



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

July 20, 2023

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

I hope you have all been enjoying your summer. Here at Bowie, we have been working hard to make sure the upcoming school year will be a great one.

UPCOMING 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR - Bowie will be hosting several events to help students and their families get ready for the new school year. You are invited to stop by the Bowie Library from either **8-9 am or 5-6 pm on Thursday, August 3** for an informal meet-and-greet with the counselors and administrators or for a student-led campus tour. From **4-6 pm on Thursday, August 10**, we invite all students to access their class schedules and locate their classrooms during the Meet at the Tree Campus Preview. Based on last name, students will arrive at either 4pm or 5pm for this one-hour event. Please note that Meet at the Tree is for students only! See the [Back to School Buzz flyer](#) for additional information about these and other important events.

SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS REMINDER - Some advanced courses require students to complete assignments over the summer. If your student is taking an advanced course, please make sure they are aware of the summer work expectations posted [HERE](#).

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL - Remember, the new school year begins at **9:05 am on Monday, August 14!** Approximately one week in advance, you and your student will receive detailed instructions about logistics, including where and when to report, lunch information, transportation information, and more. This information will also be available in the [News section](#) of the Bowie website at bowie.austinschools.org.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW ADMINISTRATOR - I wanted to take the opportunity to introduce our new Assistant Principal, Ms. Crystal Keck, who will supervise the ELA and World Languages department in addition to being the point of contact for families with last names DAS-HOLW. Ms. Keck is beginning her 18th year in public education, a career she embarked upon after working for the Peace Corps and in Natural Resource Management. She worked as a Middle School Science Teacher in Alvin ISD and Pflugerville ISD before transitioning into administration. Her most recent position as an Assistant Principal at Pflugerville High School provided her with the opportunity to support programs in Career Tech Ed, Special Education, Math, and English. A long time resident of south Austin, she's excited about spending more time in our community and less time commuting! When she isn't working, you might find Ms. Keck enjoying tater tots at a neighborhood event, hiking in the Rocky Mountains, rowing a raft on a western desert river, and taking advantage of many other outdoor activities around Texas.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW COUNSELOR - I am also pleased to announce that Ms. Sheldyn Miller will be joining our counseling team to work with students with last names beginning with REH-TA (click [HERE](#) for counselor alpha group information). She is elated to connect with the students, staff, parents/guardians, and the community of Bowie High School. Ms. Miller received her Bachelor of Business Administration from Texas Tech University in 2013 and worked in the supply chain industry for 4 years. After obtaining her teaching certification, Ms. Miller taught Social Studies and coached various sports in the Austin area. She later earned her Master's degree in School Counseling from Angelo State University. Ms. Miller enjoys traveling, hiking, and watching sports in her free time.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT FACILITATOR - Additionally, I want to welcome Ms. Whitney Vohl in her new role as School Improvement Facilitator. (Ms. Vohl is recently married, so you may remember her as Whitney Shumate, the English teacher!) This is Ms. Vohl's 13th year at Bowie. She taught English here for 9 years, including Advanced English II, Academic English II, Academic English I, UT OnRamps Rhetoric, Debate I, and Young Adult Literature. She also served as our Humanities Instructional Coach for 3 years, where she supported the English, Social Studies, and World Languages departments. Ms. Vohl received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Austin and her Master's and Principal certification from Concordia University. She has three children attending schools in the Bowie vertical team, including a senior here, an 8th grader at Bailey, and a 3rd grader at Cowan. Ms. Vohl is happy to continue to serve the Bowie community in this new capacity.

PARKING PERMITS - In order to park on campus or in the student lot at Bethany Lutheran Church during the 2023-24 school year, students must be in 11th or 12th grade and purchase a parking permit. Online permit sales will take place on July 24-26. Permits will be sold to eligible students according to a staggered schedule, with priority given to seniors and students with an excellent attendance record. Availability is limited! For more information about purchasing a parking permit, click [HERE](#).

2023-24 BUS INFORMATION - AISD's transportation team offers families the "[Where's The Bus](#)" [app](#), which provides timely information about the location of their student's assigned bus only, including when it will arrive at their stop. The free app is available on any device with internet access (smartphone, tablet, personal computer, iPad) and takes less than five minutes to install.

We recommend families whose students are eligible for General Education transportation to check their bus information by checking the district's "[Bus Stop Finder](#)." Families whose students have special needs will receive their information in person from their bus teams. Please keep in mind routes and stops may change periodically.

We look forward to having students back on campus! Until then, stay cool and enjoy the rest of your summer together.

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson
Principal