



James Bowie High School

❖ Pride In Performance ❖

Monday, November 13, 2017

Greetings Bowie High School Community,

Congratulations to our JBHS yearbook, *The Lone Star!* The 2017 yearbook has been selected for one of the most prestigious awards for excellence in student publishing, the Columbia Scholastic Press Association [Gold Crown Award](#). Just 59 schools across the United States will receive the award this year. The Lone Star is one of 12 schools in Texas named, and one of three in Central Texas. Kudos!

Austin Police Operation Blue Santa was started over 45 years ago by four officers with the Austin Police Department who saw a need to share the Christmas experience with the less fortunate residents of Austin. The first year, 20 children were provided gifts. Today, Austin Police Operation Blue Santa is a non-profit organization comprised of Austin Police Department, Austin ISD Police Department, Austin Water, Austin Energy, and the Texas National Guard. Their goal is to serve 5,000 Austin families this year, which is about 20,000 children. Each family will receive a full holiday meal and wrapped Christmas gifts for each child under age 14. This is only possible because of the goodwill and big hearts of Austin's citizens, businesses, and civic groups. Bowie will have a collection box in the front office where, if you are able to donate, you can drop off new unwrapped toys. The last day for donations will be December 1, 2017.

AISD's [EVERYONE:1](#) initiative will issue a laptop to every Bowie student to use at school and at home throughout their four years of high school. These state-of-the-art devices, known as "two-in-one" Chromebooks, convert to a tablet with a touchscreen and includes a durable sleeve. Students will be expected to treat the Chromebooks carefully, but an extended warranty is included to allow damaged devices to be quickly repaired, if necessary. Whether students are at school or at home, the AISD-provided internet filtering will guard against websites with inappropriate content. In conjunction with BLEND, the district's new learning management system, these Chromebooks will better equip our students as they prepare for twenty-first century careers. To learn more about the initiative, please refer to the online [EVERYONE:1 Handbook](#).

Chromebooks will be distributed to students in mid-December. The day Chromebooks are assigned, students will receive training on using the device and digital citizenship. We want to ensure that students understand how to behave safely in a digital environment and how to ensure that their technology is usable for as long as possible. Resources are also available for parents through [Common Sense Media](#). **Before Bowie HS can issue a Chromebook to your student, you must complete and submit the [online consent form](#) found within the [Parent Cloud](#).** If you do not have an AISD Parent Cloud account, please follow the [instructions](#) to set up your account, so you can electronically sign the consent form. If you prefer that your student use a personal computer from home, please ensure the computer meets the requirements outlined in the Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) section of the [EVERYONE:1 Handbook](#). That requirement includes a 10-inch screen or larger.

Thank you, Bulldog Nation for voting in support of the AISD 2017 Bond. Your approval of the bond proposal will have a direct impact on modernizing JBHS and developing 21st-century learning spaces for our students. One more reason to be thankful this holiday season!

Sincerely,



Mark Robinson

Principal

James Bowie High School

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