

AVID

Advancement Via Individual Determination

**Parent/Student
Handbook**

James Bowie High School

2016-2017

OUR MOTTO

CROSS THE LINE!

OUR MASCOT

THE VOLUNTEER

OUR COLORS

BLUE, ORANGE, AND WHITE

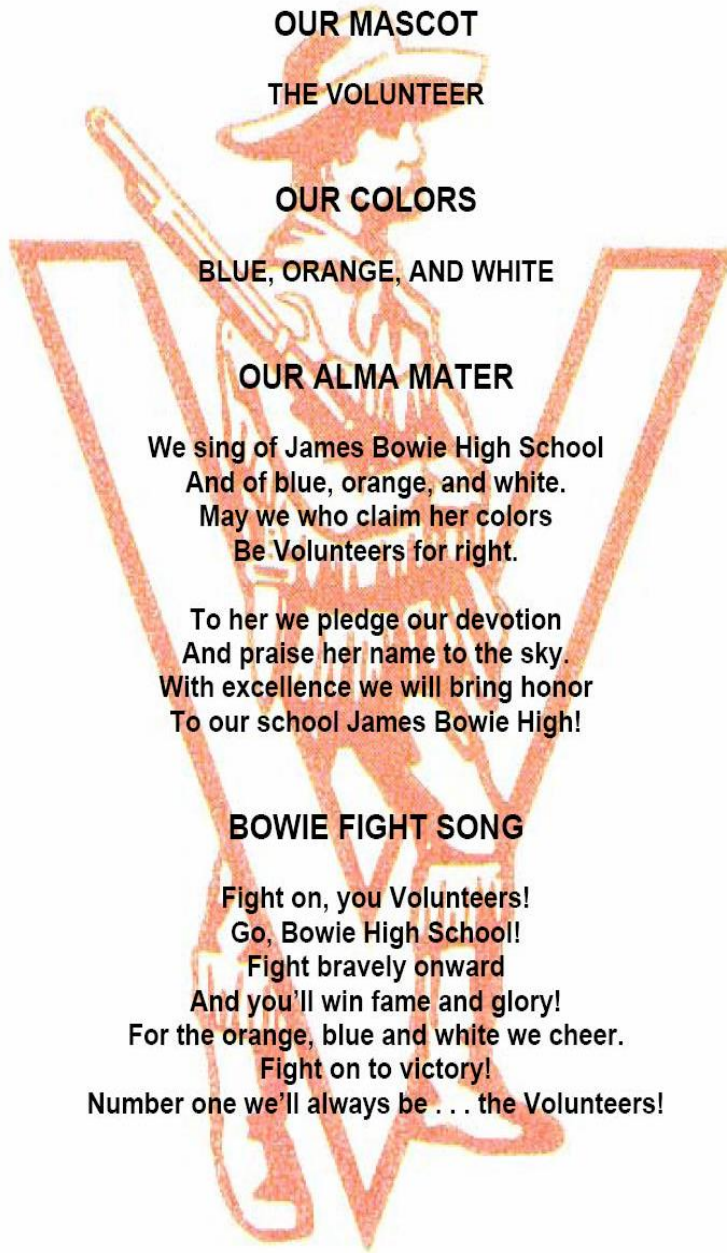
OUR ALMA MATER

We sing of James Bowie High School
And of blue, orange, and white.
May we who claim her colors
Be Volunteers for right.

To her we pledge our devotion
And praise her name to the sky.
With excellence we will bring honor
To our school James Bowie High!

BOWIE FIGHT SONG

Fight on, you Volunteers!
Go, Bowie High School!
Fight bravely onward
And you'll win fame and glory!
For the orange, blue and white we cheer.
Fight on to victory!
Number one we'll always be . . . the Volunteers!



What is AVID?

AVID is a fourth- through twelfth-grade system to prepare students in the academic middle for four -year college eligibility. It has a proven track record in bringing out the best in students, and in closing the achievement gap. The goal of AVID is to educate the whole student by unifying six important elements of education: students, curriculum, faculty, skills, parents, and community. The AVID curriculum includes instruction in study skills, organizational skills, communication skills, writing, test-taking strategies, personal development, and team-building.

Where did AVID begin?

In 1980 Mary Catherine Swanson was head of the English department at San Diego's Clairemont High School. San Diego was becoming increasingly diverse. The federal courts issued an order to desegregate the city's schools, which brought large numbers of inner city students to suburban schools. While Swanson applauded the decision, she wondered how these underserved students would survive at academically acclaimed Clairemont High.

Her answer was AVID, an academic elective, but it was more than a program – it was a philosophy: Hold students accountable to the highest standards, provide academic and social support, and they will rise to the challenge.

AVID at BOWIE!

AVID started as the vision of Principal Darrell Sneed and was included in the 2004-2005 Campus Improvement Plan. In an effort to implement AVID, two faculty members were sent to AVID Awareness training in the fall of 2004 to become familiar with the purpose of AVID and the benefits of beginning an AVID program. The original AVID Site Team members went to Austin, Texas to complete 5 days of their first AVID Summer Institute training during the summer of 2005. After attending the Institute, these site team members set out to make the dream of having AVID on the BHS Campus a reality.

In the Fall Semester of 2005 32 AVID students walked into their first day of AVID instruction. The program has continued to grow ever since. Bowie will have AVID students in grades 9-12 for the 2015-2016 school year serving over 380 students!!

The Mission of AVID:

The mission of AVID is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society

AVID's systemic approach is designed to support students and educators as they increase schoolwide/districtwide learning and performance.

