



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

January 31, 2022

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

FINE ARTS ANNOUNCEMENT - I am thrilled to announce that Bowie's new theater, opening in the fall of 2022, will be named the **Betsy Cornwell Performing Arts Center!** Betsy Cornwell has been the head director of the James Bowie High School Starlight Theatre Company since the school's opening in 1988, making her name synonymous with the program. Having led one of the largest and most prolific theatre programs in the state, Mrs. Cornwell has brought state, national, and international recognition to our school while mentoring thousands of students during her tenure in Austin ISD. A group of her former students initiated a grassroots effort to name the new facilities in her honor, gathering powerful testimonials of support from over 200 Bowie alumni. Last Thursday night, with the enthusiastic support of the Bowie Campus Advisory Committee, the Austin ISD School Board formally approved the proposal. We count ourselves lucky that Mrs. Cornwell has chosen to serve at Bowie for so many years, and we now look forward to attending future productions at "The Betsy"!

CALENDAR CHANGES - Last week the AISD school board approved a change to the district's academic calendar. **February 11 and March 4 are now holidays for students and staff.** In light of this decision and to maintain a balance between our A-days and B-days, district leadership also modified the high schools' A/B calendar, designating February 25 as a B-day. Moving forward, please reference [BOWIE'S REVISED A/B CALENDAR](#) in your planning.

AP EXAM REGISTRATION BEGINS - Registration for Spring Semester AP Exams opens today, January 31 and is open until February 11 for regular fees. Only students currently enrolled in an AP course for the Spring Semester can register at this time. These courses include AP Government, AP Macroeconomics, AP Microeconomics, AP Human Geography and AP Psychology. Late fees will be applied for registration submitted between February 12 and March 4. The last day to register for AP Exams for the Spring Semester courses is on March 4. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

CREDIT RECOVERY - Bowie's Twilight Credit Recovery Program will begin Monday, February 14, 2022. The deadline to register for the program is February 9, 2022 (use this [link](#) to register your child). Students may take more than one course, if needed. Here is a [list](#) of courses being offered. Twilight Credit Recovery is an opportunity for students to make up credits lost in previous semesters by attending teacher-led credit recovery classes either before or after school. If you have questions about the Twilight Credit Recovery Program, please contact counselors Ms. Kim Gilbert or Ms. Nicole Hepburn. If you have questions about credits please contact your student's [School Counselor](#).

DECEMBER STAAR EOC RESULTS - Score results are now available for those students who took a STAAR End-of-Course (EOC) make-up exam or retake in December. These results can be located in the Parent Self-Serve tile or by logging into the TEA Assessment Family Portal at <https://www.texasassessment.gov/families.html>. Remember, per state law, students must pass five STAAR EOC Exams prior to graduation: English 1, English 2, Algebra 1, Biology, and U.S. History. Content area teachers will be conferencing with students who took an EOC Exam in December about their scores and how to prepare for an EOC Exam retake, if required.

PREPARING FOR UPCOMING STAAR EOC EXAMS - Students currently enrolled in Algebra, English 1, English 2, Biology or U.S. History will be required to take the corresponding STAAR EOC Exam later this semester. If your child is scheduled for testing, please review the following information (additional testing resources can be found [HERE](#)).

- **AISD Chromebooks** - All STAAR EOC Exams must be administered on an AISD-issued Chromebook. However, Bowie does not have enough loaner Chromebooks on EOC testing days for those students who have not checked-out an AISD device. **Therefore, if your student has not checked out a device because they prefer to use a personal computer on a daily basis, we ask that you use the Technology Distribution tile in the AISD Parent Portal to request an AISD Chromebook be issued to your student for testing.** Once you submit the request, your student can pick up the device from room A117 between 8:30-9:00 AM or the last 20 minutes of their lunch period. If your child already has an AISD-issued Chromebook, please have them make sure that the device is in working order!
- **Practice Tests and the Online Platform** - Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the state's new digital testing platform using [THIS LINK](#). Students with 504 or Special Education testing support can manually activate digital tools within the platform (they also have the option to enter their first name and unique state TSDS number from their report card to verify their personalized settings).

SEL LEARNING OPPORTUNITY FOR PARENTS - The Gorzycki Middle School PTA invites parents from all Bowie Vertical Team schools to participate in an interactive SEL workshop on Wednesday, February 2 at 7:00 pm. The workshop will be given by Mr. R. Keeth Matheny, a national award winning teacher, author and speaker, and also a Bowie parent. We'll be exploring such questions as "What is going on with the teenage brain?," "How can we help support students' emotional health during COVID?," and "What does effective SEL look like in schools and in communities?" See event information here: <https://fb.me/e/19F7klmCt> Zoom Meeting ID: 894 4498 8631 / Zoom Passcode: 929901

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson
Principal