Canvas Parent Access Q&A

What do each of the main menu buttons do?
On the left-hand side of the Canvas main page, you will see a grey band with a series of buttons.

ACCOUNT – This button allows you to view your account information and to select notification preferences. You’ll notice that there are many notification options. In order to minimize the number of notifications you receive, we recommend you receive “Due Date” and “Grading” notifications at this time.

DASHBOARD – This button shows you a series of boxes identifying each of your student’s classes. You can click on an individual class to see more information about the class and your student’s performance.

COURSES – This button displays a list view of your student’s classes. You can click on an individual class to see more information about the class and your student’s performance.

CALENDAR – This button displays a calendar with upcoming due dates, activities, and events. You can choose to see information for a single class, or multiple classes at the same time.

INBOX – This button allows you to send email messages to your student or to your student’s teacher through Canvas. We have asked students to use this communication tool with teachers (rather than direct email).

HELP – This button allows you to search a variety of Canvas-specific help topics.

How do I view my student’s grades?
Once you’ve logged in, click on the “Dashboard” button on the left hand side of the page. The Dashboard will show you all of your student’s individual classes. On the right hand side of the Dashboard page is a button that says “View Grades”. Click on the button to see a list of your student’s classes and grades.

How do I see individual assignment grades?

OPTION 1 – From the “View Grades” list (above), click on the class that you would like to view. That will show you a list of individual grades and your student’s performance on each assignment. You can also click on each individual assignment from there to see more detailed information.

OPTION 2 – From the Dashboard, click on the class that you would like to view. Then click the blue “Grades” link. That will show you a list of individual grades and your student’s performance on each assignment. You can also click on each individual assignment from there to see more detailed information.

How do I see what assignments are due/coming up for my student?

OPTION 1 – The calendar feature provides a useful view of upcoming assignments for individual classes or for multiple classes at once.

OPTION 2 – From the Dashboard, click on the class you would like to view. Then, click on the blue “Assignments” link. That will show you a list of upcoming assignments and past assignments for the class.

Is there a Canvas cell phone app?
Yes, and we highly recommend it! The app is simpler and easier to navigate than the online portal, especially if you have multiple children at SCS. The Canvas Parent App is available through all major app providers. Once you have created your initial account online and paired with your students, you simply log in to the app using your username and password.

I have more than one student at SCS, and all of their classes are showing up together on the Dashboard. Is that normal?
Yes. Unfortunately, there is no way to separate or differentiate between multiple students in the online version of Canvas. The app does allow you to keep your students’ information separate.