



James Bowie High School

❖ Pride In Performance ❖

Monday, December 17, 2018

Greetings Bulldog Nation,

Thank you all for your support of Bowie High School. I appreciate the way that the community has rallied around the school to support our students. I am proud to serve a community that understands there must always be hope in response to adversity.

Our C Day schedule is running as planned, giving all students one more opportunity to see their teachers before finals begin tomorrow. Students were also able to pick up their attendance incentive certificates today. There were some errors in the data that will require some students to pick up their incentive at the end of the day today, or first thing tomorrow morning. Student attendance has improved significantly because of this and other programs, so we want to be sure all students who earned an incentive receive that for finals.

I appreciate everyone's flexibility in response to the exam schedule. I know that students are concerned about adding one more exam to the schedule for the next two days, however, that was the only way we felt we could make up finals without cutting into Winter Break and holding classes on Friday. We added a 40 minute lunch period to the schedule, and since that is not enough time for seniors to leave campus we will have a closed campus for lunch the rest of this week. I appreciate AISD Nutrition & Food Services for serving lunch on Tuesday and Wednesday. I also appreciate AISD Transportation for adapting to our unique bell schedule for Monday through Wednesday, and thank you, parents, for adjusting your schedules for the new pick up times.

In this morning's announcements, I tried to acknowledge the feelings of concern caused by this crime against our school. In my comments I did not mean to equate what happened at Bowie to school shootings, only acknowledge that students may be concerned that since this happened, something worse than vandalism could also occur at Bowie. It is tragic that crimes against schools have become the reality for our children, and I am sad that it is something they think about. I want to emphasize that students are safe at school. I informed the students the facts about what happened between Thursday and today, and I shared my anger about the lawbreaking and sadness that so many innocent lives were impacted by this event. I told the students that I was channeling those feelings into advocacy and pride in our school community because, "no matter the circumstances, there must always be hope." Bowie will rise from this event and I encouraged them to share their thoughts on how they think we do that with a trusted adult.

I especially want to thank the Bowie PTSA for their #BowieStrong campaign. In collaboration with the 2019 Build Up Bowie Campaign, we are going to work with the district on replacing and supplementing campus security equipment. While there are dollars earmarked for campus security in the 2017 Bond, we see those funds going to structural improvements and redesign of the campus. Any security equipment that we install now, could be salvaged and reinstalled after future renovations. <https://www.bowieptsa.org/bowiestrong>

I believe everyone was happy to be back at school today – teachers and students. Thank you again for your trust and support of Bulldog Nation. We are BowieStrong!

Sincerely,

Mark Robinson
Principal

A Recognized School of Excellence