In-Person Learning Begins Monday, October 19!

We’re so excited that Bush Elementary will finally start the school year with children learning and teachers teaching in the classrooms!!!

We have many protocols and procedures that must be followed for the safety and security of all students, faculty, staff, and parents. Here is an overview to the procedures that were explained at last week’s re-opening meeting and were shown in the PowerPoint document that was emailed to parents and posted on the website.

- Arrival must be staggered to ensure students are staggered and therefore, socially distanced.
- Carpool students will be screened from their cars starting at 7:20 a.m.
- True walkers/bikers (you leave your house and walk/bike to school) will be screened by the bike rack starting at 7:20 a.m.
- Daycare riders will be screened starting at 7:20 in the bus lane.
- **NO student will be dropped off and left to wait outside the building.**
- Morning arrival will take longer than before because Ms. Rose, Ms. Bard, and Ms. Elam must take the temperature and complete a visual health screen for every child arriving in a car while Ms. Hacopian, Nurse Guider, and other employees will be screening the other students.
- All adults and children must wear a mask at all times while on school property.
- Patience will be needed as we adjust to the morning arrival procedures.
All students will need to take part in lessons on a technology device during the day and will need to bring a technology device to school daily. Please make sure this device is charged. Also, students should bring headphones if they have them. All classrooms previously had technology devices, but we had to distribute them to families that needed technology at home. For the past few years, technology use has been a daily part of the instructional program.

The school day will be different as the students will stay in their classroom all day and the switch teacher and specialist will come to the classroom for instruction. All students, faculty, and staff must wear a mask at all times in the building. All students will have a 30 minute recess time daily and will be required to wear a mask outside as well.

Lunch will be eaten in the classroom. Students may remove their masks while they are eating. As soon as they're finished eating, then the mask must be worn. If students are not eating the HSD sack lunch then the students must bring their lunch from home. There will be no drop offs of lunch or any other items during the day. Reading glasses are the only item that may be dropped off.

Dismissal will be staggered to ensure we can keep everybody six feet apart. Tomorrow, when you pick up your dismissal number (needed for all carpool students and true walkers/bikers that have an adult picking up the child) you will receive a detailed paper explaining times and locations to wait for the start of your grade level's carpool dismissal time.

There will be no after school activities or visitors to the building during the second six weeks from October 19 - December 4. Dress code guidelines are shown below.

We look forward to the return of students to Bush Elementary!!!

Virtual Student Material Pick Up - Bus Lane

If your child will be participating in virtual instruction from October 19 - December 4, then please plan to stop by Bush Elementary during the following times to pick up your child's instructional materials.

You will need each child's first name, last name, and grade written out in marker and displayed on the passenger side of front dashboard or window when you pull up to the bus lane.

Thursday, October 15 from 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. in the bus lane

Friday, October 16 from 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. in the bus lane

Dismissal Number Pick Up - Carpool Lane

If your child will be attending Bush Elementary for in-person learning from October 19 - December 4, then you will need to stop by to pick up a dismissal number and directions. All
Carpool riders and true walker/bikers will need a dismissal number to ensure a safe and socially distanced dismissal.

You will need each child's first name, last name, and grade written out in marker and displayed on the passenger side of front dashboard or window when you pull into the carpool lane.

Thursday, October 15 from 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. in the carpool lane

Friday, October 16 from 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. in the carpool lane

**Bush Elementary Dress Code Guidelines 2020 - 2021**

While there is no specific dress code, there are dress code guidelines that must be followed.

**Masks**

- Masks must be worn over the mouth and nose at all times while at Bush Elementary, whether inside the building or on school property.

**Shirt**

- Must have sleeves and cover the stomach (ie. no tank tops, no crop tops)
- No words or writing on the shirt, unless it’s a Bush Elementary t-shirt
- No t-shirts, unless it’s a Bush Elementary t-shirt
- No jerseys or team uniforms unless it’s for a specific school event.

