



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

January 17, 2024

Good Afternoon, Bulldog Nation!

As you are well aware, our school community has experienced temperatures below freezing for the last several days. Fortunately, Bowie High School has weathered our cold snap relatively well, so we have not had to cancel classes due to facilities issues. Unfortunately, that has not been accomplished without some significant challenges, given the unique design and construction of Bowie High School.

As you know, the academic building does not have climate-controlled hallways. Therefore, building operators wrapped all the water fountains last Friday to protect them through the weekend. We only had one set freeze, but we have kept the rest wrapped until temperatures get above freezing. During the morning announcements, students were directed to use the water fountains in the fine arts and athletics buildings since they are located in interior spaces and the machines are accessible. They were also encouraged to bring a full reusable water bottle to campus on cold days if that is not already part of their normal routine. The District is scheduled to deliver a pallet of bottled water to the academic building today.

Unfortunately, restrooms in the academic building are also in exposed hallways, which resulted in some toilets in each restroom freezing on every hall. Our housekeeping staff has worked to identify those that are currently out of order and wrap them. Overnight, a pipe burst behind the wall in the second floor F Hall restrooms, which caused water to cascade down one of the sets of stairs. Those particular restrooms are closed, and that set of stairs has been sectioned off with caution tape; however, students are still able to access the second floor in multiple other ways.

The heating system on campus has held up, but we do have a couple of cold classrooms in the academic building. Technicians are on site and working to bring those air conditioning units back online. We have requested temporary heating units for all of the classrooms in the G/H building since the climate control system in those five classrooms has not functioned consistently this school year.



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

The challenges the weather has presented did not stop our Fine Arts department from continuing their amazing work. We are very excited to open the musical, *Big Fish*, at Bowie High School in the auditorium this evening! Music for the performance is being piped in from the old theater where our students will be playing live. We have taken steps to bolster the heat in the old theater and address some lingering plumbing issues in this specific location. Additional attention has been brought to other specific areas around campus, including getting the water line to the Agriculture farm back on after it was turned off for repairs over the weekend.

As always, thank you for everything that you do to support Bowie High School. We greatly appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to solve problems while we plan for more permanent improvement solutions using the current and future AISD bonds.

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson
Principal