



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

September 1, 2021

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT: Bowie will host its annual **Back-to-School Night** for parents/guardians on Thursday, September 9, 2021. In order to provide a virtual option, each teacher has created a brief presentation and will post it on their course homepage in BLEND by Tuesday, September 7, to give you the same information you would have received by walking your student's schedule in previous years. If those presentations answer all of your questions to start this school year, you don't even have to leave your house next Thursday! You can see your child's courses and the teachers' presentations by accessing BLEND in the [AISD Parent Portal](#). If you're not familiar with BLEND or need more explicit instructions about accessing it, go to the BLEND introduction at <http://bit.ly/BLENDparentTOUR>.

If you would like to personally visit the campus on Back-to-School Night, you are welcome to do so. For those who choose to attend the event in-person, we will offer an open-house format. A general presentation in the new Athletics building competition gym will begin at 6:00 PM, followed by two 20-minute presentations of your choice about various aspects of Bowie student life. Teachers will not be making presentations in their classrooms and will not be able to discuss individual student issues, but they will be in their classrooms from 6:30-7:30 PM to greet you and invite you to look around. To plan your evening, please reference the [campus map](#) and the [Back-to-School Night Parent Flyer](#).

COVID REMINDERS: Your student's health and safety is our priority. In addition to being vaccinated, wearing masks, social distancing, handwashing, and self-screening whenever possible, there are ways that we can all do our part to stop the spread of Covid-19. **Should your child exhibit any Covid-19 symptoms, it is important that they do not come to campus.** Information about Covid-19 systems and how to determine when a student can return to campus after a Covid-19 infection or exposure can be found [HERE](#) and on the JBHS website. Be assured that attendance-related exam incentives have been suspended until further notice and that teachers will ensure learning can continue via BLEND for any student who is out sick or quarantined because of close contact with a person with Covid-19.

CLUB FAIR: [Current research shows](#) that students who feel they belong in a school benefit in a multitude of ways. One strategy to foster that belonging mindset is to encourage participation in school clubs, organizations, and programs. Bowie's annual **Club Fair** will be held in the courtyard on Wednesday, September 8, 2021, during both lunches. Students will have the opportunity to explore Bowie's many club offerings and speak to members about the club's meeting times, requirements, and activities. I encourage you to take a few minutes with your child to review Bowie's current list of clubs (also posted on the JBHS website): <http://bit.ly/JBHSclubs>. If your child has an interest not currently represented, they are invited to find a faculty sponsor and submit a [club application](#) for consideration.

BULLDOGS & HOTDOGS: The annual Bulldogs & Hotdogs event has been confirmed with PTSA for **Saturday, September 11, 2021, from 5-8 pm.** Bulldogs & Hotdogs is a community-wide festival that provides entertainment and activities for students of all ages and their families, and it creates fundraising opportunities for booster clubs and Bowie student organizations. The Bowie PTSA has planned an outdoor event for Bulldogs & Hotdogs this year in the courtyard and the marching band practice lot. Please join us for the fun, shop for your Bulldog Nation merchandise, and [sign up for PTSA!](#)

CRISIS SUPPORT FUND: Since the start of the pandemic, Austin Ed Fund – AISD’s non-profit education foundation – has raised over \$10 million through the [AISD Crisis Support Fund](#), which has helped our AISD community in so many ways. Whether it was remote learning supplies and technology for students and teachers, financial assistance for staff and families, or caregiver meals for families, it was all made possible by the generous donations made to the AISD Crisis Support Fund. We also know that there are still needs to be met.

Austin Ed Fund continues to fundraise through the AISD Crisis Support Fund, and anticipates supporting the following areas:

- Financial assistance for families, including homeless and refugee families
- Food for families in need
- Support for outdoor learning and dining on campuses
- Additional supports to keep students safe and connected to learning

[Donations to the AISD Crisis Support Fund](#) can be made at any time.

IDEAS FOR BOWIE’S FUTURE: Thank you for supporting Bowie High School in the 2017 bond. We are in our fifth and final year of renovations and modernization approved for Phase 1 of the facility master plan for Bowie. Austin ISD needs your help envisioning our district’s future! The draft facility assessment report for each campus and [Educational Specification updates](#) are ready for your feedback. Check out our [school’s reports online](#) and fill out the [feedback form](#) no later than Sunday, September 26. Visit <https://bit.ly/3DntgJ2> to learn more about how these documents fit into the district’s long-range planning process, which will help determine which improvements and new facilities are included in our next bond.

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson
Principal
James Bowie High School