



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

July 27, 2022

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

WELCOME NEW BULLDOGS - Austin AISD has rolled over its student data for the new school year, meaning that Bowie can now communicate directly with our incoming 9th grade students and families! We are excited to meet you in just a few weeks! If you haven't done so yet, be sure to read last month's [Bowie Star Special Edition for 9th Grade Families](#) for some helpful information.

SUMMER CONSTRUCTION UPDATE - I am pleased to let you know that the new Fine Arts facilities which includes a theater, band hall, dance gym, art studios, locker rooms, and other instructional spaces, will be ready-to-go by the first day of school, with finishing touches and furniture move-in happening now. This means all of Bowie's 2017 bond-funded construction projects are nearing completion. Very soon our students and staff will be enjoying additional elbow room and freedom from construction disruptions and inconveniences. The summer break also allowed crews to replace the E-Hallway classroom HVAC units. While parts of the system still need work, much HVAC progress has been made over the past three summers.

UPCOMING 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR - Bowie will be hosting several events to help students and their families get ready for the new school year. You are invited to stop by the Bowie Library from either **8-9 am or 5-6 pm on Monday, August 1** for an informal meet-and-greet with the counselors and administrators or for a student-led campus tour. From **4-6 pm on Thursday, August 11**, all students are invited to explore the new facilities, pick up their class schedules, and locate their classrooms during the Meet at the Tree Campus Preview (please note that this is a students-only event). See the [Back-to-School Buzz flier](#) for additional information about these and other important events.

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL - Remember, the new school year begins at **9:05 am on Monday, August 15!** Approximately one week in advance, you and your student will receive detailed instructions about first-day of school logistics, including where and when to report, lunch information, transportation information, and more. This information will also be available in the [News section](#) of the new Bowie website bowie.austinschools.org.

SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS REMINDER - Some advanced courses require students to complete assignments over the summer. If your student is taking an advanced or Advanced Placement course, please make sure they are aware of the summer work expectations posted [HERE](#).

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST COUNSELOR - I am pleased to announce that Brian Wennberg will be joining the Bowie counseling team to work with students with last names beginning with CE - FRI (click [HERE](#) for counselor alpha group information). Mr. Wennberg was born, raised, and educated in Illinois. Before moving to Austin in 2012, he performed various duties in the education and mental health field, most notably as a K-8 school counselor, community mental health case manager, and a residential coordinator at a charter school for students with learning disabilities. As he starts his 11th year as school counselor with Austin ISD, he says that he is excited to learn more about the Bowie school community and how he can best serve, and that he looks forward to creating new relationships among students, parents, and faculty. In his free time, Mr. Wennberg like enjoys film, food, and fitness with his loved ones. Welcome to Bowie, Mr. Wennberg!

PARKING PERMITS - To park on campus or in the student lot at Bethany Lutheran Church during the 2022-23 school year, students must be in 11th or 12th grade and purchase a parking permit. Online permit sales will commence on Monday, August 1. Permits will be sold to eligible students according to a staggered schedule and availability is limited. For more information about purchasing a parking permit, click [HERE](#).

FOOD SERVICES CHANGES - The Department of Agriculture pandemic-related waivers that allowed Austin ISD to provide free meals for all students expired at the end of the 2021-22 school year. **Therefore, students will no longer automatically receive free breakfast and lunch.** Beginning on the first day of school, students will dine using their current meal status - free, reduced-price, or paid. Families needing free or reduced-price meals for their student are encouraged to complete a meal benefit application prior to the start of school to avoid accruing any negative balances. Online applications are accessible by creating an account at www.SchoolCafe.com/AustinISD, while hard-copy applications can be picked up from the Bowie main office next week.

CROSS COUNTRY TEAM NEWS - Cross Country is under way! Here at Bowie, we have a very proud Cross Country Program. If your student is interested in joining, please reach out to Coach Pool (dalton.pool@austinisd.org). At Bowie all levels of runners are allowed to join and there are no cuts. You show up to practice and work hard then you are on the team. First official day of practice is Monday August 1. A physical must be turned in to participate. For more information, please visit BowieXC.com.

DISTRICT NEWS - Austin ISD is excited to announce that Austin ISD's Back-to-School BASH will be back in-person, and will take place on Saturday, Aug. 6, 2022, at the Palmer Events Center (900 Barton Springs Rd, Austin, TX 78704) from 9 am to 1 pm. District departments and community organizations from across the city will offer exhibits for AISD families to learn about numerous programs and services that can help students enjoy a safe and successful school year. Click [HERE](#) for more information, including transportation and parking options.

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson
Principal