**Dresses/Skirts**

- Must be longer than the tip of fingertips while standing up with arm along the side
- No ball gowns, fancy dresses, or costumes

**Pants**

- No rips, tears, holes, words on the pants
- Leggings may not be worn as pants, but may be worn under an appropriate length dress/skirt
- Pants must be at the waist
- No sweatpants, jogger pants, compression pants, athletic pants

**Shorts**

- No rips, tears, holes, words on the shorts
• Leggings may not be worn as shorts, but may be worn under and appropriate length dress/skirt
• Shorts must be at the waist
• No athletic or team uniform shorts

**Shoes**

• Tennis shoes are recommended for safety.
• Toes must be covered and the heel is secured in the shoe
• No flip flops, sandals, shoes with heels

**Earrings**

• May not be longer than 1/2 inch

**Hats**

• No hats may be worn inside the building, unless there is a spirit day

**Clothing must not be disruptive to the educational process.**

**Rolling Backpacks**

• Will be allowed due to carrying extra materials

**Lunch**

The free lunch provided by HISD will consist of a sack lunch with a meat sandwich or a cheese sandwich along with fruit and vegetables.

Please make sure your child is able to open his/her lunch box and the containers within the box and the drink. The lunch monitors will not be able to touch any part of a child's lunch.

**Virtual Learning at Bush Elementary from October 19 - December 4, 2020**

October 19, 2020 is the start of the second six weeks. Approximately 54% of our families have selected to remain in virtual learning through the end of the second six weeks ending on December 4, 2020. Good news, Bush Elementary teachers will be the teachers for all virtual Bush students. Bush Elementary will have virtual teachers who only teach the virtual Bush students. Your child's second six weeks virtual teacher will contact you tomorrow to welcome your child to her class and provide an overview to the instructional schedule effective Monday, October 19.
The instructional day is still 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Lunch and ancillary times will change as in-person and virtual students will have the same times. All students will still receive 2 grades per subject, per week.

Wednesday, October 21 - Student Holiday - No School

Wednesday, October 21 is a Student Holiday for both in-person and virtual learning. The teachers, staff, and administrators will be taking part in required professional learning on this day.

Breakfast and Lunch Free for All In-Person Students

Breakfast and Lunch are Free for all In-Person Students. On Thursday, let your child's second six weeks' teacher know if you would like your child to eat breakfast at school. We know many families do not want their child to have a second breakfast. Breakfast will be either Cheerios or a strawberry, granola bar. Breakfast will be eaten in the classroom.

Health Inventory Forms - Due October

Nurse Guider must receive the Health Inventory Forms annually to make sure she has current information about your child's health. She is in need of the following 2 Health Inventory Forms completed and submitted to her via email by October 17 at 3:15 p.m. Please download these forms and fill them out. Email the completed forms to Nurse Guider at DGUIDER@houstonisd.org

If you're new to Bush Elementary for the 2020 - 2021 school year, then these forms were completed during the registration process. The nurse forms only need to be completed by students who were at Bush Elementary last school year.

Health Inventory Forms

Please fill out completely and email as an attachment.

The Spectacular Science Word for the week of October 19th is variables.
HISD launches COVID-19 Dashboard to Track Confirmed Cases

As HISD prepares for a return to in-person instruction on Oct. 19, the district has launched a COVID-19 dashboard to keep the community informed about the impact of the pandemic. Designed to ensure transparency, the online dashboard will track the number of confirmed COVID-19 on-campus student and staff cases. It went live at 1 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 28.

"As we navigate this pandemic together, we want to ensure that we are transparent as we provide crucial updates," HISD Interim Superintendent Grenita Lathan said. "This new dashboard will give our staff members and families the information they need in an accessible and easy-to-use way to make informed decisions."

The dashboard was developed using Texas Education Agency guidelines for reporting COVID-19. It will be updated daily, allowing users to review student and staff data by location and districtwide. It also includes a map to visibly show where cases are throughout the district. The district will strictly follow all applicable privacy laws as it relates to the release of personal health information.

To view the COVID-19 dashboard, go to [https://www.houstonisd.org/COVID19Dashboard](https://www.houstonisd.org/COVID19Dashboard)

PK Lottery 2021 - 2022

On September 19, HISD School Choice opened up the system to apply for the PK lottery for the 2021-2022 school year. The Bush PK program is only for families that are already enrolled at Bush Elementary and have another child that will be 4 on or before September 1, 2021. Students must meet PK eligibility requirements such as being economically disadvantaged or qualifying as English as a Second Language.

The site will accept applications from September 19, 2020 - April 30, 2021. Families will be notified by HISD School Choice on May 20 if their child was accepted into Bush Elementary’s PK program or if their child is on the waitlist. Go to HISDChoice.com to apply. Bush Elementary’s PK program is only one class with 22 students that must be comprised of siblings of currently enrolled Bush students. The only way to apply for and be part of the lottery for Bush Elementary's PK program is to apply online at the address shared above.
Happy National Principal’s Month, Ms. Rose!

