
9th Grade Parent Night



James Bowie High School
August 13, 2025

Meet Your Presenters

Mark Robinson



Principal

Kaylin Brett



Academic Director

Nicole Hepburn



Lead Counselor



Hallé Whittington

**School Improvement
Facilitator**

Assistant Principal Team



A - Che Octavio Angel
Social Studies



Chi - Gel Christian Burbank Shelton
Fine Arts & Health/PE



Gem - Lai Crystal Keck
English & LOTE



Lak - Or Daniel Andreano
Science



Os - Smi Amanda Pfeiffer
Math



Smo - Z Paulette Walls
Special Education

Who do I contact for...?

Main Office
512-414-5247

Attendance - Amber Withycombe

Attendance or Discipline - Assistant Principal

Scheduling or Mental Health Support - Counselor

504 Coordinator - Rebeca Gonzalez-Farias

Special Education Chair - Dion Vickers



Find your child's AP
or counselor on our
school website!

Bowie.austinschools.org → Departments → Staff Directory

A cartoon bulldog mascot with a red collar and a small bell, positioned behind the title text.

BASELINE EXPECTATIONS

Phone-Free Learning

Limited Hall Passes

Cooperate with Reasonable Requests

Wear Your ID Badge

Keeping Bulldawgs Safe



Who is this guy?



In order to manage who and what moves on and off our campus, delivery services are NOT permitted.

Parents/guardians with an ID are permitted to drop off lunch or essential items in the front office.

Official Attendance

Time: 10:30

Early Pick-Up

**Must be before
4:15 pm,
please!**



bowie.austinschools.org



Enroll



Transportation



Menus



District Calendar



Parent Portal



Student Portal

BULLDOG NEWS

The Bowie Star Newsletter - July 28, 2025

In this edition of the Bowie Star, find updated counselor assignments, important PSAT and SAT testing information, bus transportation details, and an invitation to join the PTSA for the upcoming school year.

The Bowie Star Newsletter - July 17, 2025

Check out this edition of the Bowie Star for introductions to new administrators and counselors, summer office hours, PTSA opportunities, and back-to-school event details!

Austin ISD Summer Theatre Series Presents

"Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" July 24th - July 27th

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUG
8

Meet-and-Greet

8:00 am to 9:00 am

AUG
8

Meet-and-Greet

5:00 pm to 6:00 pm

AUG
13

9th Grade Parent Nig

6:00 pm to 7:00 pm



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

July 28, 2025

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

JOIN PTSA - The Bowie PTSA Board is looking for new members to join our team for the 2025-2026 school year! Don't let the titles intimidate you—grab a friend and share a role! Whether you have a few hours or can take on more, we'd love to have your support. Events like Bulldogs & Hotdogs, the Homecoming Dance, and Teacher Appreciation wouldn't be possible without parents like you. The [PTSA](#) is a great way to stay connected and make a meaningful impact on campus life.

PTSA Membership opens August 1 at www.bowieptsa.org/membership

Current Open Opportunities:

- Sponsorship Chair – Reach out to local businesses, secure PTSA sponsorships, and help coordinate fence-line banners (mostly done in the fall).
- [Bulldogs & Hotdogs Volunteers](#) – Help with this beloved community event happening August 23!
- Homecoming Volunteers – Assist with decorations, logistics, and setup for the dance.

For more information or to express interest, email bowieptsapresident@gmail.com.

The Bowie Star Newsletter

Chromebook Update



- Bowie will re-distribute Chromebooks at Bowie during the first week of school to all 9th graders.
- Once Chromebooks are delivered, the expectation is that students bring their **charged device to class daily**.
- If you student needs an AISD issued Chromebook in the future, there is a Chromebook Checkout process detailed at bowie.austinschools.org > Students > Chromebook and Other Technology Resources

Parent Communication & Technology

AISD Parent Help Desk: 512-414-9187

bowie.austinschools.org > Parents > Parent Technology & Communication Help

Some Thoughts About BLEND



BLEND
(Canvas)

Back-to-School Information



James Bowie High School

Back to School Buzz

2025

FRI
8/8

Parent Meet & Greet

Come to the Bowie Library from 8-9am or 5-6pm to meet your child's administrator and counselor.

