Canvas Parent Portal Quick Start

Contents

Overview

- What is the Canvas Parent Portal?
- How Does it Work?
- Get Observer Paring Codes for each Student
- Create a Canvas Observer Account and Pair with Student
- Quick Tour of the Infinite Campus Parent Portal

What is the Canvas Parent Portal?

Canvas is the Learning Management System for middle and high school student. Parents can sign up for a free account to view the resources and activities posted in their child's courses. You can access Canvas by using a web browser on a computer, or by installing the Canvas Parent app on your mobile device.

With Canvas, a parent can:

- Read announcements, view the calendar, and see the course syllabus.
- Access a list of assignments with due dates.
- See your child's assignments, but not his/her discussion posts
- View your child's scores on assignments in Canvas. Course grades will continue to be published in Infinite Campus.
- Use the Inbox to contact the teacher.
- Set up notifications to get emails or texts for announcements, assignments, etc.
- View the instructional content in the course.

How Does it Work?

For a parent to access their students' Canvas account they must become an observer. To become an oberserver they must follow these steps:

- Have each of their students create pairing codes (note: you must use these within 7 days of creation, so be ready to do the next steps!)
- Create your parent account and pair each student
- You are ready to log into Canvas as your students' observer!
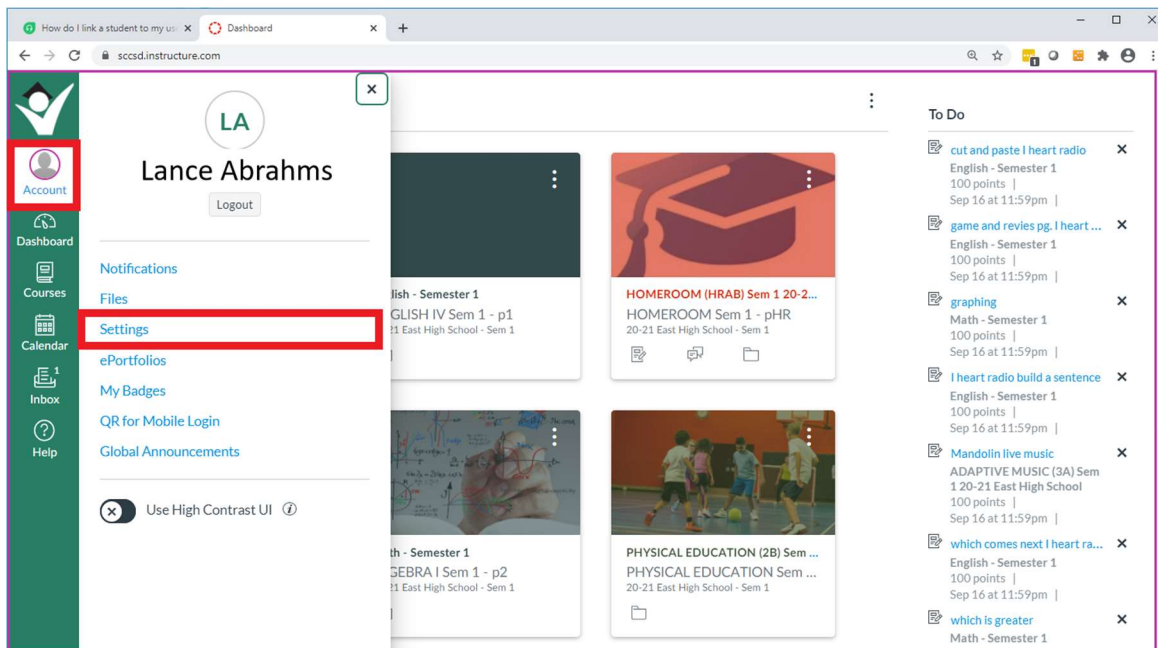
Get Observer Pairing Codes for each Student

