Live within the boundaries of the Houston Independent School District

Meet at least one of the criteria listed below:

- Child is homeless
- Child unable to speak or understand English as determined by the Home Language Survey
- Child is economically disadvantaged
- Child of an active-duty member of the U.S. military or one who has been killed, injured, or missing in action while on active duty
- Child is or has been in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services following an adversary hearing held as provided by Section 262.201, Family Code
- Child meets any eligibility criteria for Head Start
- Child of a person eligible for the Star of Texas Award as a peace officer as defined in Section 3106.002, a firefighter as defined in Section 3106.003, or an emergency medical first responder as defined in Section 3106.004

Application Timeline

Phase I (Sept. 27 – Feb. 28, 2020)

- Qualified in-district, TEA Eligible applications received during this phase will be entered into lotteries.

Phase 2 (Feb. 29 – onward)

- Qualified in-district, TEA Eligible applications will be considered on a space available basis.

Phase 3 (June 1, 2020 – onward)

- TEA Non-Eligible (tuition-based) PK 4 and TEA Eligible PK 3 applications will be considered on a space available basis.

WHY CAN'T ALL STUDENTS ATTEND HISD PREKINDERGARTEN? MY CHILD DOES NOT MEET THE CRITERIA AND I CAN'T AFFORD PRIVATE PREKINDERGARTEN.

The Texas Legislature determines eligibility requirements for free, public Prekindergarten in Texas. When the Texas legislature established the Prekindergarten program the intent was, and still is, to provide early learning experiences to students who are most at-risk for school failure. The eligibility is therefore limited. The legislature believes that a high-quality Prekindergarten program could mitigate the impact of the at-risk characteristics, thereby assisting these students to become school ready when they enter kindergarten.

WHAT MAGNET & PROGRAM CHOICE TRANSFER PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE IN HISD?

Prospective Prekindergarten students can be enrolled into the following Magnet programs:

- **Dual Language Program:** The dual language program provides instruction in English and Spanish. Magnet Programs: Wharton & Helms
- **Language Immersion Program:** Language Immersion programs are taught with a minimum of 50% to a maximum of 80% of daily instruction in the non-English language. Magnet Programs: Arabic Immersion & Mandarin Immersion.
- **Montessori Program:** The Montessori program emphasizes highly personalized learning for each child to develop his/her own interests and full potential. Magnet Programs: Blackshear, Garden Oaks Montessori, and Wilson Montessori.
- **English as a Second Language Program:** The ESL program is offered to students with a home language other than English or Spanish. Instruction is provided in English. Teachers in an ESL classroom have specific state certification and training to work with students learning English.
- **English Program:** The English program is provided to students whose primary language is English. All instruction in academic subjects and non-academic subjects is delivered in English.
- **PreK enrollment:** Early Childhood Centers or schools that are not magnet.

HOW DO I ENROLL MY CHILD INTO A MAGNET OR PROGRAM CHOICE TRANSFER PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAM IN HISD?

Parent/Guardian can apply online at www.hisdchoice.com or submit a completed paper application to the Office of School Choice. Paper applications are available at houstonisd.org/Page/122068 or at your local HISD school and must be postmarked by February 28, 2019 to be considered for the lottery. A centralized lottery will be conducted for Magnet and Program Choice transfer Pre-K programs that have more **eligible** Pre-K applicants than space available. Your child must be 4 years old by September 1st of the upcoming school year.

STEP 1: Create an Account with an email at <http://hisdchoice.com/>. Applicants can apply to as many as 5 Magnet Pre-K choices out of a possible 10 Program Choice transfers. Select your school of choice and input your student's information, address, parent information, and upload a state issued Birth Certificate. Once the application has been filled out, review your application and submit it electronically. An email will be sent to confirm your application.

STEP 2: To be eligible for enrollment in a HISD non-tuition based prekindergarten program, the applicant must upload additional documents to the application. The following documents are accepted online:

- Home Language Survey
- Income verification
- Homeless or Under Conservatorship (Student Assistance Questionnaire)
- Military Identification Number

STEP 3: Rank your prekindergarten applications in priority order, from first choice to last choice. Parents will be able to adjust the order of their choices through February 28, 2020. After February 28, choices will be locked into place.

STEP 4: On May 1, HISD non-tuition Phase 1 parents will be notified of the outcome of their applications, the highest ranked program to which a child is accepted will be critical. All applications ranked below that choice will be dropped automatically. Any programs that are wait listed with a higher rank choice will remain active.

STEP 5: Applicants that receive an offered seat will have two weeks to accept the seat and make arrangements with the school to provide their proof of residence, sign the magnet entrance agreement and provide supporting documentation from Step 2.

STEP 6: If your child is not eligible for the HISD non-tuition based prekindergarten program (See Step 2) or is not 4 years old by September 1st, and you have applied for a Magnet or Program Choice transfer prekindergarten program for the 2020-2021 school year, your application will be labeled as "qualified pending" until May 31, 2020. HISD tuition-based PK 4 and HISD non-tuition will be considered on a space available basis on June 1, 2020.

DOES HISD ENROLL 3-YEAR-OLD STUDENTS IN PREKINDERGARTEN?

Campuses must enroll all eligible 4-year-old students first. If there are additional spots in Prekindergarten after all eligible and tuition paying 4-year-old students have been enrolled, applicants will be contacted by campus designated personnel for enrollment instructions.

WHAT IS TUITION-BASED PREKINDERGARTEN?

The state of Texas allows school districts to offer on a tuition basis or use other funds to provide full-day Prekindergarten classes to children not eligible for classes under Section 29.153. Districts must ensure that serving students who are not eligible for the program does not interfere with serving students who are eligible for the program. Tuition-based students can only be enrolled into an HISD Prekindergarten program once all eligible students have been enrolled on the first day of the enrollment school year. There is no guarantee a tuition-based program will be available. It is based on the enrollment of eligible students and that varies from year to year.

EMPLOYEE PREFERENCE

Campus-based employees who want to enroll their prekindergarten child(ren) at the campus at which they work for are eligible after all eligible non-tuition-based Pre-K students have been enrolled.

HOW WILL TUITION-BASED APPLICANTS BE CONTACTED FOR ENROLLMENT

Applicants will be contacted by a campus designated personnel after all eligible HISD non-tuition based prekindergarten students have enrolled after May 31, 2020. Campuses may offer seats at that time to tuition-based applicants after May 31, 2020 and retain 5% of available seats for any incoming HISD non-tuition-based students.