WED
8/13

9th Grade Parent Night

Learn about programs and resources for 9th grade students in the Auditorium from 6-7pm.

MON
8/18

Meet at the Tree

Students can come from 5:30-6:30pm to walk their schedule and join a campus tour!

TUES
8/19

First Day of School

Welcome back, Bulldogs!



SAT
8/23

Bulldogs & Hotdogs

Join us in the courtyard for the PTSA's largest fundraising event of the year! Play games, get Bowie merch, eat good food, and support your school!

TUES
8/26

Back to School Night

Parents and Guardians are invited to this come-and-go event to walk their student's schedule and introduce themselves to their teachers.

SAVE
THE
DATES

Friday, September 5 - Club Fair in the Courtyard
Friday, October 3 - Homecoming Football Game
Saturday, October 4 - Homecoming Dance



BOWIE.AUSTINSCHOOLS.ORG



512-414-5247

Orientation Events

- Aug. 18 Meet at the Tree
- Aug. 23 Bulldogs & Hotdogs
- Aug. 26 Back-to-School Night

First Day of School

WELCOME BACK, BULLDOGS!



First Day of School Tuesday, August 19, 2025

Helpful Resources



[2025-2026 Bell Schedule](#)



[Self-Serve](#)

Grades/Schedule/Contact



[2025-26 A/B Calendar](#)



[Campus Map](#)



[Where's the Bus? App](#)



[Tech Tips for Students & Parents](#)



[Student & Parent
Orientation Events](#)

Block Schedule

- 90 minute classes
- A-Days = periods 1-4
- B-Days = periods 5-8

2025-26 A/B Calendar

- 40 minute lunch based on the student's 2nd or 6th period class

1ST LUNCH BELL SCHEDULE			
*1st / 5th	9:05	-	10:35
FIT	10:41	-	11:07
1ST LUNCH	11:07	-	11:47
2nd / 6th	11:53	-	1:23
3rd / 7th	1:29	-	2:59
4th / 8th	3:05	-	4:35

**Official attendance time for funding purposes is 10:30 AM.*

2ND LUNCH BELL SCHEDULE			
*1st / 5th	9:05	-	10:35
FIT	10:41	-	11:07
2nd / 6th	11:13	-	12:43
2ND LUNCH	12:43	-	1:23
3rd / 7th	1:29	-	2:59
4th / 8th	3:05	-	4:35

Lunch group is based on 2nd-period class on A-Days and 6th-period class on B-Days.

GROUP 1 / 1ST LUNCH

All Science Classes
 All Social Studies Classes
 All ELA Classes
 LOTE: Spanish, French, ASL
 PE Classes / Health / Boy's Basketball

GROUP 2 / 2ND LUNCH

All Math Classes
 Athletics (except Boy's Basketball)
 Career & Tech Classes:
 Ag, Animation, Business, Computer Science,
 Counseling & Mental Health, Culinary,
 Engineering, Graphic Design, Health Science,
 Human Growth, JROTC, Newspaper, Human
 Services, Ready Set Teach, Yearbook
 ACC Dual Credit Classes
 Fine Arts Classes:
 Art, Band, Choir, Dance, Theater, Musical
 Theater, Tech Theater, Orchestra
 Debate, DELTA, Basic Study Skills, Odyssey

Academic Supports

Flexible Instructional Time

- Every day after 1st or 5th period for 26 minutes
- **Participation is mandatory**
- Opportunity to meet with teachers, receive tutoring, make up assignments following absences, review for exams, study, etc.
- If not assigned by a teacher to a mandatory session, students choose a teacher's session to attend.



Tutoring

Teacher/ Department Tutoring

- All teachers offer tutoring before and/or after school.
- Tutoring schedules in BLEND and classroom door.

NHS Peer Tutoring

- Google request form link coming soon!



