



# James Bowie High School

❖ Pride In Performance ❖

Monday, April 1, 2019

Greetings Bulldog Nation,

This edition of the Bowie Star is **dedicated to testing**. Bowie students will soon be taking a variety of mandated assessments to measure their academic achievement. An email with more detailed assessment information and instructions specific to your student’s grade-level will be sent to you via the Naviance communication system. While we make every effort to minimize disruption on testing days, the schedules on **April 9th and April 11th will be modified as follows:**

## TUESDAY, APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup>

GRADE	ACTIVITY	NOTES
9th Grade	English I STAAR 9:00-4:30	Bring sack lunch - lunch in classroom
10th Grade	Regular classes	
11th Grade	College Board SAT 9:00-1:30 test 1:30-2:15 lunch 2:15 resume classes	Graphing calculator recommended
12th Grade	Regular classes	

## THURSDAY, APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup>

GRADE	ACTIVITY	NOTES
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	PSAT 9:00-1:30 1:30-2:15 lunch 2:15 resume classes	Graphing calculator recommended
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	English II STAAR 9:00-4:30	Bring sack lunch - lunch in classroom
11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	TSI Exam 9:00-12:15 test 12:15-1:15 lunch 1:15-2:15 test 2:15 resume classes	Bring Chromebook
12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Senior Expo 9:00-1:30 Event 1:30-2:15 lunch 2:15 resume classes	Wear college shirt Seniors must register for sessions in advance

**STAAR END-OF-COURSE:** These state assessments are important for several reasons. In addition to being required for a student’s graduation, the scores factor heavily in the public school accountability system and distinctions that the campus receives. Bowie High School also uses the results to inform instructional planning and guide student course selections. Therefore, it is important that all students take these exams seriously and do their best.

**PSAT 8/9:** We are pleased that AISD is once again providing funding for **every 9th grade student to take the official PSAT 8/9 on Thursday, April 11, 2019.** The PSAT helps students determine what they need to work on most while in high school so that they’re ready for college upon graduation. The exam is aligned to the PSAT that sophomores and juniors take every year at Bowie, as well as the College Board SAT exam that is widely used for college admissions. Students can also share their scores with Khan Academy to practice the knowledge and skills they need most to grow their learning -- and it’s free! Students are **strongly encouraged to bring a scientific or graphing calculator to the test.** Please note that Bowie does not have enough calculators on-hand to provide them to the students.

**SAT:** For the first time, AISD has contracted with College Board to **administer the official SAT to all Bowie 11<sup>th</sup> grade students during the school day on Tuesday, April 9, 2019.** The opportunity to take this

important college entrance exam at school for free ensures that all students are well-positioned to start the college application process. Juniors are **encouraged to bring their own graphing calculators** to the test as Bowie doesn't have enough calculators for every student.

**TSI:** The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) test is a required assessment to **determine college-readiness in reading, writing, and math.** The exam includes essay and multiple choice sections and is taken online using the student's Chromebook. Exam questions increase or decrease in difficulty based on previous answers, so it is important that students carefully read each question and select the best answer. Successful scoring on the TSI test is **required before a student can enroll in dual credit courses at Bowie or take classes at ACC and other select colleges.**

**SENIOR EXPO:** On April 11, 2019, Seniors will start their day with the Senior Breakfast tradition in the cafeteria followed by a powerful message about making good choices from motivational speaker Kacy Benson. **Seniors will also choose a break-out session focused on life after graduation** such as money management, stress management, tips about college from Bowie Alumni, and more. Seniors in AP classes will also be able to take a practice mock AP exam in the subject of their choice. More information about the Senior Expo is available on the JBHS website (Senior Expo flyer).

**Community workshops regarding the Austin Independent School District's School Changes process are scheduled in April** to continue the conversation on potential school consolidation, increased programming, and repurposing. Workshops will feature a panel of AISD staff, community members, and planners and developers, who will engage the audience in a dialogue around the challenges and opportunities this process presents. Attendees will gain a better understanding of the "[Reinvention Roadmap](#)" and participate in facilitated activities to gain perspective on what it could look like to come out of this process with school communities that are better and stronger than they are now.

The meeting schedule is listed below.

- **Tuesday, April 16, 6 – 8 p.m.**  
**Bowie High School, 4103 W Slaughter Ln, Austin, TX 78749**
- Wednesday, April 17, 6 – 8 p.m.  
Fulmore Middle School, 201 E Mary St, Austin, TX 78704
- Wednesday, April 24, 6 – 8:00 p.m.  
Alternative Learning Center, 4900 Gonzales St, Austin, TX 78702
- Thursday, April 25, 6 – 8 p.m.  
Dobie Middle School, 1200 E Rundberg Ln, Austin, TX 78753

Spanish interpretation and childcare will be provided at all meetings.

Go Dawgs!

Sincerely,

Mark Robinson  
Principal  
James Bowie High School  
Follow me on [Twitter](#) @robinson\_mark\_a

*A Recognized School of Excellence*

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