



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

March 10, 2023

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

Austin ISD will be closed March 13-17 for Spring Break. I wish you and your families a safe and restful week!

TESTING DATES - Please take a few minutes to note the upcoming testing dates on your personal calendars. We respectfully request that you do not schedule appointments or make any other plans that would interfere with your child's participation.

- April 19 - TSI Exam (grades 9 & 11), English 2 STAAR EOC Exam (10th grade)
- April 21 - English 1 STAAR EOC Exam (9th grade)
- April 27 - Biology STAAR EOC Exam (9th grade), U.S. History STAAR EOC Exam (11th grade)
- May 3 - Algebra STAAR EOC Exam (9th grade students currently enrolled in the Algebra 1 course)

MARCH 10 SEL DAY - Today, the district's SEL and CP&I department invites you to celebrate the third annual International SEL Day. This partnership with the [Urban Assembly and SEL4US](#) aims to create an annual global campaign to recognize the immense value of social and emotional learning (SEL) and its importance to the academic and social development of young people across the globe. In fact, Mayor Kirk Watson has proclaimed March 10 as Austin's SEL and CP&I Day!

BUILDING A CAMPUS CULTURE OF RESPECT - One element of Bowie's [mission statement](#) is our collective commitment to celebrate diversity. Austin ISD Pride Week— March 20-24— provides an opportunity for Bulldog Nation to fulfill that mission as we honor our LGBTQIA+ students, staff and families. Bowie students are invited to wear their Pride gear throughout the week, sign up for a variety of Pride-themed FIT sessions, and visit the Pride-themed photo booth. The following week, on March 30, our student organizations will march in Bowie's annual No Place for Hate® Parade to reinforce the spirit of kindness and inclusivity that Pride Week promotes.

Pride Week activities wrap up with the district wide "Pride Y'all!" Community Event! All are welcome to enjoy exhibitors, performances, activities, books, swag and breakout sessions on Saturday, March 25, 5–9 p.m. at the Austin ISD Performing Arts Center.

INPUT NEEDED FOR SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH - GR Recruiting, the firm hired by the Austin ISD Board of Trustees to help identify candidates for the superintendent position, invites you to complete a survey to provide important feedback on a future superintendent. The information received will be used to help build a leadership/superintendent profile for advertising the position and provide feedback for the Board when evaluating candidates. Please submit the [Superintendent Profile Survey](#) by Wednesday, March 15. Click [HERE](#) for additional information about the search process.

TRAFFIC SAFETY & REMINDERS - Although it can be tempting to circumvent Bowie's parent drop-off and pick-up procedures, we ask that you refrain from doing so. Whenever you are dropping off or picking up your student, please enter using the Slaughter Lane entrance and do not attempt to enter from Wolf Trap. Entering from Wolf Trap and dropping off your student near the parking garage entrances impedes traffic flow and creates hazardous conditions for pedestrians. We have also received complaints from the local apartment communities about parents parking in their guest and residents' spaces at the end of the school day and then becoming argumentative and rude when they are asked to move. Thank you for helping us maintain good relations with our neighboring businesses by respecting their property and staff.

Reckless student driving is also concerning, particularly at the end of the day as some students dash out the doors and speed to get off campus before traffic backs up. Our team of administrators, support staff, and SROs who are directing traffic during this time do report and follow up with consequences when they observe and are able to identify dangerous drivers and when our security cameras capture an incident. If your student does not ride the bus, please speak with your child about dismissal time and make sure they have a plan to get home safely every day. I will be messaging students about this problem as well and continue working with my traffic team to discuss improvement of traffic safety and enforcement.

CLASS OF 2023 UPDATES - visit the [Senior Updates pages](#) on the Bowie website for more information:

- April 19 Senior Day - While students in grades 9, 10, and 11 are involved in testing, our seniors will enjoy a day of celebration and planning for graduation. We will host our traditional Senior Breakfast, organize some track and field events just for fun, and practice for the graduation ceremony. Seniors will also be able to pick up their cap and gown on April 19! Be on the lookout for ways you can donate to these activities.
- Kiker Elementary PTA's [Dr. Lori Schneider Scholarship for High School Graduates](#) honors one of Kiker's former principals who valued education and left a legacy of kindness, dignity and respect (KDR) during her 14-year tenure as principal of the school. The scholarship also celebrates high school graduates who are committed to education and who embody KDR. Applicants must have attended Kiker Elementary School. Application window opens March 1, 2023.
- Senior Walks - Most of Bowie's feeder elementary schools have set [dates and times for Senior Walks](#). For these events, each school's former students in the Class of 2023 are invited to don their graduation regalia and walk the hallways to inspire future Bulldogs. We will update the website as additional information is received.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GT STUDENTS - Austin ISD Advanced Academics is hosting its 2nd annual Austin ISD GT Student Showcase and are accepting student project submissions from March 1-31, 2023. The 2023 GT Student Showcase theme is "Find the Good" which comes from this quote from Jesse Owens, "Find the Good. It's all around you. Find it, showcase it, and you'll start believing in it." If you have a student who participates in the Gifted & Talented (GT) program and is interested in participating, please visit the [Austin ISD GT Student Showcase website](#).

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson
Principal
James Bowie High School