Attendance

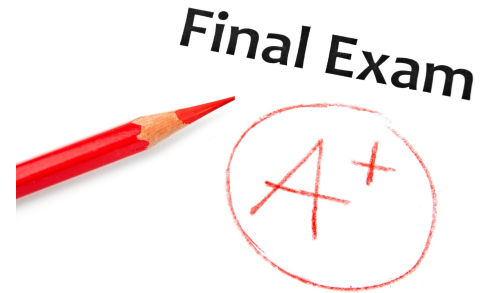
Attendance Procedures

Attendance Clerk Amber Withycombe
bowie@austinisd.org

- Students must be signed-in and out in the main office when arriving late or leaving early (no curbside meet up between classes or during lunch)
 - It's a large campus with limited office staff! Please allow plenty of time for the checkout process.
 - **NEW** Send documentation for every absence at austinisd.org/attendance/report-absence
-

Exam Incentives

- Excellent attendance allows students to replace their final exam grade for 1-2 courses with a higher semester average grade.
- To qualify, students must for fewer than 13 class period absences.
- Other than partial day doctor's appointments (code MED), all absences are counted regardless of the reason.



Get Involved!!

Bowie wants ALL students to find their passion and be connected!

Club Fair 2025

Friday, Sept. 5

Club booths will recruit in the courtyard during lunches.

A list of [current clubs](#) is available at bowie.austinschools.org→Students tab→Extracurricular activities

American Sign Language | Amnesty International | Anime and Manga | Archery | Art | Asian American and Allies | Astronomy | Avatar: The Last Airbender (ATLA) | Battle of the Books | Bee Preservation Society | Biology | Board Games in the Library | Book | Bowie Buddies | Bowie Lit | Bowie Robotics Team | Bulldawg Blooms | Bulldog Bowldogs (Bowling) | Business Professionals of America | Car | Card Game | Chess | Children's Hospital Volunteer | Coder | Comedy | Computer Science Team | Cosmetics | Culinary | CyberDawgs | CyberPatriots | Design | Dimwits & Doorknobs Dungeons & Dragons | Disc Golf | E4Y | Earth | Fashion and Interior Design | Fellowship of Christian Athletes | Filmmakers | Fishing | Forensic Science | French | French National Honor Society | Freshmen Class Officers | Future Farmers of America | Future Problem Solvers | Future Teachers of America | Global Events | Greenhouse | Health Occupations Students of America HOSA | Informative and Persuasive Speaking Team | Junior Class Officers | Junior Statesman of America | K-Pop | Keep Austin Clean | Key | Literary Criticism Team | Literary Society / Odyssey Literary Magazine | Literature | Live Music | Magic - The Gathering | Marine Biology | Minecraft | Mini Golf | Miniature Gaming | Mission: Possible | Mock Trial | Multicultural Awareness | National Honor Society | One Act Play | Pickleball | Ping Pong | Prose and Poetry Interpretation | Puzzle | Rocketry | Russian Language | Science Fair | Science Fiction and Fantasy | Senior Class Officers | Society of Women Engineers | Songwriting | Sophomore Class Officers | Spanish | Spanish National Honor Society | Speech & Debate Team | Spelling and Vocabulary Team | Spike Ball | Star Wars | Starlight Theater Company | Student Leadership | Super Smash Bros | Texas Youth and Government | Theatrical Design Team | UIL Calculator Math Team | UIL Current Issues and Events | UIL Number Sense Team | UIL Ready Writing Team | Ultimate Frisbee | UNICEF | Weightlifting Club | XC Runners | Young Life | Youth in Government (YMCA program) | Zine

