



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

April 27, 2026

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

TRUSTEE AWARDS & SENIOR HONORS NIGHT – Bowie High School will host Trustee Awards and Senior Honors Night on **Wednesday, April 29** in the Competition Gym. The **9th–11th Grade Trustee Awards Ceremony** will begin at **6:00 p.m.**, followed by the **12th Grade Trustee Awards and Senior Honors Night** at **7:30 p.m.** This is an **invite-only event**, and invited students and families should have already received communication. A [livestream link](#) is available for those unable to attend in person.

CAP & GOWN DISTRIBUTION – Herff Jones will distribute caps and gowns on **Thursday, April 30**, from **10:00 AM to 2:00 PM** in the courtyard. Seniors can also pick up their **Senior Check-Out Form** during both lunches at this time. Even seniors who did not order a cap and gown still need to pick up their Check-Out Form. Students unable to pick up these items on Thursday may collect them from the front office next week.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH – May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and Austin ISD's 2026 theme is **You Matter Here**. This month highlights the importance of connection, well-being, and support across our school communities. Join us in showing support by participating in **Be Seen in Green on May 1**.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK (MAY 4–8) – Next week, we proudly celebrate **Teacher Appreciation Week** and recognize the incredible educators who make Bowie such a special place. Our teachers inspire, support, challenge, and care for students each day while helping them grow academically and personally. We are deeply grateful for their dedication, passion, and lasting impact on the lives of our students. Please join us in thanking our amazing Bowie teachers for all they do. If you would like to know more about teacher interests, check out [Bowie Staff Favorites](#).

AP TESTING – AP Testing begins on **May 4th** and ends on **May 15th**. Students had to pre-register for AP Exams earlier in the school year. Students will need their Chromebook for testing and will report to the library for all exams. Students and parents will receive a detailed email from Total Registration this week containing important information for testing.

CHARACTER STRONG – This week wraps up our year-long **Character Strong** curriculum. Students across all grade levels participated in a reflection process designed to help



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cement their learning from the year. During this final session, students identified something valuable they learned, named a way they benefited from the program, and considered what they want to continue applying in their own lives moving forward. In their grade-level lessons, 9th graders reflected on values and supporting friends and classmates, sophomores focused on stress management and what is within their control, juniors emphasized the importance of asking others for help, and seniors explored how empathy can lead to positive action.

SENIOR BREAKFAST SLIDESHOW – As a fundraiser, the junior class officers are creating a slideshow for the **Senior Breakfast on May 27**. Families may purchase a slide featuring their senior’s name, a childhood photo, a recent photo, and a short message. The cost is a **\$10 donation**, and submissions are due by **Wednesday, May 20**. Interested families should complete payment through [MySchoolCentral](#) and submit photos using [the provided form](#). For questions, please contact [Ximena Gamboa](#) or [Justine Lashley](#).

SUMMER SCHOOL & SUMMER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES – Austin ISD will offer a variety of summer programs for secondary students designed to support success in the upcoming school year. Opportunities include **credit recovery, attendance makeup, college readiness, and STAAR preparation**, along with select fine arts and theater offerings. Additional Bowie-specific summer opportunities and campus availability will be shared soon. For more information, visit austinisd.org/summer-school.

GARZA ONLINE DEADLINE – Students currently enrolled in a **Garza Online** course are reminded that all coursework should be completed by **July 16**. Courses required for graduation will remain on a student’s schedule for next school year until Bowie receives confirmation of credit from Garza. Students needing support should contact their Garza teacher or [Diane Sidoroff](#), **Garza Online Coordinator**. If a student will not complete the course on time, please contact your [counselor](#) by **July 14** to create a plan. Students wishing to withdraw from a Garza course must contact Diane Sidoroff directly. For additional information, please visit the [Garza website](#).

Go Dawgs!

Dr. Cathryn Mitchell, Principal Substitute