



# JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

July 29, 2021

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

First and foremost, I would like to give a warm welcome to all of the families who are newly joining Bulldog Nation! I hope you will quickly come to appreciate our sincere interest in knowing your child and our deep commitment to “nurturing all learners in their academic and career goals, social needs, and personal interests while celebrating diversity and preparing students for their futures” (Bowie High School [Mission Statement](#)).

**WHAT TO EXPECT:** The start of a new school year is always hectic, but in the context of the last 18 months of disruption, your family may be more anxious than usual. With this in mind, I would like to share with you some information about what to expect over the next couple of weeks in advance of **the first day of school on Tuesday, August 17, 2021.**

- **Bowie Communication** - The Bowie Star, my weekly-ish newsletter, is the primary way that important news and information is shared directly with Bowie families. Each edition of the newsletter is available on the Bowie website under the Parents tab, but it is also emailed to families using the SchoolMessenger system. If you or someone you know is not receiving emails from Bowie, please follow the steps outlined [HERE](#) to get connected. We also send announcements to students through the BLEND Bowie HS Community Course which you may or may not receive depending on your notification settings in BLEND. The Bowie website ([www.JBHS.org](http://www.JBHS.org)) contains lots of resources, and you are invited to follow us on Twitter @AISDBowie.
- **Student and Parent Orientation Activities** - It’s been a while since we’ve done “normal” school on campus, so we think students in every grade level could benefit from some extra orientation and review of school procedures this year -- plus, ongoing construction prevented us from offering our traditional freshman transition camp. Therefore, we are embedding LOTS of orientation activities into our classes during the first couple of weeks of school. Additionally, we will host some warm-up events before school starts, including Parent Meet & Greets on August 9 and 10, Freshman Parent Orientation Night on August 12, and the **Meet at the Tree Campus Preview for students from 1:00-4:00 PM on Saturday, August 14.** For more information about these upcoming events, check out the [Back-to-School Buzz flyer](#) linked here and attached below.
- **Transportation** - Families whose students are eligible for transportation will receive their bus information by email or letter on August 3. The district’s [“Bus Stop Finder”](#) will be live on August 3. Families whose students have special needs will receive their information in person from their bus teams starting the second week of August. Parking permits for juniors and seniors planning to drive to school go on sale next week (see the [2021-22 Parking Plan](#) for details).
- **First Day of School Information** - A few days before school starts, we will email detailed instructions guiding parents and students through the first day of school. Around that time, you and your student will also be able to view the unofficial class schedule in the Frontline tile of the [AISD Parent Cloud](#) (students will not see their course tiles in BLEND until the tiles are “published” by their teachers, which may not be until the first day of classes). We have a new campus map including our new athletic facility coming

soon. As you may know, Bowie operates on an alternating block schedule. Periods 1-4 meet on A-Days (Mondays, Wednesdays, and alternating Fridays), and periods 5-8 meet on B-Days (Tuesday, Thursdays, and the other Fridays). Click [HERE](#) to access Bowie's 2021-22 A/B Calendar and Bell Schedule.

**BULLDOG NATION UNITED T-SHIRT:** The Back-to-Campus Committee invites all students, parents, and staff to demonstrate our collective gratitude for the return to in-person learning and for our shared commitment to being a school where everyone belongs by purchasing an official Bulldog Nation United t-shirt. The Bulldog Nation United t-shirts can be purchased for \$7 via <https://austinisd.schoolcashionline.com/> (for help setting up your SchoolCashOnline account click [HERE](#)). You are welcome to order shirts for your entire family, and we hope you'll consider donating towards the purchase of extra shirts so we can ensure that EVERY student has one! Please place your order by July 30 to receive it in time for the start of school!

**A MESSAGE FROM BOWIE PTSA** - Bowie PTSA leads programs to promote family support and engagement with students, faculty, and staff, creating events such as Bulldogs & Hotdogs for our booster clubs, co-sponsoring the JBHS Homecoming Dance, and campaigns for campus improvements. With the continued unique circumstances we were faced with both last year and this year, be assured the relationship between our campus administration and the Bowie PTSA board is strong and will continue to thrive with membership. In this changing environment, programming and events may look different, in that they will be adapted but continue to partner with Bowie to bring forth new and exciting resources to benefit all students.

As Bowie PTSA gears up to support our teachers, staff, and students for the 2021-2022 school, you can click [HERE](#) to join in the effort by becoming a member of the PTSA today! The PTSA also supports our parents by providing timely information including student accolades in our newsletter, the Bowie Bulletin. Click [HERE](#) to sign up to start receiving the PTSA Bulletin.

#### **DISTRICT NEWS**

- **Reconnect Survey Request** - AISD recognizes that the COVID situation is rapidly changing and is working quickly to adjust plans for a safe reopening. District leaders respectfully request parents/guardians fill out [THIS FORM](#) to help us prepare for the first day of school on Aug. 17. For more information about the district's plans for a safe return to school visit [www.austinisd.org/reconnect](http://www.austinisd.org/reconnect).
- **Town Hall Meeting with Dr. Elizalde** - AISD District will host two back-to-school town halls where families can connect directly with Dr. Elizalde and other district leaders to discuss the upcoming school year. The English language session will take place on August 4, and the Spanish language session on August 5, both from 6-7 p.m. Participants may choose to view the event virtually via Facebook Live or in-person at the Performing Arts Center, where childcare, food, and enrollment information will be available. ASL interpretation and captioning will be provided. Click [HERE](#) to register for the events.
- **Austin Pride Parade** - Students and staff can help Austin ISD celebrate our LGBTQIA+ community by participating the **Pride Parade on Sat., Aug. 14, 2021, at 8 p.m.** Students and staff are invited to march behind the AISD Pride banner along with the AISD Pride Band.

Go Dawgs!  
Mark Robinson  
Principal  
James Bowie High School

# Back-to-School Buzz

AUGUST  
2021



## Meet at the Tree Campus Preview

1:00-4:00 PM

Saturday, August 14, 2021

\*All students in grades 9 thru 12 are invited to attend this come-and-go event!

- Locate your classrooms before the first day of school
- Participate in short tours to learn about different parts of campus and student life
- Get help connecting your phone or personal laptop to the Education network
- Pick up your pre-ordered Bulldog Nation United t-shirt or place your t-shirt order (\$7 cash or check payable to Bowie)
- Parents, remember that this is a students-only event! Student leaders will be stationed at the entrance and ready to buddy up with any student who arrives on their own!

SAVE  
THE  
DATES

Sept. 8th - Club Fair in the Courtyard

Sept. 9th - Back-to-School Night

Sept. 11th - Bulldogs & Hotdogs



### parent meet & greet

Monday, Aug. 9th & Tuesday,  
Aug. 10th (8:00-9:00 AM)

Parents are invited to swing by the Bowie library to say hello to the counselors and administrators, ask those burning questions, and enjoy some light refreshments.



### freshman parent night

Thursday, Aug. 12th

New to high school and want to know more about the programs and resources available to your freshman? Join us in-person or via Zoom (the presentation will also be recorded)

- 5:30 PM - Bowie Cafeteria
- 7:00 PM - Zoom (link will be emailed)



### embedded orientation

#### First Two Weeks of School

To help ALL students transition back to on-campus learning, teachers and student leaders will be facilitating orientation activities and training. Topics will include campus systems, procedures, and resources, Bowie spirit and traditions, growth mindset, sustaining a culture of equity and respect, AISD technology and digital citizenship, and more!