March 23, 2021

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

**CLASS OF 2021 UPDATES** - The Bowie website will soon have a page dedicated to all-things-senior so that you can quickly locate the latest information about prom, graduation, or other important senior activities. Parents of seniors can also expect to start receiving additional email communications with more detail about upcoming senior activities. Here are the Class of 2021 highlights for this week:

**Graduation** - The pinnacle of our students' educational journey thus far is graduation, so we are pleased to announce that Bowie will indeed have a live, in-person graduation ceremony at Burger Stadium on June 3 at 7 pm! While the ceremony will be modified slightly (there will not be a live band or choral performance), there will be piped-in music for the processional and national anthem, salutatorian and valedictorian addresses, messages from the principal and superintendent, and most importantly the graduate's walk across the stage to receive their diploma. To allow for social-distancing, each graduate will be allowed up to four guests in attendance. Other safety measures, such as masks for graduates, guests, and staff, will also be required. Please contact Assistant Principal Marie Prescott (marie.prescott@austinisd.org) if you have family members who are in need of sign language interpreters. More information and details about graduation are forthcoming. Thank you for your patience as we organize this complex but very important event.

**Graduation Program** - As a reminder, we need all seniors to check the spelling of their names for the graduation program located on the Home Page of the <u>BLEND Bowie Community Course</u>. Please send any corrections to <u>heather.gallier@austinisd.org</u> by this Friday, March 26.

**Graduation Cap & Gown** - Seniors should also plan to pick up their caps and gowns in a drive-by distribution event at Bowie on April 30, times TBD. Top 10% cords, National Honor Society stoles, and other graduation regalia will also be distributed at this time. More detailed information will be released next month.

**SHOUT-OUT BOWIE PTSA** - Build Up Bowie, sponsored by the Bowie PTSA, has provided SEVENTY HEPA air purifiers for our classrooms so far, thanks to the generosity of our community! These air purifiers are creating healthier environments for our staff and students and will be used for years to come. Build Up Bowie ends Friday, March 26, so please **donate today** so we can provide for even more of our classrooms!

**DISTRICT HAPPENINGS** - The District is hosting a series of virtual community conversations to connect with families, staff, and school communities. These sessions will be an opportunity to meet our superintendent Dr. Elizalde and her leadership team, and to learn more about the AISD 2020-25 Strategic Plan and 2021-22 budget process. Sessions will be divided by vertical team or feeder high

school, and two dedicated Spanish-only sessions will also be offered to all those who wish to attend. For more information, see the AISD Community Conversations flyer.

**LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY** - The Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) is seeking student leaders passionate about healthy eating and agriculture to become health ambassadors for the 2021-22 school year. TDA recognizes that student leaders have a powerful voice for improving health and wellness on school campuses, and has developed Health Ambassadors for a Ready Texas to inspire and recognize high school students who champion healthy lifestyles for their peers. If this sounds like a good fit for your student, visit <a href="www.SquareMeals.org/HART">www.SquareMeals.org/HART</a> to learn more and review the application. Applications must be submitted by Friday, April 9.

**CLIFTON PLANT SALE** - At Clifton Career Development School, students who receive special education services are embarking on their careers today by earning on-the-job training and professional certifications. Please consider supporting these amazing students by visiting Clifton's Annual Spring Plant Sale. This event will be held Saturday, March 27, from 9 am to 2 pm (click <u>HERE</u> for more information).

GOING TO THE DAWGS - The Bowie counseling team is happy to announce that Martha and Abner, Comfort Dogs, are returning to Bowie for their monthly visits. These extremely well-trained golden retrievers are used in national crisis emergencies and we have the good fortune to welcome them on our campus just to spend some doggie time with our students. We haven't seen them in a year and are delighted to have them return again! Want to know more about what our counselors are up to? Check out their March 2021 newsletter.

**IMPORTANT DATES** - Remember that tomorrow, March 24, is a 100% remote asynchronous learning day. Students will need to submit their assignments for their A-Day classes before midnight on Wednesday to receive attendance credit. Juniors who are registered for the SAT should review the <u>testing day instructions</u> in advance of arriving in Bowie tomorrow morning. For your convenience, the latest version of the <u>A/B calendar</u> is always available to you on the JBHS website (go to the Calendars and Bell Schedules page under the Students tab).

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson Principal James Bowie High School