

August 22, 2025

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

We have had a wonderful back to school week at James Bowie High School!

BACK TO SCHOOL PARENT NIGHT - Bowie's annual open house event for parents and guardians will be 6:00-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 26. Bowie offers an in-person open house format that incorporates meet-the-teacher/see-the-classroom experience. The student section of the parking garage will be open for parent parking during the event. The auditorium doors will open at 5:30 p.m. for a Principal's Welcome in the auditorium. Teachers will be available in their classrooms to greet parents from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in a come-and-go format. Prior to coming to campus on Tuesday, please note your child's classrooms, teachers, and schedule.

DIGITAL DEVICE UPDATE - Texas House Bill 1481, passed during the 89th Legislative Session, requires all school districts to adopt and implement a policy prohibiting the use of personal communication devices by students on school property during the school day. The statute specifies that the policy must establish disciplinary measures for violations of the policy. Last night, our <u>Board of Trustees approved</u> our District Personal Communication Device Policy and the disciplinary measures for violations as outlined in our recently approved <u>Student Success Guide</u>. Violations of the policy will result in confiscation of the device and vary on the duration and who can retrieve the personal communication device for the <u>1st</u>, <u>2nd</u>, <u>3rd</u>, and <u>4th</u> offense. <u>The policy and disciplinary measures for infractions will go into effect Monday, August 25th.</u>

ENRICHING STUDENTS DIGITAL HALL PASS - In order to increase campus safety/security and prioritize academic learning time for students, Bowie High School is implementing <u>electronic hall passes</u>. We have used Enriching Students for several years to organize Flexibility Instructional Time (FIT) with great success and are excited to adopt this new feature to structure student activity in the hallways during class time. Students have always been encouraged to take care of their personal business before/after school, or during lunch and passing periods, however now students may use their Chromebook to request and

teachers will issue an electronic pass that identifies the students traveling and their destination on campus. Bowie has two campus safety monitors and students are required to wear their student IDs, so staff will be able to quickly identify who is authorized to be in the halls, and who is not and needs redirection. There is no limit to the number of passes that a student may be issued in a day because staff can always override the system to issue a pass whenever required. Because this is a centralized system, the data collected will be used to inform decision making and campus routines/procedures.

STUDENT IDS - All students are required to wear their ID badges on the front of their person. Student IDs must be worn visibly on their person at all times while on campus. They cannot be kept in pockets, attached to backpacks, or out of sight. If a student forgets their ID, they can get a temporary sticker for the day for \$1.00. If lost, students can purchase a replacement badge for \$5.00. Students are allowed to wear their ID on their own, school-appropriate lanyard. If they would like to purchase a Bowie lanyard, they are \$3.00. To order any of these items, the ID Badge Replacement Form must be completed.

ATHLETIC TICKETS - I'm pleased to announce that HomeTown Ticketing will now be the official ticket vendor of Austin ISD. This program will encompass all campuses with electronic ticketing. This is cashless and easy to manage.

- The link for all general tickets is <u>HERE</u>.
 Just enter "Bowie" in the search bar and the schedule will populate.
 Because there are multiple schools with our name, be sure you have our campus. Our logo will populate and it will read Austin, Texas.
- If you need support, here is a helpful <u>LINK.</u>

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming games!

LOCKDOWN DRILL - Texas state law requires Bowie to conduct a number of safety drills per year, including two lockdown drills. Bowie will conduct a lockdown drill for this year on Monday, August 25. The Texas School Safety Center provides information to parents about what to expect during a lockdown drill:

"During a lockdown drill, an announcement will be made, generally over the public address system, and the school will go into lockdown. Language should be clear that a drill is taking place and not an actual emergency. Teachers will scan the hall and pull any students, staff, and visitors into their classrooms, and lock their classroom doors. The lights will be turned off in the classroom and the students and teacher will hide out of view from the window. The door to the classroom may not be opened by anyone inside the classroom, regardless of what is said from someone that might be trying to get in. The occupants of the room are taught to remain quiet."

Campus administrators in collaboration with the School Resource Officer (SRO) at Bowie will "clear" the campus before classes return to normal instruction.

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson Principal