



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

May 26, 2020

Dear Bulldog Nation,

Ten weeks ago, as our worlds shifted, it was hard to imagine what the “last day of school” would look like, and yet, here we are. The words of Nelson Mandela, “It always seems impossible until it’s done,” certainly resonate with me as I reflect on the collective effort of our district and campus leaders, teachers, support staff, parents, and students to reach this milestone. Thank you for your unyielding support during remote learning and as we tie-up the final loose ends of a very unusual school year!

With spring semester classes coming to a close, **it’s time for all Seniors (and anyone else not returning to Bowie in the fall) to return their AISD Chromebook, charger, and carrying case.** These items should be dropped off at one of the four designated drive-up [Chromebook Curbside](#) collection sites: Anderson High School, Austin High School, Crockett High School, or the AISD Performing Arts Center. Each site will be open daily 9:30am- 3:30pm (sites will be closed on Fridays starting next week). For estimated wait times at each Chromebook Curbside collection site go to bit.ly/aisdcomputerwait. Thank you to our seniors for taking care of this important task at their earliest convenience.

Most seniors also need to order their final transcript from the Bowie registrars (click [HERE](#) to access the order form). Given the limitations that we are all working with, this year Austin ISD will be emailing all students an **unofficial** copy of their transcript. However, colleges and many other programs will require an **official** transcript as proof of graduation before allowing students to register for their college classes. Seniors who participated in one of the dual credit programs will need to contact ACC or UT to request an official transcript be sent to their college in order to receive credit on their college transcript.

For those students who will be attending Bowie in the fall, it is very important that they and their parents/guardians review the course verification email sent a few days ago. This verification is not the student’s schedule (class order by period), but rather a list of the courses selected by the student. **If there is an error in the courses listed, if the student has changed their mind about taking a particular course, or if the student wants to change the level of the course (from Academic to AP for example), the parent must communicate the correction or submit the request to BowieData@austinisd.org by Tuesday, June 2, 2020.** No action is required if the courses listed in the verification email are satisfactory.

While we don’t yet know how the coronavirus crisis will impact how we “do school” in the fall, the Bowie teachers are already making plans to address and remediate the academic gaps that will inevitably exist for many of our students because of the unfortunate disruption to their

learning. In mid-July I will be sharing some resources with you, developed by our Bowie teachers to help all students sharpen their academic skills, particularly math and reading competencies, in preparation for a return to learning in August. In addition to these forthcoming optional activities for continuous learning during the summer, keep in mind that some pre-AP and AP classes require students to complete assignments over the summer that will be submitted for a grade within the first week or two of school (click [HERE](#) for more information about summer assignments for Pre-AP and AP courses). Bowie teachers will be providing virtual tutoring July 27-August 7 to help students with the optional activities and the required Pre-AP/AP summer assignments.

One of the silver linings of closing the campus early this year is that the contractors are getting a jump start on the demolition and site preparation necessary to begin work on the new athletics complex. If you missed the most recent bond community meeting and update, I invite you to watch it [HERE](#) to preview the exciting design plans for the new athletics and fine arts facilities. **In the interest of safety during on-going and upcoming construction, the entire Bowie campus, including the main office, track, and athletics fields, are closed for the summer.** There will be a small administrative staff working remotely Mondays through Thursdays throughout the summer, so please do not hesitate to reach out if you need assistance. The best way to reach a staff member is to email Katie Gilman at katie.gilman@austinisd.org. You may also call the Bowie main phone number 512-414-5247, as she will be checking messages periodically.

The school year started with parking difficulties but is ending with some good parking-related news. The parking garage and tennis complex remain on schedule with an anticipated August completion. Our rising juniors and seniors will be pleased to know that there will be plenty of permits and that they will be able to park within a short walk to the school's entrance. As promised to them earlier this year, rising seniors will be given first pick of permits based on their attendance record. I encourage all parents with student drivers to review the [2020-21 parking plan](#) which explains how and when to purchase a parking permit (the plan has also been posted on the JBHS website for your future reference).

Until we can meet at the tree,

Mark Robinson
Principal, James Bowie High School
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