The expectation is that you as a parent are wanting to track your students' progress – you want to 'observe' your students' Canvas account(s). You will need to have a 'pairing code' for each student that you want to observe. These pairing codes are provided to you by either your student (preferably), teacher or administrator at your students' building. The following are instructions that your student will follow to generate the pairing code. You must create a separate pairing code for each observer who wants to link to the student account. Please note that once the pairing code is generated, you will have seven days to add it to your account before it expires. Once paired, you no longer need the pairing code.
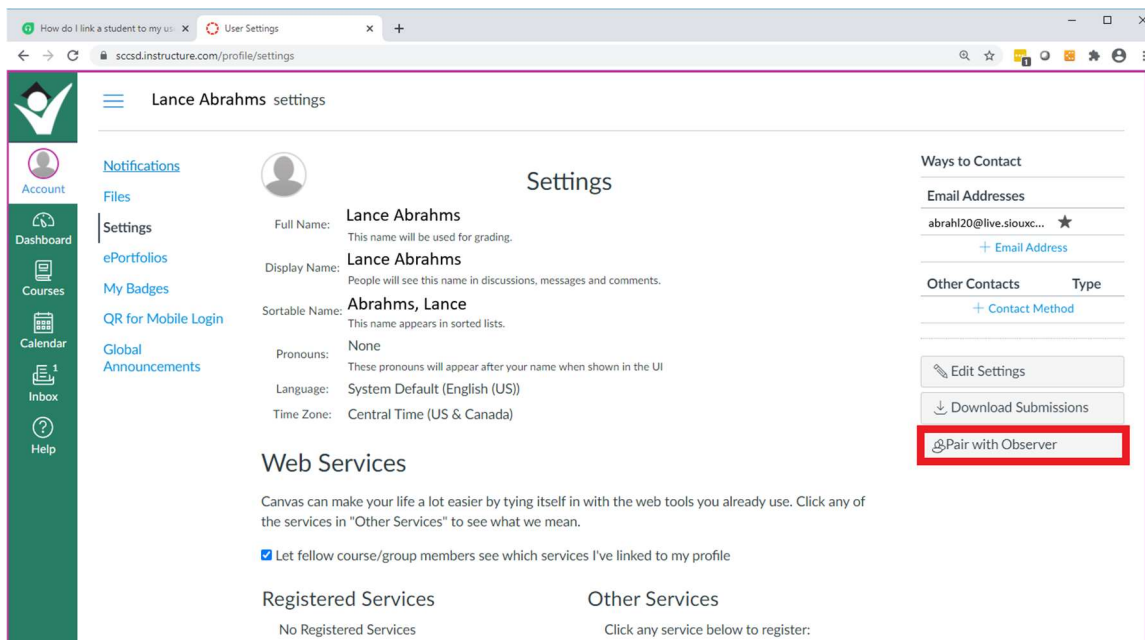
An observer may be a parent, guardian, mentor, counselor, or another individual who needs to view the student's Canvas courses. Linked observers can view and participate in certain elements of the Canvas courses. For more information on the observer role, view the Observer Visibility and Participation PDF.

Here is the process EACH STUDENT will follow to generate the pairing code:

After the student logs into Canvas, they will click on the Account menu item in the main left navigation and then click on Settings.

