



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

Friday, February 7, 2020

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

National School Counseling Week is celebrated annually the first week of February, to focus public attention on the unique contribution of school counselors within U.S. school systems. The theme for 2020 is, "School Counselors: Helping Build Better Humans." National School Counseling Week, sponsored by the American School Counselor Association, highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career. Please take a minute to let your child's counselor know that they are appreciated!

February is Black History Month, and every year Bowie High School celebrates with several events on campus. This year's national theme is "African-Americans and the vote." The year 2020 marks the centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment and the culmination of the women's suffrage movement. The year 2020 also marks the sesquicentennial of the Fifteenth Amendment (1870) and the right of black men to the ballot after the Civil War. The theme speaks, therefore, to the ongoing struggle on the part of both black men and black women for the right to vote. Efforts from faculty and student volunteers, including Bowie's MCAC, will help to commemorate this special cultural celebration.

Each morning our **student and teacher-led announcements** spotlight various impactful and prominent figures in African-American history - both past and present. Students and faculty alike choose figures that are inspirational and personal to them and share with the campus their impact on American culture and the legacy they have left or will leave behind. Students get to hear and learn about African-Americans who inspire their teachers and African-Americans who inspire their fellow Bulldogs.

Bowie students can also look forward to some pep in their step as they make their way to classes this month by hearing various African-American artists and their **music in the hallways** (specifically A-hall) ranging from the earliest phases of jazz born in New Orleans, to Motown, to the 1960s, 70s, 80s, 90s, and the popular hits of today's generation! In addition to dancing to the music in the hallways, students can also look forward to the **inspirational quotes and banners** displayed around the school to celebrate Black History Month. Each teacher, in addition to signs and posters in the hallways, is also encouraged to decorate his/her door for our annual door decorating contest featuring an inspirational figure in the teacher's discipline area. Students can expect to see inspirational figures and beautifully adorned doors that feature African-American writers, poets, novelists, scientists, musicians, mathematicians, historians, etc. on their teachers' doors for the duration of the month. The **contest for the best-decorated door** will happen at the end of the month when decided upon by votes by a student panel.

We want to extend a big thank you to all of the families who participated in the **Bowie Showcase** last night. Bowie hosts an academic and extracurricular showcase every spring to highlight our programs for incoming freshman students and their families. The counselors also published an **informational [video](#) for incoming and current families**. If you would like more information about all of the wonderful programs at Bowie, check out the [course scheduling website](#). Information about course scheduling events for all grade levels is available in this month's [counseling newsletter](#). We look forward to welcoming the class of 2024 to Bulldog Nation!

Please mark your calendar for the next **Bowie HS Phase 1 Modernization Project community meeting, to be held on Wednesday, February 26, 2020**. The architects from Page will provide an update on the Athletics and Fine Arts Improvements Design Development packages at 6:30 p.m. in the Bowie HS Cafeteria. Construction of the new parking garage and tennis courts will be complete in August 2020. The construction of the new athletics building is scheduled to start in June 2020. Some construction in fine arts will also begin in Fall 2020. Everyone is welcome to join us at the meeting or tune in to the presentation [online](#).

Please be aware that JBHS will conduct a **lockdown drill on Tuesday, February 11, 2020**. The drill will be announced to students as well. We want everyone to be aware should have plans to be on campus at that time or receive a text message from your student during the event. We will have emergency management staff at Bowie to review campus safety/security procedures. Thank you all for your cooperation with these procedures to keep our students accounted for and safe.

All Bowie faculty and staff will be participating in professional development on Friday, **February 14, and Monday, February 17, 2020; therefore, both of those days are student holidays**. I hope that everyone enjoys the long weekend!

Go Dawgs!
Mark Robinson

Principal
James Bowie High School
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