



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

Thursday, January 9, 2020

Happy New Year, Bulldog Nation!

I hope everyone has had a peaceful and joyous new year. This semester is off to a great start at James Bowie High School!

January is School Board Recognition Month. The Texas Association of School Boards has selected “Launching the Next Generation” as this year’s theme. I hope you will join me in expressing appreciation to the Austin ISD School Board for their dedication and hard work. Serving as a board member is a significant commitment, which makes a huge impact on our school and community. We have a tremendous board with great vision, and their wise stewardship has made AISD an outstanding school district. Thank you District 7 Representative, Yasmin Wagner, and the Austin ISD School Board!

We hope you will join us for **Academic Planning Night on Monday, January 13th from 5:45-8:00PM**. This night is intended for current 9th-11th grade students and parents. We will offer multiple presentations and events that will help your child map out their courses and their college and career preparations. There will be sessions on graduation requirements and course registration, advanced academics programs (AP, ACC, UT OnRamps), and alternative post-secondary options such as vocational, technical and military opportunities. There will also be a representative from More Than a Teacher who will assist with PSAT score interpretation. Click on the link [here](#) for more information. Sessions will be recorded for those unable to attend Monday’s Academic Planning Night event in person.

The beginning of a new semester gives the Bowie staff an opportunity to revisit important issues with our students. This week, instead of attending FIT, our students are remaining in their first class each day so that their teachers can share some important informational videos. Knowing that you have an interest in what your children do at school and that we want to partner with you at every opportunity, I invite you to watch the **videos being shown this week during FIT** and discuss them with your children.

- **Wednesday’s video:** https://youtu.be/XdFgm_-jqGY. This video will provide some reminders to students about keeping the campus clean, FIT procedures and policies, and some important digital citizenship information, including an explanation of how AISD monitors student internet searches. The video also encourages students to be aware of their own mental health and provides some tips about how to get help should they need it.
- **Thursday’s video:** <https://youtu.be/G2zmtaWyi4Y>. Thursday’s video will review Bowie’s Academic Integrity Policy, which is new this year. Knowing that the consequences for engaging in academic dishonesty at the college-level are

serious, our staff is seeking to help our students develop a solid understanding of what is and what is not acceptable.

- **Friday's video:** <https://youtu.be/f63qCXNANDc>. This video will revisit the four Speak Up strategies and the Pyramid of Hate graphic that students were introduced to last semester. We are hopeful that training all staff and students in these cultural proficiency practices will help ensure that Bowie is inclusive and safe for all of its students.

One of the credit recovery programs for Bowie students is called Twilight. Twilight is a teacher- led program of direct instruction with classes offered before or after school for students to make up semester credit from failing courses. **Courses will run from January 27 to April 6, 2020. Registration will be online beginning January 15, 2020, at jbhs.org.** Registration is on a first come basis, so be on the lookout for more information so your student doesn't miss out on this opportunity to get back on track for graduation!

Seniors Don't Forget! The state priority deadline for the FAFSA/ TASFA is **January 15, 2020**. All seniors are encouraged to complete the FAFSA/ TASFA before next Wednesday to ensure they will be reviewed for all awards (scholarships, grants, loans, and work study) eligible. If you do not plan on completing the FAFSA, we do ask that you complete this waiver form: <http://bit.ly/FAFSAWaiver>. (You will notice the waiver says "Draft" because this is a new District process that we are beginning to implement with this year's graduating class and will remain in "draft" format until we receive final approval by TEA.) Please see the following helpful resources for more information:

- FAFSA overview: <http://bit.ly/2QFCnhY>
- Guide to completing the FAFSA: <http://bit.ly/2NcUPMB>

Please be sure to check out the [January Counseling Newsletter](#) for more information about academic planning and credit recovery.

Go Dawgs!
Mark Robinson

Principal
James Bowie High School
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