YOU BELONG

Zine | Youth in Government (YMCA program) | Young Life | XC Runners | Weightlifting | UNICEF | Ultimate Frisbee | UIL Social Ready Writing Team | UIL Number Sense Team | UIL Math Team | UIL Team | UIL Calculator Math Team | UIL Accounting Team | Tri-M Music Government | Technical Education Development (TED) | Super Smash Bros | Student Starlight Theater Company | Star Wars | Spike Ball | Spelling and Vocabulary Team | Speech Class Officers | Songwriting | Society of Women Engineers | Senior Class Officers | Science Prose and Poetry Interpretation | Ping Pong | Pickleball | One Act Play | National Honor Society | Multicultural Awareness Club | Mock Trial | Mission: Possible | Miniature Gaming | Mini Golf | Minecraft | Marine Biology | Magic - The Gathering | Live Music | Literature | Literary Society / Odyssey Literary Magazine | Literary Criticism Team | Key | Keep Austin Clean | K-Pop Club | Junior Statesman of America | Junior Class Officers | Informative and Persuasive Speaking Team | Health Occupations Students of America HOSA | Greenhouse | Global Events | Future Teachers of America | Future Problem Solvers | Future Farmers of America | Freshmen Class Officers | French National Honor Society | French | Forensic Science Club | Fishing | Filmmakers | Fellowship of Christian Athletes | Fashion and Interior Design | Earth | E4Y | Disc Golf Club | Dimwits & Doorknobs Dungeons & Dragons | Design | CyberDawgs CyberPatriots | Culinary | Cosmetics | Computer Science Team | Comedy | Coder | Children's Hospital Volunteer | Chess | Card Game | Car | Business Professionals of America | Bulldog Bowldogs (Bowling) | Bulldawg Blooms | Bowie Robotics Team | Bowie Lit | Bowie Buddies | Book | Board Games in the Library Club | Biology | Bee Preservation Society | Battle of the Books | Avatar: The Last Airbender (ATLA) | Astronomy | Asian American and Allies |

Art | Archery | Anime and Manga | Amnesty International | American Sign Language |



AT BOWIE



Parents get involved too!

Join Bowie PTSA

\$11.50 per parent
\$6.50 per student



BULLDOGS & HOTDOGS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 2025 5-8 PM

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

BOWIE PTSA PROUDLY PRESENTS BULLDOGS & HOTDOGS, OUR ANNUAL BACK-TO-SCHOOL EXTRAVAGANZA SUPPORTING BOWIE CLUBS, TEAMS, AND ORGANIZATIONS.



FREE ADMISSION & ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES



GET YOUR SPIRIT GEAR!



PURCHASE FOOD AND DRINKS



**PEP RALLY WITH BOWIE FOOTBALL, CHEER,
BAND & SILVER STARS DANCE TEAM**



BRING CASH
SMALL BILLS APPRECIATED!



This fundraiser supports all booster clubs at Bowie from theater to football, cheer, JROTC, & Project Graduation. These clubs and organizations are supported by staff & parents & run by students - providing a place for everyone!



VOLUNTEER @ BULLDOGS & HOTDOGS

<https://is.gd/VWxiIB>

JOIN PTSA STARTING AUG 1, 2025

www.bowieptsa.org/membership

REGISTER A BOOTH

<https://is.gd/yEJx6S>

Bowie Counseling Department



Counseling Team

Counselor	Last Names	Email Address
April Loeb	A- Buk	april.loeb@austinisd.org
Brian Wennberg	Bul- Dr	brian.wennberg@austinisd.org
Laura Rodriguez	Du- G	laura.k.rodriguez@austinisd.org
Lori Eggleston	H- Lai	lori.ad.eggleston@austinisd.org
April Giuffre	Lak- Mo	april.giuffre@austinisd.org
Kim Gilbert	Mr- Rob	kim.gilbert@austinisd.org
Sheldyn Eaton	Roc- Tar	sheldyn.eaton@austinisd.org
Nicole Hepburn	Tas- Z Lead Counselor	nicole.hepburn@austinisd.org
Amber Luna	College & Career Counselor	amber.luna@austinisd.org
Katie Aslan	Licensed Mental Health Professional	See Counselor for Referral
Wendy Escobedo	Testing Coordinator	wendy.escobedo@austinisd.org

Our Role

Our role as school counselors is to provide academic, career, social, and emotional support to our students in order to guide them towards success.

There is often a stigma that students only see their counselors for “schedule changes” or because they have “emotional issues.” We aim to change this view.

We meet with our students for a variety of reasons such as individual academic planning, crisis response, mental health support, college and career guidance, social support, four-year planning, etc.

