

Back to School Message

The Boling Independent School District administration, teachers, and support staff have spent much of the summer preparing for another school year filled with opportunities and challenges for every student. I welcome everyone back to the 2018-2019 school year.

The Boling ISD organization recognizes the significance of individual, parental, and community relationships. I attribute the sustained success of this school district is largely based on the value our community places on the ability for our students to feel connected and safe. We acknowledge that with every student interaction is an opportunity to inspire, encourage, and stimulate. We embrace the concept that students who experience a sense of community and well-being are more confident and perform at higher levels.

We revisited our security and safety processes during the summer, and reevaluated our emergency operations plan, in order to ensure Boling ISD is as safe and prepared as possible. Our ongoing safety program includes significant training and planning, partnering with law enforcement, strengthening existing campus security programs, identifying and responding to students at risk of harming others, providing meaningful counseling programs, and more. This summer's efforts resulted in a broadening of current safeguards, while introducing new concepts. A few of our new strategies include adding a new counselor to our faculty, implementing a Districtwide Immediate Emergency Response Notification System, and providing our employees with formal Mental Health First Aid Training prior to the first day of school. Our partnerships will continue with local law enforcement, emergency management agencies, the Texas School Safety Center, and other professionals while keeping the safety of our students as our main focus.

I encourage our community to continue their involvement by volunteering at the campuses, attending school activities, and visiting our campuses during Open House, Meet-The-Teacher functions, Assemblies, Programs, etc. Newgulf Elementary School will host a "Meet The Teacher Night" on Thursday, August 23rd from 5:30-7:00 p.m., and our Open House activities are scheduled on September 17th at Boling High School, September 18th at Iago Junior High, and October 11th at Newgulf Elementary (all from 6:00-7:30 p.m.).

We have several new teachers that will join a talented and experienced group of educators, and we are excited to welcome Angela Burns, Brooke Burns, Rodney Dowell, Terry Dusek, Jonathan Gibson, Quantaa Jackson, Kristie Jones, Kelsey Kocian, Kyla Lockley, Teri Lucky, Chantae McKeller, Brent Tritschler, and Katie Vogler to our team. We are very much appreciative of our personnel, and in addition to the Annual Salary Step increases, the BISD Board of Trustees plan to provide every Boling ISD employee with a \$1,000 Retention Incentive again this year, payable in December.

Regarding facilities, our custodial and maintenance departments have done a fantastic job reconditioning our classrooms and campuses. Our new Office/Classroom Addition at Iago Junior High is scheduled to be completed during the Fall, and we are excited that our students and staff will begin enjoying the new facility soon. We also completed several major exterior painting projects and various sidewalk repairs/replacements over the summer, as well as purchasing a new school bus for the District.

Classes will begin on Monday, August 27, 2018 and conclude on Thursday, May 30, 2019, with graduation scheduled for Friday, May 31, 2019. Major holidays include a full week at Thanksgiving, two weeks for Christmas Break, and a full week during Spring Break (week of March 11th).

Just a reminder that the parent drop-off area at Iago Junior High can become very congested during the "Back to School" phase due to increased participation at the beginning of the school year. To help

alleviate this problem, and to avoid delays during the final construction process, we sincerely ask that parents/guardians not drop off their children at the Iago Junior High Campus until after 7:15 a.m. in the mornings (after the early bus routes) unless it is absolutely necessary. We appreciate your cooperation with this request.

To all families, we appreciate your continued support, and for allowing us to work with the children of our community. Our administrators, teachers, staff, and Board of Trustees are devoted, and work collaboratively in the best interest of our students. If we continue to work together, we will make this another outstanding year!