AVID Student Profile:

An AVID student meets the following student profile:

Must meet all of the following:

- Average to High test scores
- 2.5—3.5 GPA
- College potential with support
- Desire and determination
- Is enrolled in advanced coursework

Must meet one of the following:

- First to attend college
- Historically underserved in 4-year colleges
- Low Income
- Special circumstance

AVID Program Student Requirements:

- Maintain enrollment in and **successfully complete** college preparatory classes (Pre-AP, AP, IB, Dual Credit) each year
- Maintain an organized binder that includes Cornell notes for each academic course
- Maintain a paper or electronic planner to record assignments for all classes
- Complete tutorial forms, and fully participate in all AVID tutorial sessions (M-TH)
- Take at least one page of Cornell notes for every class each day
- Spend two hours per night on homework and studying
- Maintain satisfactory citizenship and attendance in all classes
- Complete AVID assignments including writing and speaking tasks
- Take the PSAT each year and the SAT at least once before graduation
- Attend the AVID field trips during and after school
- Maintain at least a 2.0 grade point average
- **Complete and meet ALL requirements on Next Level Checklists.**

AVID Elective Grading System

Grades in the AVID elective class will be determined in the following manner:

Tutorials	35%
AVID Curriculum	35%
Binder Checks	30%

Tutorials are held twice every week and are the most critical part of the AVID elective class. Through the tutorial process, the AVID elective class encourages critical thinking skills while supporting students in their rigorous courses.

Binder checks are another essential component to the AVID elective class. Students must maintain Cornell Notes in an organized binder. Binder checks are conducted 2-3 times per six weeks.

The AVID Probationary and Exit Process

An AVID student may be placed on probation and/or exited from the program for: **continuous disregard of AVID program student requirements, academic reasons, or behavior infractions.**

The probation and exit status of AVID students will be determined by the probation committee consisting of: AVID elective teachers, AVID coordinator, AVID counselor, AVID administrator, and AVID campus site team.

Probation based on disregard of AVID program student requirements

The AVID elective teacher monitors AVID program student requirements as determined by the AVID Handbook.

If a student is not successful in meeting these requirements, the elective teacher arranges a probationary conference with the student and parent. Other members of the probation committee may attend this meeting.

An action plan for success is created at the probationary conference.

The AVID elective teacher monitors and documents progress of the action plan for success throughout the semester.

The student may be removed from probation after showing adequate progress as determined by the action plan.

Probation based on academic reasons

The AVID counselor and AVID coordinator will monitor AVID student grades every six weeks.

Beginning with the 1st 6 weeks, if a student fails two or more classes, they will be placed on probation.

The AVID counselor and AVID coordinator will arrange a probationary conference with the student and parent. Other members of the probationary committee may attend this meeting.

An action plan for success is created at the probationary conference. AVID Interventions will be put into place.

Once the student shows adequate progress by receiving a grade of at least a 70 in the classes they were failing, they may be removed from probation.

Probation based on behavior infractions

If a student has any of the following behavior infractions, he or she will immediately be placed on probation.

- 3 ISS placements
- 1 Choices placement
- 1 Turning Point placement

The AVID counselor and AVID coordinator will contact the parent and set an action plan for success with the student.

The student may be removed from probation after showing adequate progress as determined by the action plan.

Exit process

Students on probation will be evaluated at the end of the semester by the probation committee to determine the exit status of the student.

If you do not complete and meet the requirements on the Next Level Checklists, you will NOT continue in the AVID program.

Information for the AVID Parent/Guardian

AVID Tips

The AVID Program encourages open lines of communication between parents and teachers. This greatly reduces the number of situations where an AVID student fails to meet basic program requirements. If you have any questions or concerns about any part of your child's AVID class or related courses, please contact his/her AVID teacher immediately. Early intervention prevents small concerns from becoming big problems.

The AVID teacher will contact you by phone if he/she feels your child is not meeting basic program requirements. Please respond promptly to these messages. Often, a phone conversation or parent/teacher/counselor conference is all that is necessary to reach a solution.

Of course, the best plan to avoid potential problems is to be pro-active. Please plan to attend the AVID parent meetings and workshops that are offered at your child's school, volunteer to serve on parent/teacher advisory councils and committees, and chaperon field trips when your schedule permits.

Role of Parent/Guardian (taken from the AVID website)

The involvement of parents is a priority in AVID. Parents are informed about program events and expectations through newsletters and parent meetings. Parent groups often become active in planning programs and fund-raising.

Parents sign a contract agreeing to support all AVID academic requirements; encourage and support their children's academic success; and, attend AVID parent meetings.

Resources

If you would like more information about the Bowie AVID Program, please visit our website at www.aisd.net/bowie.

You can also visit the AVID website at www.avidonline.org.

Parent Self Serve– Do you wonder about your student's grades? Check the Bowie website and sign up with Parent Self Serve.

How do I Volunteer?

We would LOVE to have as many AVID parent volunteers as possible! We need parent volunteers to attend field trip, chaperone social activities, and even assist teachers on campus.

If you are willing to volunteer to help our AVID family, email our AVID Coordinator, Jennifer Fuller at jfuller@aisd.net, or call her at 682-867-4400. The volunteer application must be completed online, and the volunteer application instructions can be found on the AISD web site.

Please visit www.aisd.net and click on the Volunteer link on the left of the screen.

AISD – Personnel Department
Volunteers
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Arlington, Texas 76013
682-867-7459 office