



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

March 30, 2021

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

SENIOR UPDATES - JBHS.org now has a [Senior Updates](#) section under the Students tab. In the weeks to come, we will continue to post the latest information about graduation, prom, caps & gowns, Project Graduation, and other Class of 2021 activities on these dedicated pages.

- **Prom** - The Class of 2021 “Starry Night” Prom will be held from 8-11pm on Saturday, April 17th, at the Renaissance Hotel Austin. All seniors are invited to attend and may bring one guest. Seniors wishing to attend prom must complete a two-step process: (1) submission of a digital parent permission form, and (2) purchase of prom ticket via School Cash Online. The permission form is due on Thursday, April 1st, and tickets can only be purchased from April 6th through April 11th. Yesterday, seniors and their parents were emailed detailed prom instructions with links to all the required forms (click [HERE](#) for a link to that information on the Bowie website).
- **Project Graduation** - To keep our students safe, Bowie parents organize a drug and alcohol-free lock-in style party on graduation night each year with food, music, prizes, and most importantly, fun with friends. Having recently received authorization from the district to proceed with this event, the Project Graduation organizers are working to determine student participation so they can finalize details with the High 5 venue. For more information and to register your student for Project Graduation, click [HERE](#).

ON-CAMPUS LEARNING - In response to how local health conditions related to the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on many families in our community, Austin ISD is committed to offering both remote and on-campus learning options to students for the duration of the 2020-21 school year. At Bowie, remote learners access synchronous lessons in Zoom and asynchronous instruction in BLEND, while on-campus learners attend part-time or full-time depending on their personal learning needs.

To change your child from remote to on-campus learning, or from on-campus to remote learning, first, [contact your child's counselor](#) with the request. Please allow up to 5 days for the request to be processed as there are several steps that our staff must take to enact the change. The counselor will follow up with you with specific instructions about the student's assigned Learning Group, health and safety protocols, and a start date. Click [HERE](#) for more information about Bowie's learning options.

UPCOMING STAAR EOC EXAMS - The STAAR End-of-Course (EOC) exams for English 1 and English 2 will be administered at Bowie on April 20 and April 22, respectively. On Friday, April 2, parents of 9th and 10th grade students, and parents of students in other grades needing to take these two EOC exams will receive an email with all pertinent information. The email will also include a link to a response form. We are asking that all parents with a child eligible to take the English 1 or English 2 EOC use this form to let us know whether or not their child will be participating in testing. Please be on

the lookout for this important email. Information about the Biology, Algebra 1, and U.S. History EOC exams will be communicated in early May.

BOWIE IS NO PLACE FOR HATE - On March 16, mass shootings that took the lives of six Asian American women in Georgia grieved our nation and heightened existing fears of violence among our Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. On March 17, Superintendent Stephanie Elizalde released [a statement](#) “condemn[ing] this violence and the hateful rhetoric that leads to it.” Along with the rest of Austin ISD, we at Bowie stand in solidarity with our AAPI communities and commit to cultivating an environment of inclusivity and safety for people of all identities.

Creating a safe school for all begins with acknowledging the reality: Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and the racialized rhetoric used to describe it, [Stop AAPI Hate](#), a coalition that collects data on violence against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, reported over 3,700 incidents. (In New York City alone, from 2019-2020, racially-motivated attacks against the AAPI community [increased by 1,900%](#).) Increased harassment and attacks throughout the nation have contributed to a collective trauma that we intend to address with our students with intentionality and care. In addition, we have added a [resource page to the Bowie Campus Community Course](#) for you and your child to explore together in solidarity with our AAPI students and staff.

Friday, April 2, is a student holiday to allow the Bowie staff to engage in some important professional learning. I hope that you all enjoy the long weekend!

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson
Principal
James Bowie High School