**Back to School: First day of Virtual Learning is September 8, 2020**

Welcome back to the 2020-21 school year. AISD is starting the first 4 weeks of school with 100% virtual learning. Check our website for the latest virtual support and guidance for all students.

**Senior Class of 2021**

The Senior Class of 2021 picked up class T-shirts during a drive through on Thursday, August 27. So proud of our seniors! Thank you to the Class of 2021 booster club, Mr. Maddox, and Linda Garcia for making the drive through happen before the start of school.
College and Career Resources for Seniors

NAVIANCE ACCESS: AISD changed the way students log into Naviance in January. Log into the AISD Student Portal (not the Cloud): https://portal.austinisd.org. Once the student logs in, search for and click on the Navience tile

- Seniors Frequently Asked Questions about college applications and financial aid. (Hyperlinks to apps are open in this form too, letter of rec info, and more.)
- Seniors Helpful table of who to ask for what in regards to your college applications
- HERE Searchable list of Test Optional Colleges & policies (this is updated weekly) TEST OPTIONAL REALLY MEANS TEST OPTIONAL
- NEW NCAA prospective college athletes are not required to take an SAT or ACT for eligibility this year.
- HERE Austin High School College & Career Center Video Webinar on Applying to College
- Fly in College visits for underrepresented students
- HERE Austin High has started scheduling virtual visits for our students. Sign up in Naviance!
- Follow our FACEBOOK and TWITTER pages to get info too.
- Make sure to update your email address in Naviance. Use the same email you will use to apply to college with, and make sure it is NOT your student issued AISD email.
- NEW AISD Scholarship Scoop - August https://www.smore.com/qwpj0-scholarship-scoop

Seniors are encouraged to contact the Austin High College & Career Center with any questions or to schedule an online meeting:

- Tara Miller Tara.miller@austinisd.org (College questions)
- Liz Ownby liz.ownby@austinisd.org (Scholarships, Career Resources, test fee waivers)
- Diana Clawson diana.clawson@austinisd.org (Dual Credit/TSI questions)

Learning from home - “Loyal Forever, Wherever!”

We know learning from home is challenging, but Maroons are Loyal Forever and that means during COVID, we remain flexible. Our teachers have worked hard since March to prepare for virtual learning environments starting September 8. Should your family need Wifi or Technology, please let us know. Need support with breakfast and lunch? Need mental health support? Call us at (512) 414-2505 for more information.
Cultural Proficiency & Inclusiveness @AustinHigh
The Austin High faculty and staff engaged in two sessions of CP&I Speak Up Training in August. Learning about the AISD anti-discrimination policy, teachers reviewed the Pyramid of Hate and used resources from Tolerance.org to Speak Up. We are working with the CP&I department in AISD to learn and grow and will continue our journey in Courageous Conversations. We are creating a campus-based CP&I committee of staff, students, and parents. Stay tuned for more information coming soon!

Congratulations Nicole Griffith - McCallum High School Interim Principal
Congratulations Ms. Griffith on your appointment as the new interim principal of McCallum High School. You will always be Loyal Forever and we wish you all the best in your new role. #AISDProud
Welcome new AHS staff members to our team

Lindsay Abel – Math
Ally Baker – ELA
Alyssa Brown – CTE
Courtney Eastabrook – ELA
Debra Groth – Social Studies
Daphne Hernandez – World Languages
Ben Keller – ELA
Dustin Smurthwaite – Fine Arts/CTE (Newspaper)
Mauri Sparks – CTE
San Juan Saul Jerome – Fine Arts
Cristian Rios – Social Studies
Albert Almanza – Science
Ashlyn Wilkison – Science
Wanda McKinley – Special Education

Welcome New Administrators to Austin High!
Please help me welcome two new administrators to our Austin High team: Patricia Fuentes and Charlsie Johnson. Ms. Fuentes will serve as the Administrator of the Academy for Design and Technology and Mrs. Johnson will serve as the Administrator of the Academy for Science and Innovation.

We have a RAVE!
Congratulations to our very own Jessica Mitchell for her AISD RAVE during the summer months! We appreciate her dedication to our community and love of our students. You are Loyal Forever!
Academies Update: Congratulations Mr. Maddox on your promotion as our Academies Director!

