



James Bowie High School

❖ **Pride In Performance** ❖

Friday, March 9, 2018

As we continue to have conversations about campus safety and security with students, parents, staff, and the district administration, our intention is to implement reasonable changes at the appropriate time. We all recognize the trade off between security and convenience. For example, requiring all visitors to check in at the office when visiting campus takes time; however, all adults on campus wearing some sort of badge communicates to our students that those individuals are cleared and safe to be in the building or on the campus grounds. Limiting access to campus to a single point of entry may not be the most convenient for our guests, but it is definitely best practice and provides the most security. As parents and public citizens, we all participate in these security systems because we know these measures are in place to protect our children.

Normal “office hours” at JBHS are 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Of course, we often have events on campus like games and performances that are open to the public after school and on weekends. We appreciate you coming to support our students and programs! However, when school is in session, the **campus is not for public use between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.** We know that students may have practice before and after school and the facilities are first and foremost for them as learning spaces. [Board Policy GKD \(Local\)](#) permits public use of school facilities by non-school groups for educational, recreational, civic, or social activities when these activities do not conflict with school use or Board Policy.

Bowie High School is adjacent to the Circle C Veloway. The Veloway is a wheels only park and closed to pedestrian traffic. Therefore, students should not be walking through the Veloway to get to school. There is a boundary fence between the campus and park that serves a secure barrier so that all traffic is routed to the front of the campus. The fence is in disrepair and will be upgraded after Spring Break. Any bicycle traffic between the campus and Veloway will be rerouted through the neighborhood. We appreciate everyone’s understanding that this **perimeter fence around campus is important for the security of our students and campus.**

Communication may be the single most important factor in safety and security. You entrust us with your most precious resource, and we want you to know what is happening at school. It is important that you understand the reasoning that goes into decisions so that you can reinforce the message with your student. Of course, communication is two-way, so please continue to give us feedback. Thank you for your support of Bowie!

Finally, a reminder that Bowie High School will be closed from March 12 through March 16, 2018, for Spring Break. I hope that everyone has a fun, safe, and restful break.

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson, Principal

James Bowie High School

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