



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

January 9, 2025

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

We hope your family had a restful break, and we're excited to welcome our students back for a great second semester. We also want to take a moment to remind families to periodically check the Bowie website at bowie.austinschools.org for information and updates.

DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP CONCERNS - Our local apartment communities have contacted us regarding concerns about Bowie student and parent use of their parking facilities during drop-off and pick-up times. Non-resident Bowie cars have been parking in their guest and residents' spaces at the end of the school day and then becoming non-compliant when they are asked to move. Additionally, dozens of students enter the complex beyond the gates to wait to be picked up, and non-resident cars have tailed residents to enter the gates and retrieve their students. It is imperative that Bowie students and parents do not use the nearby apartment parking lots to circumvent the drop-off and pick-up loop at the front of the campus. Thank you for helping us maintain good relations with our neighbors and keeping our campus safe by respecting the established protocols for traffic and parking.

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR AP EXAMS - If your student receives accommodations through their 504 or IEP, testing accommodations must be approved by the College Board before the AP Exams. The deadline to request accommodations for AP Exams is January 15. Students only need to complete this process once throughout high school; approved accommodations follow them year to year for AP Exams. If you need support with this process, please reach out to our testing coordinator, Wendy Escobedo, at wendy.escobedo@austinisd.org.

AP EXAM REGISTRATION - If you have a student enrolled in a Spring-Semester Only Advanced Placement course, students will have an opportunity to receive college credit by taking the AP Exam. AP Registration will only be open for students currently enrolled in AP United States Government, AP Comparative Government, AP Macroeconomics, and AP Microeconomics. AP Exam Registration will open on February 3. A \$40.00 late fee will be applied starting February 23. AP Exam Registration will close by 11:59 pm on March 7.

AP Exam Registration consists of two parts. First, students must be enrolled in their teacher's AP Classroom with the College Board. Secondly, registration and payment must take place in Total Registration. For more information and details about AP Exam Registration, please visit our [website](#). You may contact Bowie's AP Coordinator, Kaylin Brett, at kaylin.brett@austinisd.org if you have any questions about AP Exam Registration.

INCOMING 9TH GRADE AND NEW STUDENT SHOWCASE- Remember, from 5:30-7:00 pm on Monday, January 13, Bowie will host the [Incoming 9th Grade Showcase](#). Current 8th grade students and new-to-Bowie incoming students of any grade-- along with their parents or guardians-- are invited to explore the Bowie campus! Students and guardians can take a tour of the campus as well as visit with teachers and students about course requirements, electives, special programs, and extracurricular activities. We hope to see you there!

CHARACTER STRONG - Austin ISD is excited to announce the adoption of [Character Strong](#), an evidence-based, multi-tiered solution to support whole child success. Character Strong is a program that provides character development curricula from Pre-K through 12th grade. It is used by schools in all 50 states and 47 different countries, serving over 6.7 million students across the globe.

Starting on Monday, January 13, students will begin participating in Character Strong lessons during FIT. All students will report to their 3rd period teacher's classroom for FIT every Monday for the duration of the semester as part of our campus commitment to Character Strong. Students received a brief overview about Character Strong and FIT expectations on the first day back to school after the winter break, and you can [view that training video here](#).

FIT COURSE FAIR - Bowie is hosting a two-week Course Fair during FIT between Tuesday, January 14 and Friday, January 24. During that time, teachers will offer sessions to recruit students, answer questions about a course, and review course requirements and expectations. Week one of the FIT Course Fair is devoted to electives, and week two will address core classes. Please encourage your students to sign up ahead of time for FIT sessions about the courses that interest them on the [Enriching Students platform](#).

ANNUAL MUSICAL - The James Bowie High School Starlight Theatre Company invites you to this year's musical, *Mamma Mia!* The show runs Thursdays through Sundays from 1/16-19 and 1/23-26. Evening shows are at 7pm, and Sunday matinees begin at 2pm. For more details and ticket sales, please go to [stcboosters.com](#).

GRADUATION ORDER - Attention all Seniors! Graduation ordering time is officially here. Please take the time to go online and [order your official Bowie graduation items](#) as soon as possible. Items can be ordered individually or as a graduation package. All orders should be placed online by January 31. Congratulations to the Class of 2025!

Go Dawgs!