



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

November 10, 2023

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

ENROLL AUSTIN - Austin ISD's new unified enrollment system, [Enroll Austin](#), is set to launch on November 8, 2023! The new system will make registration more accessible and equitable by simplifying the registration process, saving families time, and helping families better understand and access their school options. For the 2024-25 enrollment cycle, the new system will consolidate the following applications into one streamlined system: Online Registration (Frontline), Online Student Transfer Request, Common Application and Pre-K Application. You can start getting familiar by exploring the new [enrollment website](#).

BOWIE FAMILY ACADEMY - Are you interested in partnering with your child in discussions about identity, culture, and equity? Join the [Bowie Family Academy](#) Blend course to explore these topics. The course will walk you through topics that Bowie has explored as a campus over the last several years in our efforts to build a more inclusive culture.

FAMILY EMPOWER HOUR: Fall and Winter Sessions - Austin ISD has released information about the next three Family Empower Hour sessions. These virtual meetings are designed to provide valuable information and support to our students' families.

- **November 14th: The ABC's of IEPs for Families New to Special Education-** To welcome new families to Special Education services, we offer a recurring session that will cover the foundational components of a student's special education program including Present Levels of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance (PLAAFPs), Goals, and Services. On November 14th sessions are offered at 12:00pm-1:00pm and again 6:00pm-7:00pm. To join this VIRTUAL session please join this [ZOOM](#).
- **December 12th: Transition Services-** This session will focus on transition supports, services, and agencies throughout Austin ISD and the surrounding area to support 18+ programming and post-secondary goals for your students. December 12 at 12:00pm-1:00pm and again 6:00pm-7:00pm. To join this VIRTUAL session please join this [ZOOM](#).
- **January 16: Social Emotional Learning and Mental Health Supports-** This session will provide families with support and resources regarding mental health supports and social emotional learning to incorporate in their homes with their children and families. January 16 at 12:00pm-1:00pm and again 6:00pm-7:00pm. To join this VIRTUAL session please join this [ZOOM](#).



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NATIONAL YOUTH HOMELESS AWARENESS MONTH - November is National Youth Homeless Awareness Month. Over 93,000 students in Texas are experiencing homelessness and as of October 2023, 920 students have been identified as “homeless” in AISD. In Austin ISD, [Project HELP](#) staff serves over 1,300 students per year who experience some form of homelessness or housing instability. During the month of November 2023, AISD campus and district staff are encouraged to remain aware of the silent traumas that students who are homeless or unsheltered experience and encourage anyone you know who may need assistance to reach out.

DIWALI - Students will not attend classes on November 13, 2023 for the observance of Diwali. Diwali is known as the Festival of Lights. Diwali is a Hindu observance celebrated throughout the world. Festivities include the illumination of lights, candles, firecrackers, and diya (clay lamps) to symbolize the victory of good over evil, inner light over spiritual darkness, and knowledge over ignorance. Diwali is a time for gathering with loved ones, celebrating life, and committing to making the right decisions in life.

If you would like to learn more about this important holiday, please review these resources:

- [5 Things to Know About Diwali](#)- This resource from the Hindu American Foundation provides key information about this important holiday.
- This [video](#) from PBS Learning Media shows a reenactment of the event that most Hindus observe as the inspiration for Diwali: Lord Rama’s return from exile.

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson
Principal