



James Bowie High School

❖ Pride In Performance ❖

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Greetings Bulldog Nation,

To ensure that its students are positioned to be competitive in the college application process, Austin ISD pays for every **10th and 11th grade student to take the College Board's Practice SAT (PSAT)**. This exam will be administered at Bowie HS **on Wednesday, October 10, 2018**, from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. In advance of the test, please encourage your student to visit <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/practice> to learn more about the test's structure and access sample test questions, and to access personalized practice materials on Khan Academy (www.khanacademy.com). Although it's not required, **students are encouraged to bring a graphing calculator to the PSAT**. Let your student know that it's important they give their best effort so they are in the running for scholarships and are on-track in their SAT preparations.

While our sophomores and juniors are taking the PSAT on Wednesday, October 10, **freshmen will participate in activities planned to empower them as high school students**. Students will hear from author and motivational speaker Kacy Benson, complete an online Growth Mindset module, engage in team-building activities with JBHS student leaders, and attend a session to support mental health. We are very excited about what we have planned for our freshmen!

There are **also a number of activities planned for seniors** on October 10th. Some seniors will be required to retake or make up the TSI college-readiness exam. Students who are not required to take this exam may participate in an activity of their choice: (1) college application & FAFSA workshop; (2) college visit; (3) Apply Texas application to ACC; or (4) financial literacy seminar. More detailed information about the senior activities is available on the JBHS website.

We are seeing an upward trend in the possession and usage of e-cigarettes, commonly known as 'vapes' or 'juuls.' The practice of inhaling through a vape pen can be known as "juuling," named after a brand called JUUL, which is a portable "nicotine-delivery device" designed to mimic the physical and sensory experience of a cigarette, without looking like one.

We are calling your attention to this trend as the safety and well-being of all students is our highest priority. Electronic cigarettes are devices that utilize stored electricity to heat a liquid into vapors, which are then inhaled by the user. The liquid can be anything from a flavored water-type mixture to liquid nicotine to THC, the principal active element of marijuana. While e-cigarettes are touted as a 'safer' alternative to cigarettes, there is little evidence of this. E-cigarette pods are filled with a variety of chemicals and are not regulated by the FDA.

JUUL is amazingly discreet and looks just like a flash drive, so it is easy for teens to hide at school or home. Our goal is to make parents aware of this so they may assist schools in battling the growing epidemic. We also ask that you consider speaking with your son and/or daughter about this topic. **Per AISD policy, e-cigarettes, vaping devices, pods, and any other accessories are not permitted on Bowie's campus, and students found in possession of, using, or distributing them will receive consequences.**

September 25 is National Voter Registration Day. The deadline to register to vote in the November election is October 9, 2018. Everyone is encouraged to vote!

This Friday, September 28, 2018, is the **end of the first six weeks**. Please reference Parent Connect and check in with your student about his/her grades to be sure there are no surprises when we run report cards! The following Friday, October 5, as well as Monday, October 8, are student holidays at JBHS. Teachers will be engaged in high-quality professional development on both of those days.

Sincerely,

Mark Robinson
Principal
James Bowie High School
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A Recognized School of Excellence

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