

January 20, 2021

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

Around noon today, the official proceedings of Inauguration Day commenced on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol, with the vice president-elect and president-elect taking the Oaths of Office, followed by the inaugural address. This year, in-person attendance was limited to Congress due to safety protocols related to the ongoing pandemic and the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021. The necessity of these restrictions reminds me of the tremendous responsibility our teachers have to help the Bowie students thoughtfully process recent national events. As expressed by our Superintendent Dr. Elizalde, we "owe it to our children, our students, and their future to create these spaces for honest conversations about what is happening, the injustices that have brought us here, and the steps we will take for a stronger future in America." (Click HERE to read Dr. Elizalde's full statement).

REMOTE ASYNCHRONOUS LEARNING DAYS - As you may know, on December 31, 2020, Austin ISD Superintendent, Dr. Elizalde, announced four remote asynchronous learning days to allow for time for teacher planning and preparation, as well as a deep cleaning of campuses (click HERE to read the message in full). Therefore, buses will not run on January 29, February 26, March 5, and April 9, and all students are required to complete the teacher assigned evidence of engagement in learning for each class period in their schedule for the day in order to receive credit for attendance. To allow teachers the ability to safely administer the PSAT & SAT, January 22, January 26, and March 3 will also be remote asynchronous learning days for Bowie students. Bowie's 2020-21 AB Calendar includes all of the remote asynchronous learning dates.

ACC DUAL CREDIT ENROLLMENT PROCESS - Bowie offers a few courses with Austin Community College on the Bowie campus during students' junior and senior years. Juniors can take U.S History 1301 & 1302 (some students opt to take this course the summer before junior year). Seniors can enroll in English 1301 & 1302 (however this is only an option for those students who are NOT enrolled in the Rhetoric UT OnRamps course during their junior year). Please note that English 1301 & 1302 cannot be taken during the summer. Seniors can also take Government 2305 (some will take this course over the summer before their senior year along with Economics 2301, which is not offered at Bowie).

Enrolling in an ACC course is a multi-step process and can be a little confusing, so our College & Career Counselor, Ms. Valverde, created a checklist (click <u>HERE</u>) to walk you step by step through the enrollment process.

Please take note of these important dates related to ACC enrollment:

Feb. 22-26: Mandatory FIT Sessions - Students are only required to attend one. <u>Sign up here</u>. (Students must be signed into their AISD account to access the sign-up document.) **March 31:** Steps 1-5 must be completed by this date for students enrolling in a SUMMER course. This will ensure all holds have been cleared and permissions have been sent to ACC.

April 5: Registration for SUMMER RETURNING students opens.

April 14: Steps 1-5 must be completed by this date for students enrolling in a FALL course.

April 19: Registration for SUMMER NEW students opens.

May 31: All SUMMER and FALL students must be registered for their course by this date.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE AISD SALUTE AWARDS - Salute is AISD's annual celebration to recognize some of the district's outstanding team members for their continued dedication to student excellence and achievement in our schools. District staff, families, and the community are invited to submit a nomination for a staff member they believe represents the very best of AISD (click HERE to access the nomination form). This year's Salute Awards ceremony, in partnership with Austin Partners in Education, will recognize the winners in five categories: Classified Staff of the Year, Counselor of the Year, Librarian of the Year, Assistant Principal of the Year, Principal of the Year, and PTA of the year along with APIE Hall of Fame award winners. Also, Teachers of Promise and Teachers of the Year will be honored. Nominations will close Thursday, February 4th at 5pm.

Go Dawgs!
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