



James Bowie High School

❖ Pride In Performance ❖

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Greetings Bowie High School Community,

Club Fair is taking place in the courtyard today. Students have the opportunity to shop perspective clubs from information stations during both lunches today. We want everyone to be connected and get involved at Bowie High School. If students don't see something that they are interested in at Club Fair, they are encouraged to find a faculty sponsor and start a new club. Applications to start a new club can be found at JBHS.com. **Please ask your student what club he/she is planning to join this year!**

As you know, regular attendance at school is critical for your child's academic success. With that in mind, we would like to share some **important notes about attendance.** School starts at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m. Students need to be in their classrooms ready to work before the tardy bell rings. Students are considered tardy if they are absent from class during the first fifteen minutes of the period. One of our campus improvement plan goals is to **increase average daily attendance to at least 96.5%** to move us into the first quartile with our campus comparison group. If you child is ill and contagious, please keep him/her home. However, if they are well enough to attend school, please make sure they do. We don't want them to miss anything!

Austin ISD is required to submit its attendance to the Texas Education Agency reflecting student attendance at a specific time each day. Please try to schedule appointments for your child after school, but if that is too difficult, try and **schedule appointments before/after the official attendance-recording time of 1:25 p.m.** Part of the school funding formula is based on average daily attendance. We want students to be counted present for the day as much as possible! If we increase average daily attendance in Austin ISD we increase funding, and every little bit helps!

All high school students must be in **attendance for a minimum of ninety percent (90%)** of the total number of days the class is offered. No distinction is made between excused and unexcused absences. When your child is absent, please make sure you provide written documentation for the absence. Notes from parents may be emailed from the parent's email address to the [campus attendance clerk](#). There are incentives for student attendance as well. A more detailed description of the Austin ISD Absence and Attendance policy can be found directly in each [2017-2018 Student/Parent Handbook](#) or the [Attendance and Learning](#) page of the Bowie High School website.

We are **well underway with athletic events** on campus! Everyone is encouraged to come to campus, travel to [Burger](#) or away games, and watch our students compete. **Please be mindful of the following:**

1. All AISD campuses are alcohol free, drug free, and weapons free zones. Per Texas law, possession of and consumption of alcohol on school properties is prohibited.

2. Outside food and drink are not allowed in the stadium. This includes YETI cups, so please leave those in the car.
3. Parking is also not permissible in any fire lane indicated by a red curb and marked "tow away zone." Please respect all posted signage, including those at after school events.
4. The field of play is for students and teachers participating in the event. Parents and students attending the event as spectators are not allowed on the court or through the fence to the track and field.
5. No pets allowed on AISD campuses with the exception of service animals.
6. All trash must be removed from campus gyms and fields after attending an event. Please be responsible for your waste.
7. Austin ISD is not responsible or liable for accidents, damage, loss or theft of materials/items/personal property at AISD facilities.
8. These rules are not intended to have any priority over requirements of law enforcement agencies nor the Fire Department.

Please note that students are not allowed to bring backpacks into the stadium. All students must be **picked up between 9:45 and 10:00 p.m.** on the home side when the game ends. When teams and organizations return to campus, buses will unload on the side between the band hall, gyms and the tennis courts. Please park in the front parking lot and wait for your student to walk out to pick him/her up. We want everyone to enjoy the game and hope that a reminder of some of the regulations in place will lessen frustration at events.

Schools are reviewing and revising guidelines for preventing and dealing with bullying in response to SB 179, also known as David's Law, which passed over the summer. **Schools are now required to take more aggressive action in response to cyberbullying**, even when it occurs off campus. Therefore, bullying, and especially cyberbullying, are topics that we will be updating and educating our students about this year. Administrators and counselors are meeting with all 9th graders this week to review David's Law and how it can affect them at school. At the end of the lesson, our students will take [David's pledge](#). We will be speaking to upperclassmen to review the legislation and its implications for student behavior in response to David's Law in the upcoming weeks. Please speak with your child about the dangers of cyberbullying, including the real world consequences for everyone involved.

Sincerely,



Mark Robinson
Principal
James Bowie High School
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A Recognized School of Excellence

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