



James Bowie High School

❖ Pride In Performance ❖

Monday, June 17, 2019

Dear Bowie High School Community,

After our groundbreaking on June 6, 2019, **work has begun on campus** related to the 2017 Bond. If you were unable to join us for the ceremony, you can view a [virtual flyover of the new tennis complex with three levels of parking](#) on the meeting materials page of the [AISD's 2017 Bond website](#). The **Slaughter Lane entrance to Bowie is now closed** by perimeter fencing and all traffic must use Wolftrap Drive to access campus. Crews are at work widening and deepening groundwater retention ponds and running irrigation trenching for runoff to the Akin and Sawmill tracts. Once complete, demo work will begin on the existing surface parking. We have several projects affecting the entire campus happening this summer; therefore, **all buildings on campus and grounds except the portables are closed** for modernization and summer renovations.

The JBHS **office staff working this summer are located in the portables behind campus**. The main office is located in Sage 1 and the Registrars are in Sage 2. New student enrollment is from 8:00 a.m. to noon and afternoons from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday. **Austin ISD is closed on Fridays**, and all campuses will be closed the week of the July 4th Holiday. Should you need to visit the office, please look for signage as you enter off Wolftrap Drive to direct you to the office staff in the appropriate portable behind the main campus.

Anyone not needing to pick up a document or meet with staff are encouraged to avoid campus. **Most of campus is a construction area** surrounded by chain-link fence. All spaces inside the fence are hard hat areas to be accessed by authorized personnel only. JE Dunn, the contractor for Phase 1 of Bowie modernization, is trying to get a lot of work done this summer in a very short period of time! For the safety of everyone, please avoid campus if at all possible.

Austin ISD continues to oversee **HVAC and plumbing improvements** at JBHS identified in the 2013 Bond. The administration building and A-hall of the academic building are scheduled to have replacement air conditioning units and controls systems installed this summer. Unfortunately, some of the units have been delayed by Trane, however, AISD Construction Management is working with the vendor to complete the work that was scheduled for the summer of 2019 on time. This project **will continue throughout the upcoming school year**, with B, E, and F halls scheduled to have classroom air-conditioning units replaced during Thanksgiving, Winter Break, and Spring Break. All work related to this project, including C-hall classroom and finalizing B and F hall, is scheduled to be complete in the summer of 2020. Work is also being done to shore up the heating system for campus.

As you may recall, continual pipe breakage under the Fine Arts/Athletic building this past winter pulled the heating system off line several times in the 18/19 school year. However, because extensive work is planned for the Fine Arts/Athletics building in the 2017 Bond, it will be more cost effective to implement a permanent fix to this system when that building is renovated. Therefore, to improve conditions for this year, **individual electric boilers are being installed** and tied into the existing air handling units to provide the necessary heat for the campus this year. That work is being initiated this summer and will continue through the fall to be ready when winter gets here.

The **JBHS library is getting a makeover!** The library has been cleared of all books and shelving with everything being moved to the cafeteria so that work in the library can happen this summer. New carpet and flooring is scheduled to be installed in the Bowie library. We took the opportunity to repaint the library exterior entrance and interior walls this summer as well. In addition, HVAC work is scheduled as part of the 2013 Bond. Students should really notice a difference when they return to Bowie in the fall!

I'm also excited to announce that **Ms. Walker-Leon was the recipient of a 2019 grant from the Austin Ed Fund!** The over \$3,000 grant is to support a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, & Math) **Makerspace in the library.** The library is the perfect place for a makerspace at Bowie because it promotes "invention literacy" and increases reading of nonfiction informational texts, creates problem solvers, and fosters an inclusive community for all types of learners. Thank you Ms. Walker-Leon for bringing this innovation to Bowie!

STAAR (State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness) **End of Course (EOC) results are in.** You may visit the [Texas Education Agency \(TEA\) assessment portal](#) at TexasAssessment.gov to **learn more about your child's STAAR performance**, including how questions are answered and how you can provide additional support at home. Parents recently received the letter from Dr. Cruz about accessing their STAAR scores through the portal. Parents can **find their student's unique access code in the AISD Parent Cloud** or by clicking the "Find My Access Code" on the TEA website. You will need to enter your child's Social Security Number and birth date in order to receive the unique access code for your student. Once you have received that information, you can just click GO! As a parent, you are critical partners in your child's success. The Texas Education Agency and Austin ISD are committed to making sure you are informed and have an accurate picture of your child's progress.

To comply with U.S. Department of Agriculture regulation requirements, **AISD's school lunch prices will change for the 2019–20 school year.** Austin ISD participates in the federally funded National School Lunch Program, which requires school districts to raise prices to help close the gap between the price of paid meals and the amount the federal government reimburses for free meals.

- Elementary lunch prices will increase from \$2.90 to \$3.00.
- Middle and high school lunch prices will increase from \$3.05 to \$3.15.
- Adult lunch prices will increase from \$3.75 to \$3.85.

By providing students with meals consisting of lean protein, whole grains, vegetables, fruit, and low-fat milk, our cafeterias are serving well-balanced, nutritious and tasty meals at a minimal cost. **The price increases will have no effect on students who qualify for federally subsidized meals.** In addition, breakfast meal prices will not be affected. They will remain \$1.50 for students and \$2.25 for adults.

The [2019-20 A/B Instructional Calendar](#) has been released. Please note that classes begin on a Tuesday, which is a B-day. Although information may be available in TEAMS later this summer, classes are not finalized until the first day of school. On Tuesday, August 20, 2019, we will have wall rosters posted to direct all students to their first class where they will receive their official school schedule.

Sincerely,

Mark Robinson
Principal
James Bowie High School
Follow me on [Twitter](#) @robinson_mark_a

A Recognized School of Excellence