



# JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

July 28, 2025

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

**JOIN PTSA** - The Bowie PTSA Board is looking for new members to join our team for the 2025–2026 school year! Don't let the titles intimidate you—grab a friend and share a role! Whether you have a few hours or can take on more, we'd love to have your support. Events like Bulldogs & Hotdogs, the Homecoming Dance, and Teacher Appreciation wouldn't be possible without parents like you. The [PTSA](#) is a great way to stay connected and make a meaningful impact on campus life.

PTSA Membership opens August 1 at [www.bowieptsa.org/membership](http://www.bowieptsa.org/membership)

Current Open Opportunities:

- Sponsorship Chair – Reach out to local businesses, secure PTSA sponsorships, and help coordinate fence-line banners (mostly done in the fall).
- [Bulldogs & Hotdogs Volunteers](#) – Help with this beloved community event happening August 23!
- Homecoming Volunteers – Assist with decorations, logistics, and setup for the dance.

For more information or to express interest, email [bowieptsapresident@gmail.com](mailto:bowieptsapresident@gmail.com).

**BUS INFORMATION** - AISD school buses are an extension of the classrooms—and student safety and behavior on buses are a top priority. Families whose students are eligible for transportation can check their bus information by checking the district's "[Bus Stop Finder](#)" system on our website beginning on Tuesday, August 5th. AISD's transportation team also offers families the "[WheresTheBus](#)" app, which provides timely information about the location of their student's assigned bus only, including when it will arrive at their stop. The free app is available on any device with internet access (smartphone, tablet, personal computer, iPad)—and takes less than five minutes to install. More information is available at <https://www.austinisd.org/transportation>.

**UPDATED COUNSELOR ASSIGNMENTS** - Please see the updated **Counselor Assignments** for the 2025–2026 school year. This list is based on student last names. If you have questions about your student's schedule, academic planning, or overall support, please reach out directly to your assigned counselor:



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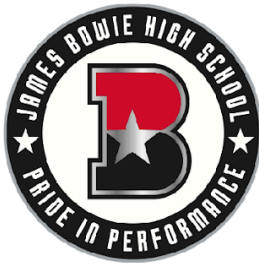
COUNSELOR NAME	STUDENT LAST NAMES	EMAIL ADDRESS
April Loeb	A - BUK	april.loeb@austinisd.org
Brian Wennberg	BUL - DR	brian.wennberg@austinisd.org
Laura Rodriguez	DU - G	laura.k.rodriguez@austinisd.org
Lori Eggleston	H - LAI	lori.ad.eggleston@austinisd.org
April Giuffre	LAK - MO	april.giuffre@austinisd.org
Kim Gilbert	MR - ROB	kim.gilbert@austinisd.org
Sheldyn Eaton	ROC - TAR	sheldyn.eaton@austinisd.org
Nicole Hepburn	TAS - Z	nicole.hepburn@austinisd.org

**COLLEGE BOARD ACCOMMODATIONS:** (PSAT, SAT, and AP Exams) - The deadline to request accommodations from College Board for the fall PSAT 8/9 and the PSAT/NMSQT is August 18th. Please contact Wendy Escobedo at [wendy.escobedo@austinisd.org](mailto:wendy.escobedo@austinisd.org) if you need information on requesting testing accommodations for College Board exams. More information on the request process can be found at "[How Accommodations Work](#)" on the College Board website.

**PSAT & SAT TESTING** - As part of our ongoing effort to align assessment practices with student needs, instructional time, and district priorities, we want to inform you of an important update regarding the College Board SAT Suite of Assessments for the 2025–2026 school year. **Key Update: Beginning in the 2025–2026 school year, Austin ISD will no longer administer the PSAT 8/9 to 8th and 9th grade students.** Please note that students in 10th and 11th grade will continue to participate in the PSAT/NMSQT during the fall semester. Additionally, 11th grade students will still have the opportunity to take the SAT School Day in the spring semester.

This decision was made with a strong focus on student success, campus capacity, and fiscal responsibility. Specifically, this change will:

- **Reduce overtesting and protect valuable instructional time.**  
By removing the PSAT 8/9, students will spend less time on standardized testing and more time engaged in meaningful classroom instruction.



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- **Provide resources to support awareness and preparation.**

Even though the PSAT 8/9 will no longer be given, students and families will have access to a toolkit with sample questions, study tips, and guidance to help them prepare for future assessments like the PSAT/NMSQT and SAT.

- **Prioritize assessments with clear benefits.**

The PSAT 8/9 does not support dual credit placement or meet Texas Success Initiative (TSI) exemption criteria. We are focusing on assessments that directly support college and career readiness.

- **Leverage existing data to identify advanced learners.**

MAP Growth assessments already provide reliable data on student performance. Schools can use these results to identify students who may be ready for Advanced Placement (AP) and other advanced academic opportunities.

We remain deeply committed to offering meaningful assessments that provide students with valuable opportunities. The PSAT/NMSQT and SAT will continue to be important tools for college admissions and scholarships, and we will ensure students are well-supported in preparing for these exams. Thank you for your continued partnership in supporting your student's academic journey. For any questions or concerns please contact the Secondary Outcomes Department at [college.advisor@austinisd.org](mailto:college.advisor@austinisd.org) or submit an AISD Help Ticket.

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson  
Principal