



What is “Blended” Learning

Blended or hybrid learning is grounded in the belief that learning can and does occur anytime, anywhere. An LMS, like Canvas, is one tool in providing students access to high quality teachers and high quality content. It should also ensure that students have the opportunity to learn and grow alongside one another in both face to face and digital spaces. Seventeen years into the 21st century we continue to grapple with the 4 C’s and how they become evident in our classrooms and schools. **Collaboration, Communication, Creativity, and Critical Thinking** are essential elements not just in the work of educators, but in the lives of our students on a day to day basis both inside and outside of school. As our students turn more and more to online spaces, it becomes crucial that we help them to effectively and efficiently learn how to use these spaces for their own learning . A learning management system, provides a safe space for learners to think, share, and create. Blended learning is about embracing all of the tools: both print and digital. Blended learning is about utilizing all of the spaces -- the four walled classrooms and the world. Blended learning is about providing students the opportunities to ask their own questions, shape their own learning, and to more readily personalize the experiences that lead to engagement and deeper meaning.

Did you know: 75% of respondents from the 2016 QCSD Graduate Survey reported using a Learning Management System in post-graduate education. Of those respondents, more than half use Canvas.

How does the use of Canvas support my student and their learning?

Canvas is a Learning Management System (LMS) that provides your student with:

- Access to any and all resources utilized by the classroom teacher
- Communication of upcoming assignments, assessments, and other need to know items and reminders through Announcements.
- Opportunities for immediate feedback on quizzes and tests and text, audio/ and or video feedback on all student work submitted through Canvas.
- Opportunities to discuss class content, assignments, and sharing of ideas through Discussion boards that are private to the classmates.
- An organized area where all elements of learning and instruction come together.

What does Canvas provide for me as a parent or guardian?

We highly encourage you to create an “Observer” account which allows you to observe how your child is using Canvas as a learner. As an observer, you can:

- viewing the timeliness, quantity and quality of student work submitted to Canvas
- viewing the grade earned and teacher's feedback either in
 - text format feedback
 - audio format feedback
 - video format feedback
- granting the student any re-attempts of the submission
- notifying students and families about the student submission
- accessing this all by computer, tablet or mobile device.

Canvas does not replace PowerSchool as our grade reporting student information system. While grading in Canvas at the assignment level will provide students and parents feedback on those assignments, PowerSchool will remain the official grading and student information system in QCSD.

- To access PowerSchool for Parents [click here](#).
- To learn how to create a PowerSchool Account in QCSD [click here](#).

In addition to viewing details about student work, Canvas is an post-office delivery service of school communication. As you register your child/ren under a single Canvas Observer account that you sign-up for you can decide how often and in what format you want to receive updates, or Notifications. Do you prefer them:

- in email format? in text message format? in tweet format posted to your Twitter account?
- using the Canvas Mobile Device App and its push notifications?
- Right-away? Weekly? in a daily summary for you to scan through at night?
- or on your computer by logging into Canvas to check the Canvas Dashboard for updates?

Canvas will not replace the Connect calls or district web site communication systems. These services will continue to send you important district-wide information on demand. You will still receive Connect call updates pending your annual [InfoSnap account updates](#), and you can access our web site as before; however, the Canvas Observer account grants you access to any of your child's work submitted to Canvas, teacher feedback on that student work, class information, all while aggregating communication from each of your child's teachers using Canvas in their classes delivered to you on your schedule.

Teachers at different levels will utilize Canvas in different ways. For example:

- Kindergarten-Second grade will mainly use Canvas to post Announcements and add classroom content to have access to at home.
- Teachers in Grades 3-12 will utilize Canvas to:
 - Post Announcements
 - Add links/ files to in class content and resources such as presentations, graphic organizers, readings, videos, etc.
 - Support students with the use of the ePortfolio tool to afford them opportunities to reflect on their growth and work.
- Teachers in Grades 3-12 may utilize other elements of Canvas such as:
 - Discussion Boards
 - Quizzes and Surveys
 - Collection of other assignments and assessments to provide feedback on student work.

While the elements of Canvas are the same each teacher will be utilizing those resources to meet the needs of each learner in their own ways.

QCSD Parent Observer Registration and Set up

Observer Account Login Information (Referred to as Parent Accounts in Canvas)

Login at www.qcsd.org/Canvas

username- The Email You Use to Create the Account

password- The Password You Use to Create Account.

These logins are created and customized by family members using student login information.

Canvas Observer (Family) Account Registration and Student Observation

Families use parent or observer accounts to find all class resources. Start the Observer account registration process by following the steps below.

1. Click the "Parent of a Canvas User? Click Here For an Account" link at www.qcsd.org/Canvas as seen in the yellow box below.
2. On the Parent Signup form type your Name, email address, child's Canvas username and child's Canvas password. Acknowledge the terms of use, and click the "Start Participating" blue button as seen in the red box below.
3. Open the registration confirmation in your email account to verify continue the process and set your Canvas password.
4. On your return-visit *do not click* the Parent Signup link. Instead, type your email account and password you provided in step 3 in the login and password fields as seen in the purple box below.

When you create your Observer account you'll want to consider doing the following:

- Add other students in your family to your Observer account.
- Add other methods of contact (text message, emails, etc) to your Observer account.
- Set your Notifications for your contact methods.

For Two Video Tutorials click either link below:

- [Parent Registration and Student Observation](#)
- [QCSD How to Assist a Parent Sign On to Canvas](#)

For more information on what your Observer account can and can't do, click [here](#).

Learn more about Observer accounts with this help index [here](#).

For an extremely in depth printable version of observer accounts, click [here](#)