



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

October 8, 2025

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

MARTHA, BOWIE'S COMFORT DOG - Martha, a Golden Retriever affiliated with Bethany Lutheran Church, is a specially trained comfort dog whose mission is to bring calm and care to those she meets. She serves in schools, nursing homes, hospice, and with veterans, and is also called to support communities during times of crisis. Martha has been visiting Bowie for many years and was excited to be back on campus this past Friday, bringing comfort, joy, and plenty of tail wags to her Bowie family! She'll be back again on November 7th.

PARENT CONFERENCES - SB 12 requires school districts provide at least two opportunities for in-person parent-teacher conferences per school year for all students. Austin ISD has adjusted the 2025-2026 school calendar to include secondary schools in the two required parent-teacher conference days. Therefore October 20, 2025, is now dedicated to parent conferences. Please be on the lookout for communication from your child's teachers regarding scheduling parent conferences on October 20 or contact your child's teacher if you would like to schedule a parent-teacher conference. Please contact Ms. Joanna Willard at joanna.willard@austinisd.org or (512) 414-5247 ext. 71714 by October 14 to request [translation and interpretation services](#) if required.

REPORT CARDS - Starting this school year, progress reports and standard report cards will be emailed to families and no longer be available in the student documentation tile in the parent portal. Instead, they will be distributed via a link in an email according to the [2025-2026 Report Card](#) calendar. The first nine weeks grading period will end on Friday, October 17 and report cards will be sent out to families by Wednesday, November 4. As we approach the end of the grading period, this is a great time to check your student's grades in the Parent Portal and encourage them to finish strong!

AP EXAM REGISTRATION - If you have a student enrolled in an Advanced Placement course at this time, students will have an opportunity to receive college credit by taking the AP Exam. AP Exam Registration will open on



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September 29, and will be open throughout the month of October. After October 31, a \$40.00 late fee will be applied to each exam. The absolute last day to register for your AP Exam is November 12. Any student enrolled in a Spring Semester-Only course will have an opportunity to register for that course's AP Exam in the spring semester.

AP Exam Registration consists of two parts: 1) Students must be enrolled in their teacher's AP Classroom with the College Board; and 2) Registration and payment must take place in Total Registration. For more information and details about AP Exam Registration, please visit our [website](#). Contact AP Coordinator, Kaylin Brett, at kaylin.brett@austinisd.org if you have any questions about AP Exam Registration.

CALENDAR REMINDER - A reminder that students will not attend classes on Friday, October 10, or Monday, October 13, 2025 for the observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day. Therefore the campus will be closed both days. If you would like to learn more about the observance of Indigenous Peoples' Day, please review these resources:

- [Five Ideas for Celebrating Indigenous Peoples' Day](#). This Smithsonian magazine article explains the importance of Indigenous People's Day and provides thoughtful suggestions for how to celebrate this holiday.
- This [New York Times article](#) provides the history of Indigenous Peoples' Day and speaks to current issues facing indigenous people.
- This [NPR story](#) explains what Indigenous Peoples' Day means to Native Americans.

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson
Principal