



Parents of the Academy of Science and Technology

PAST • 3701 College Park Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77384

June 1, 2025

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the Parents of the Academy of Science and Technology (PAST) board, I'd like to extend a warm welcome to both our new and returning families as we begin the 2025–2026 school year. I'm honored to serve as this year's board president and thrilled to be working alongside such a dedicated group of parent volunteers.

You may already be familiar with PAST, but I want to take a moment to share how our organization helps enrich your student's experience at The Academy—and to invite you to be a part of that impact.

PAST plays a vital role in supporting a wide range of student-focused events, including the Pool Party, Senior Gala, Dessert Reception, and Explorations. We also help cover additional needs that fall outside the scope of the school's regular budget.

As a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit, PAST is powered entirely by parent volunteers who contribute their time and resources to help our students thrive. Our main source of funding comes from annual memberships, family donations, and corporate gift-matching programs—all of which are tax-deductible. We aim for 100% family participation each year, so if you haven't already, I encourage you to join PAST today (details on how to join are attached). As a thank-you, you'll receive a copy of the Academy Student Directory.

There are also other simple ways to support PAST financially, such as linking to loyalty programs like Kroger and Minted, buying AST-branded merchandise, or purchasing a business ad in our directory.

We welcome and appreciate parent involvement in many forms. Attached to this letter, you'll find a list of volunteer opportunities and a link to sign up based on your interests.

We're aiming for as close to 100% participation as possible in our student directory and Google Map for the incoming Class of 2029. If you're a new freshman parent and haven't yet submitted your information, please do so here: <https://bit.ly/Directory2025-26>.

Returning families will receive an email later this summer to confirm last year's directory information.

Your support—whether through membership, volunteering, or donations—makes a meaningful difference in our students' academic journeys. Please take a moment to review the attached materials and consider how you can get involved.

I look forward to connecting with you in the fall. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me directly at jennym412@gmail.com.

Warm regards,

Jennifer Blackman

What does PAST do?



Facilitate Communication

- Prepare and publish the Student Directory
- Create and publish Google Map to facilitate carpools for out-of-zone students
- Prepare and publish the annual Academy Profile (sent in conjunction with college and scholarship applications)
- Provide Class Representatives to enhance two-way communication with parents
- Provide opportunities for interaction with Headmaster, and networking with other AST parents, through the Coffee with the Headmaster program, New Parent Dessert Reception, and Academy Picnic
- Maintain Facebook group for Academy students and parents

Support Educational Objectives, Teachers and Students

- Coordinate and sponsor Student Exploration tours and guest speakers (both live and remote lectures)
- Support student participation in Robotics, Science Fair, Destination Imagination, Envirothon, Engineering Design Competition, Science Bowl, Quiz Bowl, and other research and development projects
- Provide Headmaster discretionary funds to cover costs of programs & equipment not funded by CISD
- Solicit and administer grants for benefit of AST students and curriculum
- Coordinate monthly Academy Teacher Appreciation Program

Promote the Academy Community by Supporting or Organizing Events

- Parent Orientation, Dessert Reception & Volunteers for FISH Camp
- Coffee with the Headmaster (one per semester)
- Monthly Teacher Appreciation
- All Academy Back to School Swim Party
- All Academy Picnic
- Trivia Night
- Science Fair Night
- Internship Night
- Student Exploration lectures and tours
- Senior Gala
- AST Alumni Speakers at PAST & AST Events
- AST Scrapbook
- Production, sale, and distribution of Academy Logo items

General

- Promote retail loyalty programs that benefit PAST (Kroger, Minted, Kendra Scott).
- Encourage membership and donation participation for funding
- Organize volunteers to support AST events & activities
- Partner with TWCP PTO as appropriate, and PAST Liaison attends TWCP PTO meetings
- Promote AST Alumni Network

Watch for details during the summer about this year's:

Back to School pool party – at *Creekwood Pool* on *August 10*

Academy Picnic – at school in September (date forthcoming). Pre-ordered logo merchandise will be available for pickup. For members, the student directory and membership gifts (\$150+) will also be available for pickup.

2025 – 2026 Membership and Donation

PAST membership is a way for parents of Academy students to become directly involved in supporting the academic activities of the Academy and the PAST organization. Your membership dues and generous donations directly impact academic enrichment by funding student programs and activities, as well as the purchase of technology and needed educational supplies to support the teachers and administration of AST.

