



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

February 1, 2024

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

BLACK HISTORY MONTH - Black History Month is a time every year that we intentionally highlight and celebrate the contributions of Black Americans to our nation. We would not be where we are today if it were not for heroes like Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass, the Freedom Riders and other change makers of the Civil Rights Movement-- but we also wouldn't be here without talented Black teachers, scientists, doctors, athletes, artists, activists, mothers and fathers, and more. We celebrate the people whose accomplishments shape our society, and we grieve the people whose names and contributions we don't know because of the darkness of racism.

To celebrate Black History Month at Bowie, teachers will highlight the contributions of a Black Americans during morning announcements and participate in a Black History Month door-decorating contest. Additionally, during FIT, students are invited to a live poetry reading and open mic event on February 13 in the library and to Black Table Talk student-led discussion sessions on February 8, 16, and 23. Thank you for fostering awareness in your student about the value of these activities.

AISD CHROMEBOOKS - During the month of February, students will be taking assessments that will require them to have their FULLY CHARGED, DISTRICT ISSUED CHROMEBOOK. Sophomores will be taking the English II Stand Alone Field Test on Tuesday, February 6. Freshmen, sophomores and juniors will be taking STAAR End Of Course Interim Assessments in the classroom throughout the month of February. Students who typically bring their own device need to be sure that they are bringing their school issued Chromebook EVERY DAY throughout the month of February. And don't forget to charge it!

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT - At Bowie, we take civic engagement very seriously! We want all parents, staff, and students who are 18 to vote in the upcoming 2024 primary and general elections. This past week, we had the League of Women Voters on campus to educate students on civic presentation and help eligible seniors registered to vote. If you live in Travis County, you can [check your registration status](#) with the link provided. If you are not registered, take a few minutes to [register online](#). You can also go online for more [information about upcoming elections](#). The health of our republic depends on the engagement and participation of all its citizens. Please make your voice heard throughout this next year!

TEACHER OF THE YEAR - I am pleased to announce that Jacob Morgan was selected by the Bowie faculty as the 2023-24 Teacher of the Year! Mr. Morgan is an experienced, creative, and nurturing educator who works in the English department, teaching Advanced English I, Academic English III, and



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Creative Writing. Since his arrival at Bowie in 2014, he has been an integral part of the Bowie community, always going above and beyond to support students, colleagues, and families. Mr. Morgan now advances to the competition for the Austin ISD high school teacher of the year award. Thank you, Mr. Morgan, for making Bowie a better place every day!

TEACHER OF PROMISE - A Teacher of Promise is someone who shows great promise as a beginning teacher by showing that they care about students and their success. Additionally, they are an active participant in the entire school community and work towards improving the campus environment. This year's Teacher of Promise is Social Studies teacher Ms. Jessica Isaacs! We believe Ms. Isaacs has already done many great things here at Bowie, and we look forward to all that she will accomplish in the future.

SALUTE AWARD NOMINATIONS - Big news! For 2024, Austin ISD is expanding our Salute Awards and recognizing campus staff in TEN categories! The winners will be celebrated at our Salute Awards ceremony on May 8, where we will also honor Teachers of Promise and Teachers of the Year. Nominations can be submitted by all Austin ISD staff, students, families, and community members. [Please submit nominations using this form](#). Nominations close on February 9, 2024.

NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK - National School Counseling Week 2024 will be celebrated from February 5 - 9 to focus public attention on the unique contribution of school counselors within U.S. school systems. National School Counseling Week highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career. The 2024 theme is "School Counseling: Standards-Based, Student-Focused."

Please help us thank our school counselors for all that they do! They help students examine their abilities, strengths, interests and talents; work in a partnership with parents as they encounter the challenges of raising children in today's world; enhance students' academic, career and social-emotional development; and work with teachers and other educators to provide an educational system where students can set healthy, realistic and optimistic aspirations for themselves. School counselors are certified, experienced educators with a master's degree in school counseling. The combination of their training and experience makes them an integral part of the total educational program.

Our Counseling Team consists of 7 School Counselors, 1 Wellness Counselor, 1 College and Career Counselor and 1 Licensed Mental Health Professional. For more information about our Counseling Team, please visit our [website](#). Please take the opportunity to let the team know they are appreciated!

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson
Principal