

Welcome to Austin High School!

Tips & Helps for New Families

Communication:

Phones:

Front Office	281-634-2000 (main switchboard – Mrs. Sara Weers)
Clinic	281-634-2096
Attendance	281-634- 2011
Registrar Office	281-634- 2016
Counselors Office	281-634- 2023

Marquee: Great source of quick information.

Websites:

- **District** www.fortbendisd.com - Great source of information including the FBISD school calendar, the parent handbook, athletic forms, bus schedules, volunteer registration information, etc.
- **AHS Website** – www.fortbendisd.com/ahs current events, daily announcements, resources, counselor helps, twitter ****faculty emails****, links, and some resources---Each AHS Teacher uses EDMODO to post information.
- **Counselor Resources** -www.fortbendisd.com/ahs – **click student support/counseling.**
- **Skyward's Family Access** <http://www.fortbendisd.com/departments/technology/family-access>
 - Sign up first (how do they sign up?); once in the system you will have access to your student's grades, absences, teacher notes, plus. ID and Password Protected. **Remember your ID & password.**
 - Students have their own access and can check their grades, absences, and sign up for classes each year.
- **Teachers** sometimes have their own websites, but will be using **Edmodo** primarily
- **Volunteer Email** volunteeraustin@gmail.com and **contact the AHS P.T.O.**
- **Y.E.S. (Youths Expanding Services)** -ahsy.es.weebly.com
 - This is a great, optional, program here at Austin, designed to promote student volunteerism. Students who achieve 100 volunteer hours (per specific guidelines) receive special recognition and a medal at graduation. **Students completed forms to be dropped off in the box (AHS P.T.O.) by the Front office.**

Fine Arts, Sports, Boosters (also see AHS Access)

- Band and Angels - <http://www.austinbulldogband.org/>
- Choir - <http://www.austinchoir.com/index.html>
- NJROTC - <http://www.bulldognjrotc.com/>
- Athletics - <http://www.austinboosterclub.com/>

Information & "How To's":

First Day of School 2016

- **August 22, 2016 - 7:30 am - 2:45 pm, doors open at 6:30 am.**
- Students, look for lists posted on windows in food court
 - Go to your assigned advisory room.
 - You will receive your schedule.
 - If students need a locker, they can to request one.
- Staff and student aides are available to help with directions.
 - Encourage your student to ask for directions if needed.
 - You will have a few days before tardies are strictly enforced.
- All lunches are 5th period.
 - There are three 30 minute lunches, A, B, & C, starting at 11:25 am.
 - Bring a lunch the first few days to avoid long lunchroom lines.



Getting Here

- If your student can use the bus, please do. Efficient and easy!
- Doors Open at 6:30 am, Classes start at 7:30 am. Come early to avoid the carpool lines.
- Your student **MUST** have a **tutorial pass** after 7:00 am to go to tutorials.
- Cars may drop-off and pick-up students in two ways:
 - Front Drive
 - The commons or student parking lot
- Student Parking - **Seniors and Juniors only with permit.**

What to Expect

- Textbooks will be assigned using your student's ID number and a barcode system.
 - New to FBISD? Have your student memorize their ID number.
- Photos for ID cards and yearbook will be taken in September
- Tons of homework! Often that first progress report is not great, but your student should bring up their grade, try not to worry.
- In November, freshmen are checked for height, weight (confidential) and blood pressure in the clinic.

Medical

- **Sick? Send or email a note within 5 days of absence.** Your student takes the note to the attendance office at the front of the school. The email address is Liane.Rosales@fortbend.isd.com.
- **Doctor Appointments? Send in a parent note the same day as the appt. AND GET A DOCTOR'S NOTE after the appointment and turn it in to the attendance office.**
 - Your student turns in the note to the attendance office in the morning and they will be called from class when it is time to leave.
 - After the appointment, your student must take the doctor's note to the attendance to make it an excused absence.