Our target is to have 100% parent membership!

Basic Membership dues are \$50 per family.

Members will receive a copy of the AST Student & Information Directory published by PAST.

Interested in supporting the Academy with a larger donation? PAST Basic Membership and an additional copy of the directory are included for donations equal to or above \$75, and a membership gift will also be given for donations equal to or above \$150.

PAST is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

Membership dues and donations are tax deductible!

Join today!

<https://bit.ly/PASTmembership>

Corporate Matching

If your company has a corporate matching gift program, please review their requirements to ensure PAST or AST can receive the additional donation. Some companies require your whole donation to go through their program and others only need to see a receipt. Contact our treasurer for receipt or other information needed by your employer at Treasurer.ASTpto@gmail.com.

Volunteering

Volunteering is not required for membership, but PAST can't exist without parent volunteers who generously give of their time. There are a variety of ways to help the Academy, please take a look at our online volunteer form here: <https://bit.ly/PASTvolunteer> to see how you can help. Please remember to also submit the CISD volunteer background check each year (<https://apps.conroeisd.net/volunteer/>)

Communication/Social Media

Please connect with us to get updates on our events for students and parents at our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/190049521058707>

Thank you for your support!



Academy Logo Merchandise

Friday, August 15th, 2025 is the deadline to order AST merchandise items.

Academy Logo items are sold pre-order through North Houston Athletics. Order your polo and add in some other great items – car decal, yard sign, hoodie, long-sleeve shirt, drawstring backpack, even a blanket.

Freshmen have a one-time opportunity to purchase their class of 2029 T-Shirt.

Seniors have a one-time opportunity to purchase their class of 2026 T-Shirt.

All items can be purchased using the following link:

<https://nhathletics.com/academy-of-science-tech/>



Merchandise will be delivered at the annual Academy picnic in September.

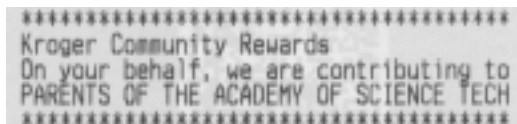
Any questions please contact:

Rachel Poon (rdottinpoon@gmail.com) Cell 646-263-0066 OR Ruchika Khosla: 281-250-8656



The Kroger Community Rewards program makes fundraising easy by donating to PAST based on the shopping you do every day, at no added cost to you. Once you link your card to PAST, all you have to do is shop at Kroger using the shopper's card number associated with your Kroger Plus account.

If you don't see this message at the bottom of your receipt, please connect your account to "Parents of the Academy of Science Technology" or our Kroger ID NB286:



For more information about the program or to connect/create your Kroger account, go to: krogercommunityrewards.com





Academy of Science and Technology Directory Ads

Dear Friends of the Academy,

It's time to reserve your place in The Academy of Science and Technology Student Directory! The directory is used extensively by 300+ Academy students and their families. You can purchase space in the directory to place a company advertisement and all ads are in full color. Your support will be recognized and appreciated throughout the year.

If you are a first-time contributor or if you are making changes to last year's ad, please submit files in PDF or jpeg format to rdottinpoon@gmail.com. If you are renewing your ad and require no changes, just let us know, and we will take care of the rest!

The fees for this year's directory are as follows:

- Full page back cover \$300
- Full page interior back cover \$250
- Full page interior front cover \$250
- Full page interior \$150
- Half page \$80

Payments can be mailed to the Academy office and made payable to **PAST**:
3701 College Park Drive, The Woodlands, TX 77384.

The deadline for submissions is **August 1st, 2025**. To ensure timely distribution of the directories in September, please include payment at the time the ad is ordered as well as the digital image.

We greatly appreciate your continued support and participation in The Academy of Science & Technology Student Directory for 2025-2026.

Sincerely,
Parents of the Academy of Science & Technology (PAST)



Parents of the Academy of Science & Technology (PAST) are also pleased to partner with MINTED for an exclusive online shopping experience. Simply go to [MINTED.COM](https://www.minted.com) for unique gifts, cards, ceremonial announcements, home decor, and all holiday shopping.

Please use our exclusive code: **FUNDRAISEPAST** at checkout.

You get 20% OFF your purchase! And the best part is 10% comes back to PAST.



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