



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

December 15, 2022

8TH GRADE DAWG SHOW - Today, the 8th graders from Bailey, Gorzycki, Kealing, Covington, and Lively middle schools visited Bowie from 9:30-noon for the annual Dawg Show. A cross-section of Bowie students led campus tours, served on a student panel, facilitated team-building activities, and held a pep-rally to provide these future Bulldogs with a glimpse of high school life. Thank you to the staff at the middle schools for sharing their students with us for a few hours and to our various student organizations for all their work to make Dawg Show a success! Do you know the parent of an 8th grader? Please be sure they've read my [8th grade parent letter](#) and watched the [You Belong at Bowie video](#). And, let them know all the benefits of being a part of Bulldog Nation!

SEMESTER EXAMS - Today is the last day of the second nine weeks grading period. Students will spend the last four days of the semester, taking their fall semester exams. Exams comprise 20% of the student's overall average in the course and cover learning objectives for the entire semester. On each of the exam days, students will take exams in two of their courses and then be released at 1:35 pm, allowing them additional time to study for the next day's exams (see [Fall Exam Schedule](#)). **To preserve a quiet testing environment, we expect all students to remain in their classrooms until the end of the scheduled exam time. We respectfully request that you do not allow your student to check out of school early on exam days.**

ATTENDANCE EXAM INCENTIVES - Students are now able to see if they earned 0, 1, or 2 exam incentives this semester by entering their student ID# in a form linked on the homepage the BLEND Bowie Community Course. If you or your student has questions about how many exam incentives the student earned, first go to the [Understanding Incentives](#) document to review the criteria and use the unofficial exam incentives calculator. If there are still questions, the student may come to C102 during their lunch to review their attendance record with staff. Our staff is very busy organizing and managing the program, so kindly refrain from emailing or calling Bowie about exam incentives on behalf of your student until after they have stopped by C102 for a conversation. Keep in mind that for exam incentive purposes, EVERY absence, other than for school activities or partial day medical appointments, is included in the tally. The tally includes absences for which a

parent or doctor note was submitted (codes ILH and ILP). Tardies may also impact eligibility. Bowie bases exam incentive eligibility on the official attendance codes in Frontline and adheres strictly to the eligibility criteria. The attendance tally will reset in January for the spring semester exams.

LEVEL CHANGE REQUESTS - Those students wishing to adjust the level of rigor in a course by moving from the advanced to the academic level for the spring semester must complete this three-step process by **4 pm Sunday, Jan. 8, 2023**: (1) Discuss the desire to change levels with the teacher; (2) Submit the [Level Change 2023 Form](#); (3) Parent sends an email to the counselor confirming their consent to a possible schedule change (see counselor contact information [HERE](#)). Teacher committees will review the individual merits of each request to move from an advanced to an academic-level course within the context of staffing, class size, and other factors. **Level change requests are not automatically approved or guaranteed.**

STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST - The League of Women Voters is sponsoring an art and essay contest on the topic: What does democracy mean to you? The competition is open to students in grades 1-12. Submissions consist of original written work or visual artwork, illustrating what democracy means to you. Written pieces may be in the form of an essay, poem, or fictional work of no more than 500 words. Visual artwork may be in the form of a painting, drawing, screen print, or photograph with a size limit of 24 in x 36 in. Submissions are due January 13, 2023. Winners will be announced on January 31, 2022. [Click here](#) to read more about additional contest information, including prizes and submission instructions.

FOOD RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES - With many Austin ISD students living in food-insecure households, access to healthy food may be challenging when the district is closed. Families can use the community resources below to find free meals in their area while Austin ISD offices and schools are closed for the winter break:

- [Central Texas Food Bank](#)
- [United Way for Greater Austin - ConnectATX](#)
- [Texas Health and Human Services](#) - Call 2-1-1 or (877) 541-7905 to speak to a live operator.

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson

Principal

James Bowie High School