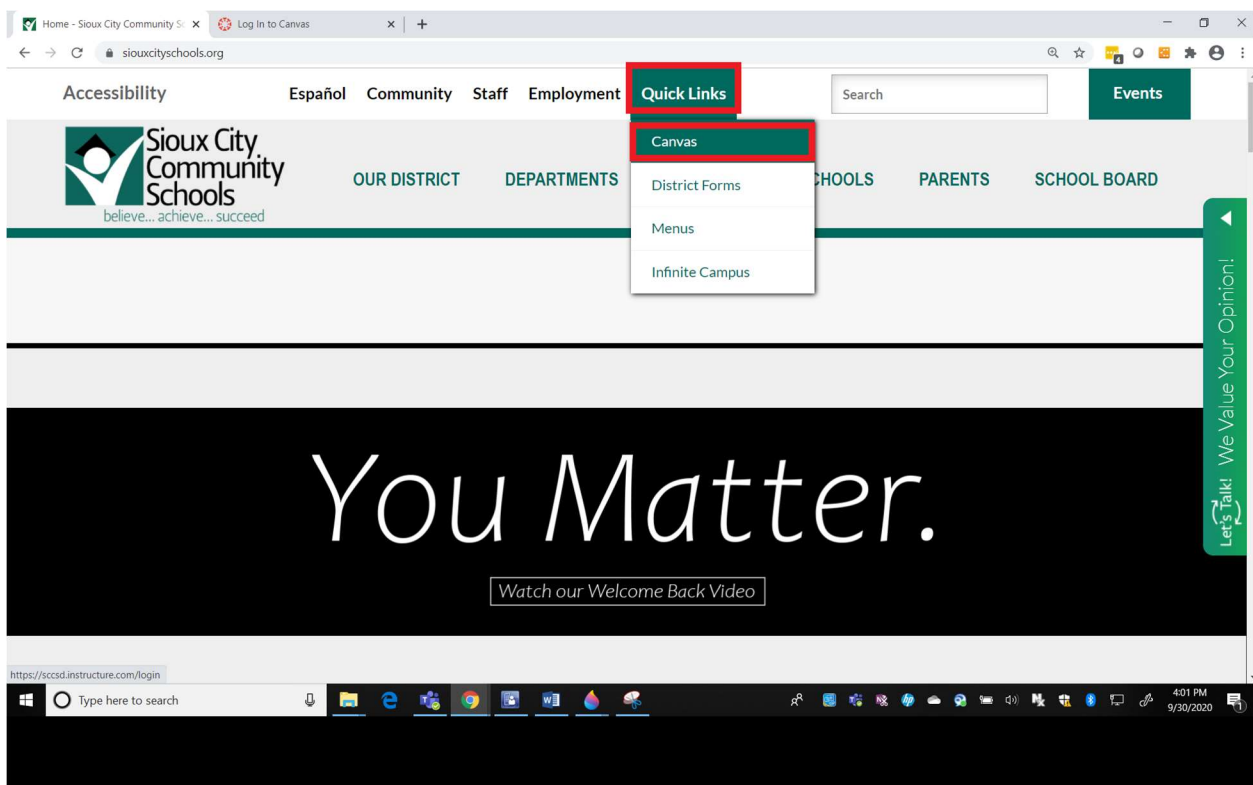In the settings screen, select the "Pair with Observer" button:

A pop-up window will display a 6-character code representing the pairing code. Copy this down so you can use it when creating or adding to your account.
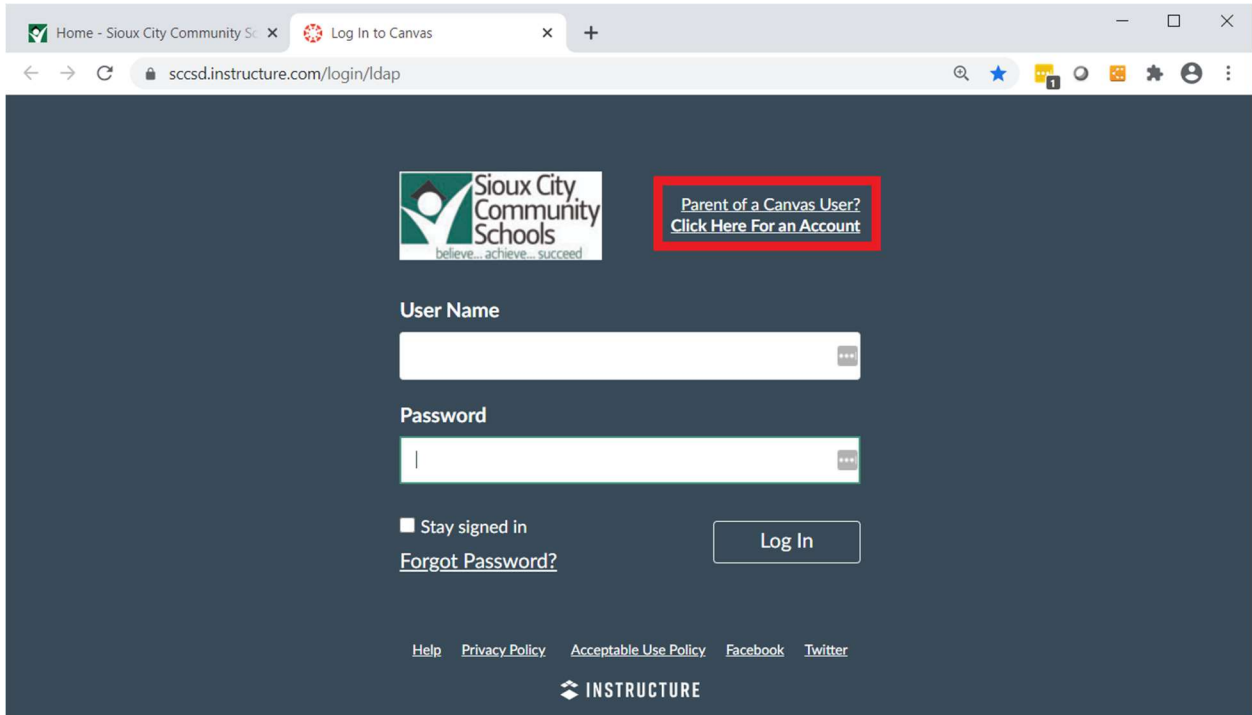

