



JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL

Thursday, January 16, 2020

Greetings, Bulldog Nation!

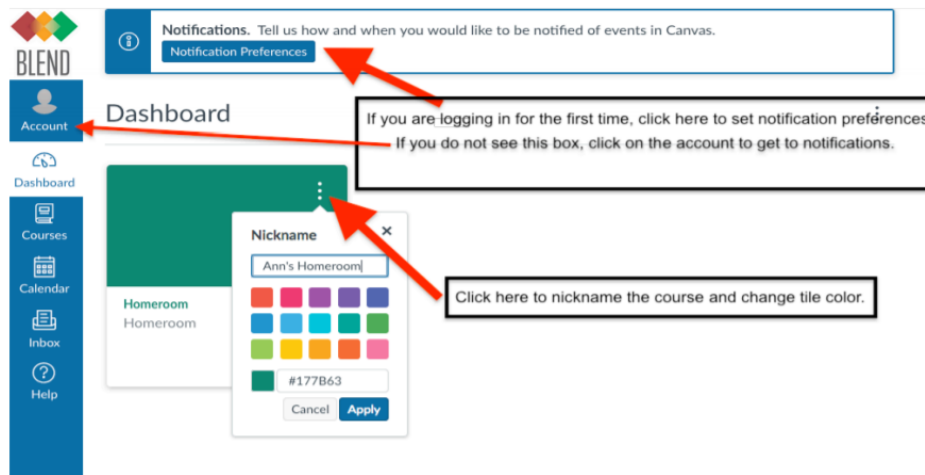
The start of a new semester is also a good time for parents to ensure they can access their children's courses in BLEND. BLEND is a Learning Management System (LMS) designed to support and amplify teaching, learning, and communication in Austin ISD.

1) Accessing BLEND

To get started with BLEND, you must first set up a Parent Cloud Account using these instructions: my.austinisd.org. If you need help setting up your Parent Cloud Account, call Parent Tech Support at 512-414-9187. Then log in to <https://portal.austinisd.org/> from your web browser with your AISD Parent Cloud credentials and click the BLEND tile.

2) Organizing your BLEND Dashboard

When you log in to BLEND through the portal, you will be directed to the dashboard view. We recommend customizing course names and color-coding, especially if you have multiple students:

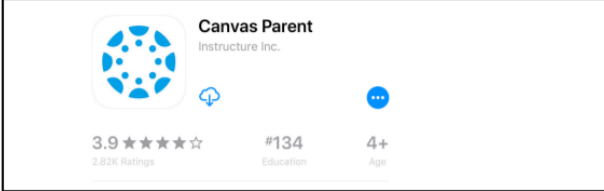


3) Setting Your BLEND Notification Preferences

Click on Account (as pictured above). Next, click on Settings, and then Notifications. You'll be able to select how often you receive notifications for each item type. Use the icons on the next page. By clicking Account and Settings you can also add an additional email address to receive notifications. You will need to manage the settings for each additional contact method you add from within Notification Preferences. **Reminder: Parent Self-Serve is the gradebook of record. Use this tile in the Parent Cloud for overall course grade updates*

4) Understanding the Parent Mobile App

The Canvas (BLEND) Parent app is designed to provide a quick view of your child's courses via your iOS or Android device. For a more complete course view, access BLEND via <https://portal.austinisd.org/>.

	<p>Download the Canvas Parent app on your device and search for Austin Independent School District. Log in with your Parent Cloud credentials.</p>
<p><i>With the Canvas app parents can...</i></p>	<p><i>With the Canvas app parents cannot...</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • view the course syllabus (if published), course assignments, and calendar events. • set alerts to receive reminders for specific assignments / calendar events (sent to mobile devices as push notifications). • monitor their child's performance on BLEND assignments (overall course grades are accessible using the Self-Serve tile in the Parent Cloud). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access course content (course homepage, content pages, embedded google docs, files, other students' work, etc.). • submit assignments, participate in discussions or take quizzes on their child's behalf. • participate in the course in any way.

****Looking for more detailed BLEND info? Access a video tour of BLEND by visiting bit.ly/BLENDnavigation Click on the BLEND Parent Tour tile in the Parent Cloud OR go to bit.ly/BLENDparentTOUR**

The [Austin ISD 2019–20 Family Survey](#) is now available and is accepting responses online through March 6, 2020. Families are encouraged to participate so they can share input on district and campus performance. The survey includes questions about how well school staff and leadership communicate with parents, as well as how easily parents may communicate about their students and learn about the programs offered at their school. The results will help district leadership learn how to best to improve services for our students.

A quick reminder that Monday, January 20, 2020, is the MLK Holiday. School will be closed for the day and classes resume on Tuesday. Enjoy the three-day weekend!

Go Dawgs!

Mark Robinson
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James Bowie High School
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