Things you may not learn from your student

- Planners, specific to Austin, will be for sale during lunches the first few weeks and at Freshman Orientation for \$10.00.
- Daily announcements are made during third period each day and are on the TV screens in the commons. The announcements are posted weekly on www.fortbendisd.com/ahs website.
- Austin Spirit Wear is sold by the Athletic Booster Club at various venues including Friday lunches and football games.
- Discounted football game tickets are on sale the day of all varsity games during lunch. Season tickets are available, see the FBISD website.
- AHS P.T.O., many clubs and boosters sell food items to raise money during lunch or before or after school. Feel free to support these worthwhile groups. They cover expenses the school district cannot for our kids' activities.
- Announcements are occasionally made during lunch and breakfast periods.
- **Homecoming football game is Friday, September 30, 2016. The dance is Saturday, October 1st from 8-11 pm. Austin Angel Homecoming Dinner as well as the AHS Pep Rally is Wednesday, September 28th.** Must purchase a ticket to the dinner from any Austin Angels – dance team member.
- Pro-grad means Project Graduation and is a great all-night event for seniors on the night of graduation. Go to <http://austinbulldogprograd.weebly.com/>

Open House – August 29th at 6:30 pm

- Parents are invited to visit their student's classes for brief talks by each teacher.
 - Learn about class syllabus, conference times, class expectations, grading system
- Bring your student's class schedule. If possible, map it out beforehand, as you'll have 5 minutes to find the next class.
- Freshman and new students are invited to meet with their Link Crew leaders and check-in on how the first few weeks of school are going.

Clubs & Organizations

Austin has many great after (or before) school clubs and organizations. Your student may show an interest in a club, and please encourage this if possible. Joining a club, sport, society, etc. all help students learn new skills, meet other students, develop leadership skills and get connected. A comprehensive list is available on the Austin Website, under Services. Your students also have an opportunity to learn more about these clubs at Dawg camp.

Visiting and Volunteering:

Visiting Campus

- Visitors are welcome.
- Visitor and Volunteer Parking Areas
 - Pick up a parking permit from Mr. Long's office.
 - You may park in the front circle drive spots without designation.
- Your driver's license will be scanned on your first visit each year.
- Wear the AHS PTO badge while on campus, and return it to the front office upon leaving.
- If you want to meet specifically with a staff member, make arrangements via email first.

Volunteering

- Volunteers are needed and welcomed at Austin.
 - ALL VOLUNTEERS first complete an annual **Criminal Background History Check form** online at the district's website-www.fortbenidisd.com
 - On campus, check in at the front office first. Let them know you are a volunteer.
 - **All Volunteer hours are added and a monthly report is sent out by the AHS P.T.O.,** to the district.
 - Please estimate your off-campus and after-school volunteer time each month.
 - Send hours to the **AHS P.T.O./ V.I.P.S. Campus Coordinator.**
- Here are some ways to help out:
 - **AHS P.T.O.** assist staff and teachers with school-wide needs & supply food for hospitality events.
 - Email volunteersaustin@gmail.com to get started OR Sign up at the AHS P.T.O. Information Table during the DAWG Camp and Open House.
 - **The Hospitality Committee coordinates special days of food and fun for the staff and teachers. If you are on the PTO distribution list, you will receive emails, regarding help during these events.**
 - When volunteer needs are e-mailed to you, sign up when you can help. Easy!
 - Like us on Facebook - **Austin High School PTO @ ahspto.**
 - **For further information about the AHS P.T.O. and volunteering opportunities, come to the V.I.P.S. Breakfast and P.T.O. Meeting on September 2, 2016 at 9:15 a.m. in the Campus Library.**
 - **Booster** clubs support sports, fine arts, and some electives.
 - These are all 501(3)(c) organizations and are run with volunteer boards.
 - **Various Clubs and Organizations** occasionally need adult volunteers for chaperones.