



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

February 24, 2021

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

WINTER STORM RECOVERY - “We cannot direct the wind, but we can adjust the sails” is a quote attributed to Thomas S. Monson. So, despite the various disruptions to school this year, we continue to adjust in order to keep our students on course!

Today, our students resumed classes -- remote for the remainder of the week with a district-wide remote and asynchronous learning day on Friday. The 4th grading cycle was extended by a few days to compensate for the lost instructional time, but please reach out to your child’s teachers if your household is experiencing extenuating circumstances related to the inclement weather that may impact your child’s completion or submission of assignments. Teachers will be finalizing grades for report cards on Friday.

Like many of you, Bowie incurred some significant water damage last week as a result of broken pipes. Contractors are on-site, working to restore the facilities so that teachers and on-campus learners can return to campus on Monday, March 1, 2021. We will notify you should the campus need to remain closed longer. In the meantime, coaches and sponsors have been securing alternate practice and rehearsal spaces and will communicate that information to the students and parents in their respective programs.

AISD will resume its [curbside meal service](#) on Thursday, February 25. For information about additional resources and services to aid those recovering from last week’s winter storm and utility outages, refer to the [AISD Twitter](#) or the [City of Austin Twitter](#).

SAT FOR JUNIORS RESCHEDULED - With concerns about the status of on-going building repairs, **Bowie has rescheduled the SAT School Day for registered juniors from Wednesday, March 3, to Wednesday, March 24.** This means that March 3rd, previously designated as a remote asynchronous learning day for Bowie students, will now be a regular school day and that Wednesday, March 24th is now a remote asynchronous learning day. Please refer to the recently revised [2020-21 Bowie A/B Calendar](#) for more information, keeping in mind that there will be additional modifications to this calendar pending the finalization of STAAR EOC, Advanced Placement, TSI, and other assessment dates.

LAST CHANCE FOR SENIOR YEARBOOK PORTRAITS - Today, tomorrow, and Friday are the final opportunities for seniors to have their portrait taken for the 2020-21 yearbook. Because of the water damage at Bowie, a new location had to be found for these portrait sessions, so a big thank you to Gorzycki Middle School and their principal, Dr. Mitchell, for hosting us. The portraits will be taken by PhotoTexas Photography and will include a

tuxedo or drape portrait plus the cap and gown graduation photo. For more detailed instructions, seniors and their parents should reference the email sent by Ms. Shirack on Monday. Remember, seniors **must** have an appointment to have their portrait taken (click [HERE](#) to sign up).

STUDENTS RETURNING FOR ON-CAMPUS LEARNING - As the vaccines roll out and Covid-19 cases and hospitalizations decline, there is increased interest in students returning to campus for learning. Our teachers and staff are delighted to welcome previously remote students back to campus, **but we do require that parents notify us in advance** so that we can make the necessary changes in our system for attendance tracking and can make arrangements to ensure social distancing. If you would like your student to start attending their classes on-campus, please notify your child's counselor. They will follow up with a timeline and specific instructions about reporting to campus.

SUMMER JOBS FOR STUDENTS - The 2021 Summer Youth Employment Program has officially launched! The job readiness program will employ 750 young people in the Austin-area who are Travis County residents between the ages of 14-17, and up to 22 for young people with a disability. The program will run for 10-weeks, June 7, 2021, through August 13, 2021, offering young people employment for five weeks, 20 hours/week. Virtual jobs will be offered allowing young people to work safely from their homes during the pandemic. Check out their website www.traviscountytexas.gov/syep for information on obtaining an application and participating in the program. All job readiness training must be completed and applications received no later than March 27, 2021. *SYEP strongly recommends completing the full application process as early as possible before the deadlines to increase youths' opportunities for employment.*

EQUITY WORK - I hope that you have found time to explore the [Black History Month Module](#) in the BLEND Bowie Community course and have enjoyed the [Your Moment in Black History videos](#) produced by our Bowie teachers and students. When we model for our students that we value diversity, we help them recognize differences between people and acknowledge that these differences are a valued asset. Thank you for joining us in this work! Look for information about other upcoming observances on the [AISD Recognition Calendar](#).

Go Dawgs!
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James Bowie High School
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