



# James Bowie High School

❖ Pride In Performance ❖

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

**Congratulations go to our National Merit Scholars!** L. Cottle, D. Baltoi, T. David, and C. Martin have all been named National Merit Finalists. To become a Finalist, the Semifinalist must submit a detailed scholarship application, in which they provide information about their academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received. A Semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT® scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test. All National Merit Scholarship winners will be selected from this group of Finalists in the spring of 2018. Merit Scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies, without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

This February marks another year of celebration for Bowie in honoring Black History Month! Bowie is proud to celebrate the lives, legacy, and culture of African-Americans in our community and the nation-at-large. **The Bowie community celebrates Black History Month** in ways large and small: from enjoying music by African-American artists in the hallways during passing periods, to seeing banners with inspirational quotes by African-Americans in each academic hallway, to enjoying classroom doors decorated by teachers and students with themes featuring African-Americans in each class/discipline and hearing an informative morning announcement (by students and staff!) featuring the life and accomplishments of a prominent figure in African-American history. Bowie continues a faculty tradition of a Soul Food Luncheon at the end of the month to share in the special culinary traditions and skills of faculty and staff as well as announcing the winners of the door-decorating contest.

This year, however, is a very special year for Bowie's Black History Month celebration due to a special culminating event on February 23, 2018, in which a school-wide assembly will be held in the Bowie gym to feature special guest speakers, singers, and performers, as well as Bowie's own students and faculty sharing talents and words to celebrate and commemorate this yearly celebration and African-American culture nationwide. Bowie continues to be a special place in which we don't just acknowledge diversity, but we embrace and celebrate the beauty and unifying power that diversity brings. **If you would like to donate support** to the events this month, please visit the PTSA website at: <https://www.bowieptsa.org/single-post/2018/02/11/Help-Celebrate-Black-History-Month>

Austin ISD will honor the heritage of African-Americans and their legacies throughout the school district at the **35th Annual African-American Heritage Celebration**. This year's theme, "AISD Got Talent," celebrates students for their academic success, highlights winners of the district-wide essay competition, and honors community leaders and stakeholders with awards in giving, educational leadership, volunteer service, distinguished service and others. This year's program will feature entertainment from Eastside Memorial Early College High School. For more information, please call 512.414.0216. Please join us from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. on February 18, 2018, at the Austin ISD Performing Arts Center, located at 1500 Barbara Jordan Blvd. for the celebration.

The **AISD Cloud (my.austinisd.org)** has been updated to include a new tile for parents/guardians and students to view the percent of attendance by course. This tile includes the percent of attendance for all students and all grade levels. Please encourage your child to attend Attendance Recovery if the student's attendance has fallen below 90%, or contact your child's assistant principal with questions. Please see the flyer attached for more information.

Bowie is offering another semester of **after school Attendance Recovery** (in addition to regular Saturday School) to give students ample time to make-up excessive absences in their classes. Students are eligible to attend after school Attendance Recovery sessions on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays each week, from 4:45-6:15 p.m, beginning Tuesday, February 20 through May, if they have 4 or more UNEXCUSED absences in any single class. The after school Attendance Recovery sessions are in A-119 with Ms. Pfeiffer, and B-113 with Ms. Jamison; students must add themselves to the posted sign-up sheet on the teacher's door to reserve a spot. Students are expected to bring something to work on or read for the duration of the session.

**A quick reminder that Monday, February 19, 2018, is a student holiday.** Staff will be participating in professional development. Enjoy the long weekend!

Go Dawgs!



Mark Robinson, Principal

James Bowie High School

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*A Recognized School of Excellence*

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