



James Bowie High School

❖ Pride In Performance ❖

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

Greetings Bulldog Nation,

For the last eight months, Bowie's Campus Architectural Team (CAT), comprised of teachers, administrators, staff, parents, and community members, has been diligently working with architects from Page to develop a master plan for the complete modernization of the campus. The 2017 bond will be used to pay for the first phase of the master plan which will include solutions to the parking shortage and right-sizing the athletics and fine arts instructional spaces, as well as updating technology, HVAC, and plumbing across the campus. **To learn more about what's planned for Bowie's future and the specific construction projects to begin in the spring of 2019, join us for a community meeting from 6:30-8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 14, 2018, in the Bowie cafeteria.** The meeting will also be broadcast via Facebook Live (search for the "JBHS Community News" page and click the "Videos" link on the left) and will be recorded and posted to www.jbhs.org for viewing after the event. For more information about the AISD 2017 bond go to www.austinisd2017bond.org.

The new **diverging diamond intersection (DDI) will open at MoPac and Slaughter Lane on Sunday, November 11, 2018**, weather permitting. Crews will have to close the Slaughter Lane bridge to stripe the DDI configuration before it can open. Work is anticipated to begin at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 10, and the DDI will open to traffic by 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 11, again, weather permitting. Police officers will be on site during this work to help direct traffic, and as needed for up to one week following the opening. Final striping, permanent signals and all permanent overhead signs for the bridge will be installed by early 2019. In the meantime, additional signage and lane markings will be in place to help motorists travel through the intersection until the permanent signs can be installed. Once the DDI is open, traffic flow in the area should improve.

Need more information on how to drive through a DDI? Check out the [video simulation on YouTube](#) and read through the attached DDI Fact Sheet. This information is also available on the [MoPac Intersections Project webpage](#). **Please share this information with your student driver!**

Our front office is always a busy place at Bowie, and in order to provide the best customer service to our parents, guardians, visitors and students we want to remind everyone of the check-out procedures at the front desk. **If a student is driving off campus without a Parent/Guardian signing them out in person**, students must turn in Parent/Guardian note to the Bowie front office for approval. The note must include the requestor's name, phone number, student's name and identification number, the exact time to be released, reason, and mode of transportation, ie....driving, walking, biking. You may find more information on all check-out procedures at the following link: [Releasing Students](#)

The window for **nominating students to the gifted program** is open through November 16th for students **not previously identified** in earlier grades. The process includes several steps: nomination, screening, the testing process during the school day, and possible selection. At the high school level, the gifted program requires students to take Pre-AP and AP courses in the areas where they show that ability. There are no "pull-out" programs or GT classes per se, nor is identification of giftedness on the student's official transcript. More information about the GT program and the nomination process can be found [here](#) on the JBHS website.

Cold and flu season is beginning! Flu viruses spread through droplets from an infected individual when they cough, sneeze, or talk. The droplets containing the virus can travel from person to person in close contact or

land on an object or surface where unsuspecting individuals may touch and then later touch their mouth, eyes, or nose before washing their hands. Symptoms (Fever, Chills, Headache, Body Aches or Weakness, Nausea, Sore Throat, Cough, and Congestion) do not usually develop suddenly and the infected individual will not show signs or symptoms until a day or two and may have already passed the virus on to others. This is why it is important to follow the three-step approach or, at the minimum, the everyday preventive actions as recommended by the CDC below.

*“CDC recommends a three-step approach to fighting influenza (flu). The first and most important step is to get a **flu vaccination** each year. But if you get the flu, there are prescription antiviral drugs that can treat your illness. **Early treatment** is especially important for the elderly, the very young, people with certain chronic health conditions, and pregnant women. Finally, **everyday preventive actions** may slow the spread of germs that cause respiratory (nose, throat, and lungs) illnesses, like flu.”*

What are everyday preventive actions?

- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you or your child gets sick with flu-like illness, CDC recommends that you (or your child) stay home for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. The fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.
- While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs like the flu.
- If an outbreak of flu or another illness occurs, follow public health advice. This may include information about how to increase distance between people and other measures.

For more information, visit: www.cdc.gov/flu or call **1-800-CDC-INFO**

The campus will be closed while students and teachers are on **Thanksgiving break from Monday, November 19 through Friday, November 23, 2018**. It is the perfect time of year to pause and reflect on all that we are thankful for. First and foremost, I am SO thankful for the opportunity to be the principal of the best high school in the state of Texas, James Bowie High School. Thank you for the chance to work with your children as we – parents, faculty, and staff – all collaborate to provide a world class education, with something for everyone and tailored to you! In addition, thank you so much for your support of the AISD 2017 bond initiative that will “right size” our campus so that we may maintain our high quality instructional and extracurricular programs. Bulldog Nation has a lot to be thankful for this year!

Sincerely,

Mark Robinson
Principal
James Bowie High School
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