How to Reach Us

Students

We uphold an open door policy. Students may stop by our offices before school, during lunch, or after school, or during class with teacher permission.

If we are unavailable, students may email us or leave a note, and we will call them from class when we are available.

Parents

The best way to contact us is via email. We cannot accommodate walk-in appointments as we must be available to serve the needs of our students.

Please email or call your child's counselor if you would like to set up an appointment.

Our information can be found on our website

bowie.austinschools.org→Departments→Counseling

Mental Health Support

Our Role

- Brief solution focused response
- Crisis response
- Resources for outside therapy or treatment
- LMHP (Licensed Mental Health Professional)
 - Brief Therapeutic Services
 - Family Resources
 - We share our LMHP's with the entire vertical community

Graduation Requirements, GPA, and Class Rank

AISSD Prescribed Graduation Plan (26 Credits)

4 English Credits

- English I, English II, English III, and English IV

4 Math Credits

- Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Adv. Math

4 Science Credits

- Biology, IPC or Chemistry, 2 Adv. Sciences

4 Social Studies Credits

- World Geography, World History, US History, Government (0.5) and Economics (0.5)

2 Credits of a Language Other Than English (must be consecutive)

1 Fine Arts Credit

1 PE Credit

0.5 Health Credit

5.5 Elective Credits



Endorsement Options

Students can earn one or more of the following endorsements:

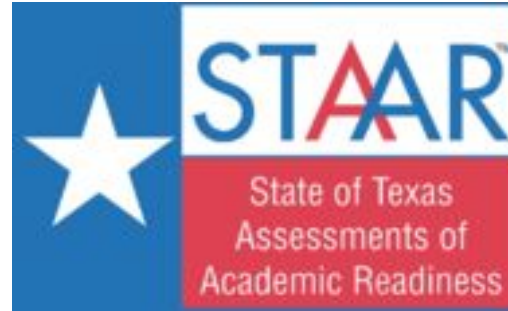
- Arts & Humanities
- Business & Industry
- Public Service
- STEM
- Multidisciplinary

Endorsements are designed to encourage students to explore different career pathways and areas of study. They may change them at any time and will likely earn more than one before graduation.

End-of-Course Exams

Students must pass five end-of-course exams:

- ▶ English I (9th grade)
- ▶ Algebra I (9th grade)
- ▶ Biology (9th grade)
- ▶ English II (10th grade)
- ▶ US History (11th grade)



Cumulative GPA

The numerical average of the points assigned to EVERY grade the student has earned.

- ▶ Based on **ALL** classes the student has taken (core, electives, etc., including high school credit in middle school)
- ▶ Advanced/ AP/ Honors courses are weighted on a **5.0** scale
- ▶ This GPA can be viewed in Naviance, but are NOT used to determine rank
- ▶ Appears on transcripts, sent to colleges
- ▶ New GPA's generated after each semester.

Class Rank

A measure of student performance compared to other students in the class.

Based on 4 core subjects & LOTE

- ▶ Up to 8 semesters of English
 - ▶ Up to 8 semesters of Math
 - ▶ Up to 8 semesters of Science
 - ▶ World Geo OR World History, US History, Government & Economics
 - ▶ Up to 4 semesters of LOTE
-
- ▶ Calculated after every semester in **grades 10-12**
 - ▶ Official rank starts in Spring of 10th grade year
 - ▶ Used to determine top 10% and quartiles for college admissions

Schedule & Level Changes

Schedule Changes

- To request a change, students should email the counselor and include their parent on the email. Please see allowable changes below:
 - Dropping or adding a performance based elective (sports, band, etc.)*
Coach/Instructor approval required
 - Credit already earned through summer school, Garza, CBE, etc
 - Student is in the wrong class
- Please be patient- remember each counselor has around 450 kids

Level Changes

Student-requested level downs: Students can request level downs (from Advanced/AP to Academic) at the 6 week mark. We will send more information about the procedures as we get closer to this time.

Student-requested level ups: Students can do this from August 19 - August 29 or at semester. They will need to do the summer work if any was required.

Closing Remarks & Questions



Thank You!

We look forward to the 2025-2026 school year!

