

Blackboard Connect for Teachers

Connecting with parents is the key to creating continuity between home and school. Yet larger class sizes, the demands of lesson planning, and increased student behavioral issues leave little time for one-on-one communication with parents.

The Blackboard Connect for Teachers™ service makes it easy for teachers to communicate with one—or one hundred—parents *in minutes*. With more than 1,000 prerecorded messages relevant to performance and attendance—in 23 languages—Connect for Teachers helps to strengthen the partnership between time-strapped educators and parents.

APPLICATIONS

Facilitate regular, routine communication with parents. Parental involvement is critical to student performance, both academically and behaviorally. Connect for Teachers helps educators reach parents the way they prefer with timely voice and email messages.

Ensure students are better prepared for class work and tests. With Connect for Teachers, it takes mere minutes to send assignment and test reminders home to one student or an entire classroom. Educators find using Connect for Teachers increases both homework completion and test preparedness.

Reach families in their home languages. Messages in Connect for Teachers are prerecorded in 23 languages, and messages are automatically sent in a family's preferred language. All prerecorded messages have been translated by professional human translators—not machines—to ensure 100 percent accuracy. Messages can also be sent by email for easy reference or sharing.

Deliver corrective and positive feedback. While corrective feedback is often necessary, positive feedback plays a key part in improving student attitudes and performance. Connect for Teachers offers hundreds of positive messages, from “Was a pleasure to have in class” to “Demonstrated eagerness to learn.”

Every year when we look at budget, we ask the parents and the PTA if they want us to renew the system and the answer is always ‘yes.’ The parents tell me because we’re using this system that they actually have more communication with teachers.

Dan Diehl
Principal,
Bedichek Middle School

BENEFITS

Spend more time teaching and less time managing behavioral problems. Connect for Teachers helps parents function as partners in the classroom and ensures messages received at school are reinforced at home.

Quickly find the right message for every situation. Selecting the most appropriate message is simple and straightforward. Connect for Teachers groups messages into five categories for quick selection: attendance, corrective, grade progress, informational, and rewarding/positive.

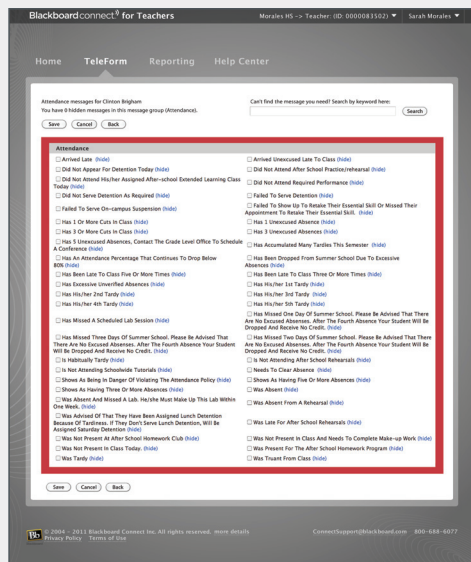
Make sure everybody gets the message.

Connect for Teachers' customizable online reports allow efficient tracking of message delivery and receipt. Use the reports to review communication strategy, update the board, or address rebuttals of "I never received the message."

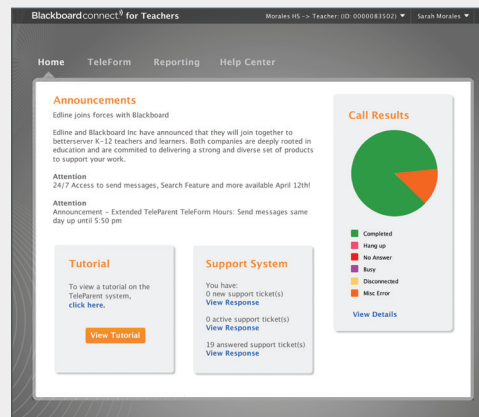
I use the system to inform parents about tutoring, make-up work, upcoming tests, and attendance issues. My students now ask me if I can send a "reminder" home.

Kathy Keel
6th grade Science teacher

Save time with prerecorded messages and a web-based platform. Connect for Teachers comes with a library of more than 1,000 prerecorded messages in 23 languages. Messages can be selected, grouped, and sent within minutes. And as the system is web-based, there's no maintenance or upgrades to manage.



More than 1000 messages available. All are organized by category and include a convenient "hide" feature.



Streamlined interface that's easy to learn and even easier to use.

SUPPORTED LANGUAGES

Arabic
Armenian
Cantonese
Eastern Armenian
English
Farsi
Haitian Creole
Hindi
Hmong
Khmer
Korean
Lao
Mandarin
Portuguese
Punjabi
Russian
Somali
Spanish
Tagalog
Thai
Ukrainian
Urdu
Vietnamese