



James Bowie High School

❖ Pride In Performance ❖

Tuesday, October 2, 2018

Greetings Bulldog Nation,

The Peer Mentoring for Freshmen program is launching this month! The purpose of this program is to provide academic and/or social support for 9th graders in their transition to high school. Serving as mentors are juniors and seniors who have shown an interest in, and capacity for, helping others. All peer mentors have been trained through their Student Leadership class to work with their assigned 9th grade students. Peer mentors will help convey the expectations and the realities of high school, including time management, stress management and setting priorities. Peer mentors will also provide guidance about resources in the high school and how to access them - from academic assistance from teachers, to the 9th Grade Tutoring Center, to accessing social-emotional support. Freshmen can be nominated for the program by a teacher, counselor, administrator, or parent. Students may also self-nominate. Nominations may be submitted using the following link:

<https://goo.gl/forms/Ta5xohNicIkYALQY2>

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. 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. **Students who are testing will need to bring a graphing calculator with them to the test administration.**

While our sophomores and juniors are testing on Wednesday, October 10, **freshmen will participate in activities** planned to empower them as high school students. Students will listen to author and motivational speaker Kacy Benson, complete an online Growth Mindset module, view [Screenagers](#), and attend a session to support mental health. We are very excited about what we have planned for our students! Parents are invited to view the *Screenagers* film on Monday, October 8th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Please RSVP <http://bit.ly/Bowiemovie> to join us.

One of our goals at Bowie High School is to have all students graduate college and career ready. Therefore, our **seniors will have several opportunities** to get one step closer on October 10. Some seniors will be required to take the TSI college-readiness exam, while other seniors must complete one of the following field experiences: visit a local college, complete the Apply Texas application to Austin Community College, work on their college applications in Bowie's College and Career Center, or attend the Financial Literacy Summit in the Bowie band hall. Seniors will receive information about documenting their experience and are not limited to only one activity. Details about the October 10th options for seniors is available [here](#). Regardless of their activity, all seniors must be on campus by 2 p.m.

Juniors and their parents should be attentive to several opportunities related to college entrance exams. In addition to the October 10th PSAT, juniors are encouraged to take a free, mock ACT from 9:00-12:00 on Saturday, November 10, 2018, (register [here](#)) to discern which exam may better reflect their strengths. Juniors should also note as they start scheduling their college entrance exams for the spring semester that for the first time **AISD is paying for Juniors to take the SAT at Bowie during the school day**, saving \$47.50 in exam fees per student. Students in the Class of 2020 cohort will take the SAT on Tuesday, April 9, 2019.

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) is a 100+ year old global anti-hate organization whose long standing commitment is to secure justice and fair treatment for all people. ADL's No Place for Hate initiative is a school climate improvement program that provides schools with an organizing framework for combating bias, bullying, and hatred. To be designated by ADL as an official No Place for Hate campus, Bowie is expected to develop and implement at least three schoolwide activities each year that enhance students' understanding of these issues.

Bowie's first No Place for Hate school-wide activity is scheduled for the afternoon of Wednesday, October 10, 2018. In conjunction with the celebration of the 30th anniversary of Bowie's dedication, the Student Leadership class is organizing a No Place for Hate Fair for the student body. In addition to signing a No Place for Hate pledge and watching a student-created video about combating bias, bullying, and hatred, students will experience carnival-style game booths with No Place for Hate themes, such as Ring Toss = Toss Around Kindness, Face Painting = Face the Hate, Photo Booth = Smile Big, Dream Bigger, and more!

Austin Ed Fund is Austin ISD non-profit education foundation. They connect the success, leadership, vision, and innovation of Austin with our public schools. Please consider donating to support innovative campus and district projects in Austin ISD. Last year Bowie High School received a grant for the Botdawgs Robotics Club. The Botdawgs pathway project will support students in the STEM classroom, allow them to earn graduation credit and endorsements, and make our students more competitive in college admissions. Pathway for the Botdawgs Project seeks to build a robust Computer Science program with a Robotics pathway providing access to classroom robotics kits, equipment, and curriculum -- enabling students to imagine, program, and produce! **Visit the Austin Ed Fund** at <http://www.austinedfund.org/>. For more information or assistance, please contact Juliana Castillo at 512-414-9851 or juliana.castillo@austinisd.org.

Sincerely,

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

A Recognized School of Excellence

4103 W. Slaughter Lane • Austin, Texas 78749 • 512-414-5247 • FAX 512-292-0527