October is National Principals Month! Woo hoo to Ms. Rose, our principal, for all of her hard work and dedication to our students, families, faculty and staff! We are so lucky to have such an experienced and knowledgeable leader, especially in these uncertain times. Happy National Principals Month Ms. Rose.

Kinder
Yes, that’s her! Our Bobcats enjoy getting classroom visits from Ms. Rose.

Fun, Fun, Fun
Did you know Ms. Rose was a Science Teacher?
Can you guess who is standing next to her? (Hint - she is a 5th grade teacher.)

College and Career Readiness Month

October is College and Career Readiness Month in HISD. Yes, even in elementary school our students need to think about their post-high school future and need to be prepared to enter the workforce and/or go to college. Students are encouraged to wear college shirts on Fridays during the month of October. Students may wear college shirts on the following Fridays: Oct. 9, 16, 23, and 30. This is a great time to talk about all the incredible collegiate opportunities that await your child. Make sure your child knows why he/she is wearing a shirt from that college. Did any of your family members attend the college? Are you supporting a local college? Is this where you and/or your child want to attend college?

Universal GT Testing for K & 5 Students Not Previously Identified

HISD screens all kindergarten and fifth grade students who were not previously identified as gifted and talented in what is called Universal Testing. This process begins the week of November 9th, 2020.
The Universal Testing of kindergarten and fifth grade students allows identified students to receive G/T services in HISD’s Gifted and Talented Programs during the Spring of their current school year. All students who are identified as gifted and talented in HISD will retain their G/T status providing they subsequently enroll in an HISD Gifted and Talented Program upon identification and are continuously enrolled in an HISD Gifted and Talented Program thereafter.

Parents of K and 5th grade students not previously identified as GT do not need to complete any paperwork, all the students will be tested for GT.

**GT Testing for Students in Grades 1 - 4**

If your child is in grades 1st - 4th and not already identified as a Gifted and Talented, you may request that your child is tested for GT if you feel your child would qualify for the GT program. The deadline to submit applications is November 6th. The applications can be found at [https://www.houstonisd.org/Domain/32983](https://www.houstonisd.org/Domain/32983).

Completed applications must be submitted in an email to Jessica Ayala, (Jessica.Ayala@Houstonisd.org) in the front office by Friday, November 6 at 3:15 p.m.

**Gifted and Talented Parent Informational Sessions**

**TOPICS:** GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAM, ASSESSMENT, INSTRUCTION, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, GATES, TIMELINES, & FAQS

**WHEN:** November 9, 2020, December 8, 2020

**WHERE:** Microsoft Teams

**FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT:** GiftedandTalented@houstonisd.org

**In - Person Students - Dismissal Number Pick up**

**WHEN**
Thursday, Oct. 15th, 8-11am

**WHERE**
13800 Westerloch - Carpool Lane

**MORE INFORMATION**
Students Last Name, First Name and grade level will need to be placed on the dashboard.

As you near the carpool lane, please have your trunk open.
In - Person Students - Dismissal  
Number Pick up

WHEN
Thursday, Oct. 15th, 12:30-2:30pm

WHERE
Carpool Lane

MORE INFORMATION
Students' Last Name, First Name, and grade level will need to be placed on the dashboard.

As you near the carpool lane, please have your trunk open.

---

In - Person Students - Dismissal  
Number Pick up

WHEN
Friday, Oct. 16th, 8-11am

WHERE
Carpool Lane

MORE INFORMATION
Students' Last Name, First Name, and grade level will need to be placed on the dashboard.

As you near the carpool lane, please have your trunk open.

---

Virtual Student Material Pick up

WHEN
Thursday, Oct. 15th, 8-11am

WHERE
Bus Lane

MORE INFORMATION
Students' Last Name, First Name, and grade level will need to be placed on the dashboard.

As you near the carpool lane, please have your trunk open.
Virtual Student Material Pick up

WHEN
Thursday, Oct. 15th, 12:30-2:30pm

WHERE
Bus Lane

MORE INFORMATION
Students' Last Name, First Name, and grade level will need to be placed on the dashboard.

As you near the carpool lane, please have your trunk open.

