



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

March 12, 2021

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

Next week Bowie will be closed for Spring Break. While many of us are avoiding the typical Spring Break activities in the interest of health and safety, I hope you and your family find ways to relax, connect, and build some positive memories. School will resume on Monday, March 22, 2021, with a remote asynchronous learning day scheduled for Wednesday, March 24 (more information below).

CHANGE OF 2 DISTRICT REMOTE ASYNCHRONOUS LEARNING DAYS - We recognize that students have lost a lot of time this year in days of instruction. To recover some time, district officials have changed Friday, April 9th, and Friday, April 23rd to regular school days with on-campus and remote instruction. These two days were previously announced as 100% remote asynchronous days. Transportation will be provided on both days for students who attend on-campus. Students learning remotely will be engaged with their teachers virtually. This calendar adjustment is reflected in the most recently revised [20-21 Bowie A/B Calendar](#).

TESTING DATES - With consideration given to TEA requirements, district guidelines, and the impact on learning for all of our students, a schedule for the administration of some very important state and national standardized tests that are upcoming has been finalized and published. Please take note of these dates on the most recently revised [20-21 Bowie A/B Calendar](#).

- **SAT School Day Exam** - The SAT will be administered to all registered juniors on March 24. Because the entire faculty will be serving as SAT test proctors, the school day will be designated as remote and asynchronous for all other students who are not testing.
NOTE: Juniors registered for the SAT should have received a confirmation email on March 10 with instructions for test day. Test day instructions are also [HERE](#) on the JBHS website.
- **STAAR EOC Exams** - All students must pass [five STAAR End-of-Course \(EOC\) Exams](#) as a requirement for graduation. Unlike last year, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) will not be waiving this requirement for students currently enrolled in an EOC course (listed below.) While Austin ISD has committed to offering remote learning to families for the entire school year, TEA guidelines require us to administer the EOC on-site. Knowing that students' best chance for success on the EOC is at the time they are enrolled in the course and receiving instruction, it is our goal for students able to test on campus. All safety measures will be in place for test administration including masks, social distancing where feasible, and easily available handwashing and sanitizing stations. Students who do not come to campus to take the EOC exam on the dates indicated below will be required to take a make-up EOC exam in a set window on the exam schedule released annually by the Agency, prior to the student's graduation. More information about these testing days will be provided as we get closer to the test administration dates for this year. More STAAR EOC information and updates will also be available [HERE](#) on the JBHS website.

April 20 - English 1 (all 9th grade students, students needing to retest/make-up)

April 22 - English 2 (all 10th grade students, students needing to retest/make-up)

May 19 - Biology (all 9th grade students, students needing to retest/make-up)

May 20 - U.S. History (all 11th grade students, students needing to retest/make-up)

May 21 - Algebra 1 (many 9th grade students, students needing to retest/make-up)

May 24 - EOC Make-up Exam Administration and TSI Exams

NOTE: Students who are not involved in STAAR EOC testing will have remote asynchronous learning days on the dates listed above.

- **Advanced Placement Exams** - The College Board sets the dates for the administration of Advanced Placement (AP) Exams and determines which of the assessments are virtual/remote and which must be administered paper-pencil/on-site. The AP Exam window extends from May 18 through May 28.
- **Spring Semester Exams** - With Bowie's graduation event scheduled for the last day of school, we have shifted the spring semester exam schedule forward by one day to ensure our staff has enough time to finalize grades and validate seniors' credits for graduation. Click [HERE](#) to view the 2020-21 Spring Exam Schedule. The last day of school will not have any exams, all classes will meet on a compressed C-Day bell schedule with brief exit activities and attendance required for every class on this early release day.

AISD STUDENT REGISTRATION - To assist us with planning for the 2021-22 school year, the [Student Registration Plans for School Year 2021-2022](#) survey was released from the district on Monday, March 8, 2021. The invitation emails were sent to parents' primary email addresses on file in Frontline (formerly TEAMS.) So, what learning options will be available? At this time, Austin ISD is awaiting information on the 2021-2022 school year requirements from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) for attendance and delivery of educational services. We know that on-campus learning will be an option available to families next year, just as it is this year. AISD safety protocols will align with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Austin Public Health. We are all excited about reviving campus traditions and events so meaningful to the full and rich Bowie school experience that we hope you will complete the registration plan form letting us know to count you in Bulldog Nation next year.

VOE'S - Verification of Enrollment - We are excited for all our Bowie students who are getting ready to get their learner's permits and driver's license! The TEA requires that all students request a VOE from the school to receive a Texas Driver's license and/or driving permit. You will need to have a VOE in hand at your appointment with the DMV. Once requested, the VOE will be emailed to the email address that was provided. It is valid for only 30 days. If it is past the 30 days and you should need another VOE for a future appointment, please follow the same process. Click [HERE](#) to request a VOE and please allow 24 hours for processing. You may also find information on JBHS.org under the student's tab and VOE. Good luck to all our students on their permits and licenses! Stay and be safe!

SPRING BREAK FOOD SERVICE - AISD's food services team will partner with the Central Texas Food Bank to provide access to healthy food while campuses are closed for Spring Break. Families may pick up seven days' worth of meals at the food bank's mass distribution on Tuesday, March 16. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

I wish you a safe and relaxing Spring Break.

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson
Principal
James Bowie High School