Even in these unusual virtual new territories, Mr. Maddox shares good news that the academies at Austin High are alive and well! We welcomed our new incoming freshmen, The Class of 2024, with a successful Virtual Maroon Roundup. Our academy teachers in grades 9 and 10 spent several days Zooming with their teams to begin strategizing and collaborating on making virtual learning robust and create ways individual teachers can dive deeper into the pillars of learning specific to each academy. The academies will continue to receive instructional guidance and support through our amazing Instructional Coaches, Stacy Webster and Kelly Wroblewski, as we enter virtual learning September 8. Project Based Learning (PBL) is a focal point in each academy. Typically, the spring semester sees these interactive group projects blossom. Our fingers are crossed that we will be back in full force by then to continue these deeper learning experiences. Even though all travel and field trips are on hold for this semester, the following trips that were already on the calendar have been rescheduled to late spring:

- Boston STEM Discovery (ASI Seniors) – April
- San Francisco STEM Discovery (ADT Juniors) – May
- Italy – Florence and Rome (ACS Seniors) – June
- Costa Rica and Thailand (AGS) – planning stages soon for the 2021-22 school year

We encourage you to continue supporting for The Academies at Austin High by being a part of a Parent Advisory Board, joining the PTSA, contributing to your academy’s Community Partners Campaign when that goes live, attend the All In for Austin High event in the spring, and talk to your child about the topics and assignments being studied. Please know all staff at Austin High are committed to taking the best care of your child each and every day!

Parents and Students Participate in Back-to-School Webinars

On August 26 and 27, parents and students Zoomed in with Principal Taylor to learn more about the Back to School plans. If you missed the Webinar, check out the presentation here.
Austin High School PTSA thanks our teachers and staff during Staff Development Week!

 Austin HS PTSA volunteers with School Supply & Backpack Distribution

Join the Austin High PTSA today!
2020-21 PTSA Meetings and Education Series
**2017 Bond: AHS Renovations & Changes in Parking for 2020-21**

The bond work for our new athletic wing is underway. Several classrooms in the athletic wing have moved to new portables for the 2020-21 school year due to construction. Two art rooms, two engineering rooms, both life skills rooms, and some athletics will be housed in new portables outside of the science wing near the World Language portables. Media arts moved to the 2nd floor, DELTA moved to the west entrance (previous SBS room), and SBS moved to the 2nd floor conference room.

Because of the bond work, AISD created **new traffic drop off/pick up locations** that will be implemented after we return to on-site learning.

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**New Traffic Patterns for 2020-21**  
**Vertical Expansion Construction Areas Fall 2020**  

Look at our beautiful new track renovated this summer!

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**2017 AISD Bond Austin High School Scope of Work**  
**2017 AISD Bond Austin High Site Logistics and Phasing**
Maroon Roundup and Parent Camps were a huge success!
Thank you to the coordinators of Maroon Roundup: Jordan Attra, Kerri Ault, and Ralph Miller. We had around 450 freshmen attend. We welcome our newest class of 2024 to Austin High School. Loyal Forever!

Strength & Conditioning started August 24th
Thank you to our student athletes and coaches for their dedication during weight and conditioning camps held this summer at House Park. Practices are continuing before/after school for UIL sports.
Library Connection via Virtual Learning
Our library is the heart of our school. Shout out to Sara Stewart and Cerenity Covalesky for their dedication and support of our students and staff, even in a virtual setting. They are Loyal Forever!

Academic Counseling @AustinHigh
Our academic and graduation counselors are busy at work helping resolve master scheduling issues before the first day of school. They are available to help in times of need, advise students and families on course selections, and provide transition services. We love our counselors and thank them for their dedication to our school.

A message from our counselors: click here
https://www.austinhighmaroons.org/counselors.html

Counselor Session “How to Be a Mighty Maroon”- For 9th Grade Parents and New Student Families! Please join us on Thursday, September 3rd on Zoom at 6pm for information on tips and tools you need to be a Mighty Maroon! Gain information on graduation requirements, GPA, college and career planning, and school mental health resources. You will learn how to navigate virtual learning at Austin High. Click HERE to go to the counseling webpage for a zoom link for September 3rd. For those of you unable to attend this event, we will post all information covered on the Austin High website after the presentation.

Social and Emotional Support for Families
We know these are challenging times for families. It’s not easy taking care of a family while working and monitoring student progress during virtual learning. Please remember to take care of yourself during these difficult times. We are in this together and will support each other along the way. The AISD SEL department has resources to help. Click here for the latest information to help your family cope. You may also call on our Wellness Counselor, Sherri Patton-Grubb, for family and student support services.