Virtual Student Material Pick up

WHEN
Friday, Oct. 16th, 8-11am

WHERE
Bus Lane

MORE INFORMATION
Students' Last Name, First Name, and grade level will need to be placed on the dashboard.

As you near the carpool lane, please have your trunk open.

Wednesday, October 21 - Student Holiday - No School

WHEN
Wednesday, Oct. 21st, 7:30am-3pm

WHERE
This is an online event.

MORE INFORMATION
Wednesday, October 21 is a Student Holiday for both in-person and virtual learning. The teachers, staff, and administrators will be taking part in required professional learning on this day.
Tuesday, November 3 - Student Holiday - No School

WHEN
Tuesday, Nov. 3rd, 7:30am-3pm

WHERE
This is an online event.

MORE INFORMATION
Tuesday, November 3 is a Student Holiday for both in-person and virtual learning. The teachers, staff, and administrators will be taking part in required professional learning on this day. In addition, Bush Elementary will be a polling site for the election.

Translating Virtual Paw Prints

One of the reasons we selected this tool for our Paw Prints is the program's ability to translate the content into almost 100 different languages. Use the translate tab at the upper right to change the Paw Prints into another language. We want all our families to be able to have access to this content regardless of their first, second, or even third language.

Don’t wait - Join the PTO Today!

Have you joined the PTO yet? One $20 family membership covers all children in your family for the entire 2020-21 school year. As an added bonus, each PTO membership will receive a BBE sticker to you’re your commitment to our school’s success, as well as a complimentary copy of our annual Directory full of important school and class information as well as advertisements and coupons from area businesses.

NEW for 2020: Become a PTO Pal for $10 and help purchase a PTO Membership for those who cannot. Your optional donation will be recognized in a BBE PTO publication.

Join online at www.BBEPTO.com to purchase your membership or become a PTO Pal today!
Calling all Autumn & Winter Birthdays – Join Birthday Book Club

Help your child celebrate their birthday with a book and a Pawprints shout out from Ms. Rose! The Birthday Book Club has been redesigned to accommodate virtual meetings and social distancing.

$20 Birthday Book Club Membership (Add Electronic Marquee display for $10 more)

New this year: $10 Electronic Marquee display only (no book or shout out)

Visit www.BBEPTO.com for more details or to make your purchase.

Room Parents still needed for 1st, 3rd, 4th, and Special Education!

There are a few classes in 1st, 3rd, 4th, and Special Education which still need a Room Parent. You can be a Room Parent even if you work full time. Classes without Room Parents are at risk of missing vital school and PTO information. Please talk with your teacher TODAY about becoming a Room Parent.

Don’t get left out of the Directory!

Our annual Directory can help your child connect with friends for video calls, playdates, and birthdays. Make sure your family is not left out–go online to submit your information so we can make a comprehensive Directory. Remember, YOU can choose which non-required fields you want to fill out to include in the Directory. The deadline is Friday, October 23, so don’t wait...complete your information submission now!

Business Sponsorships Program – Have you submitted your ad yet? If not, do it today!

Each year, BBE PTO offers a program for area businesses to buy Directory Ads, Donate to BBE PTO, or participate as a Business Sponsor. Our Directory team is already compiling ad submissions so get yours in as soon as possible to make sure your business is included. Visit www.BBEPTO.com for more information or to purchase your package today!

Attention all Fifth Grade Parents!

Please visit www.BBEPTO.com to pay your Fifth Grade Fee and to order additional Fifth Grade T-shirts for your student or yourself. You can also choose to Help A Friend to make sure all Fifth Graders receive a T-shirt and get to join in the Fifth Grade Fun!
School Store is online and ready to help you with supplies and uniforms

Is your child returning to in-person instruction on October 19, and you need to purchase their school supplies? Maybe your child is staying virtual, but you still need supplies? Or your child saw their classmates wearing the super cute “WILD About Learning” T-shirts, and now they want one too? School Store has been restocked, and we can help you! Visit us online at www.BBEPTO.com to make your purchase.

*Parents whose children are moving to in-person instruction can choose to have their supplies delivered directly to the classroom beginning on October 19 instead of utilizing the Friday morning pickup system.

Yearbook needs your help

We are looking for some pictures for the yearbook. We need pictures for the following pages: "First Day of School," "Astros Play-offs," and "Distance Learning Looks Like..." If you have any please share them with us! Please send no more than 5 photos to bushptoyearbook@gmail.com and label pictures with students' grade.