Repeat this process for each student. You do not have to do all students at once.

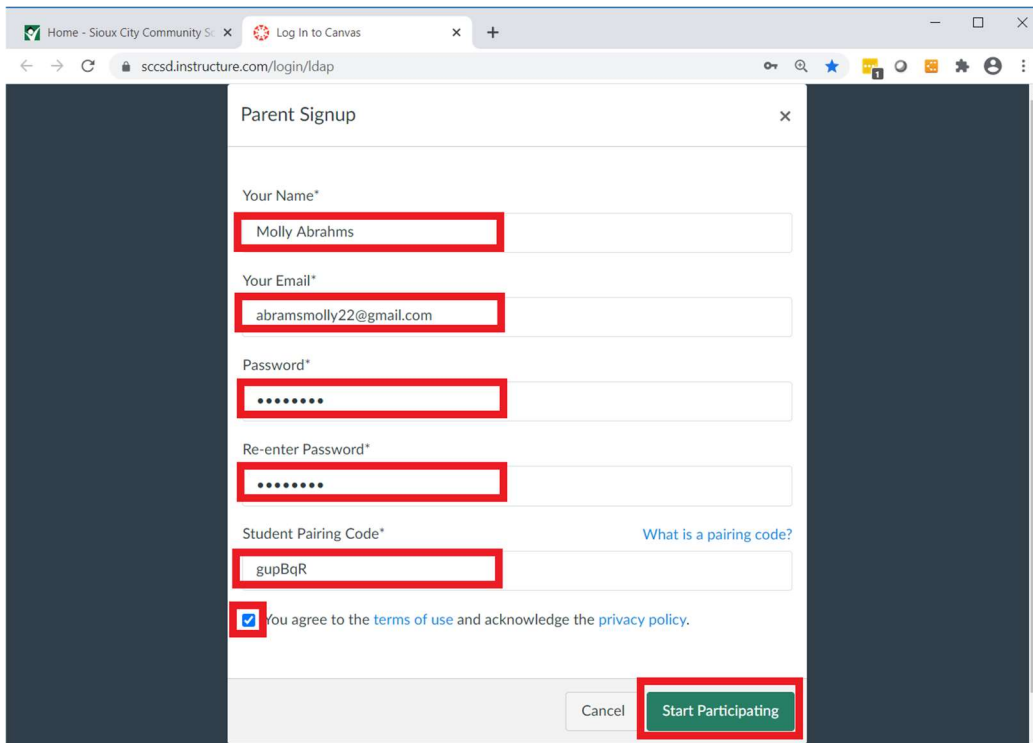## Create a Canvas Observer Account and Pair with Student

With pairing code(s) in hand, you now need to create your Canvas account or log into your existing account. To do either, open a web browser and go to the Sioux City Community School District web site and click on the "Quick Links" menu and select "Canvas".
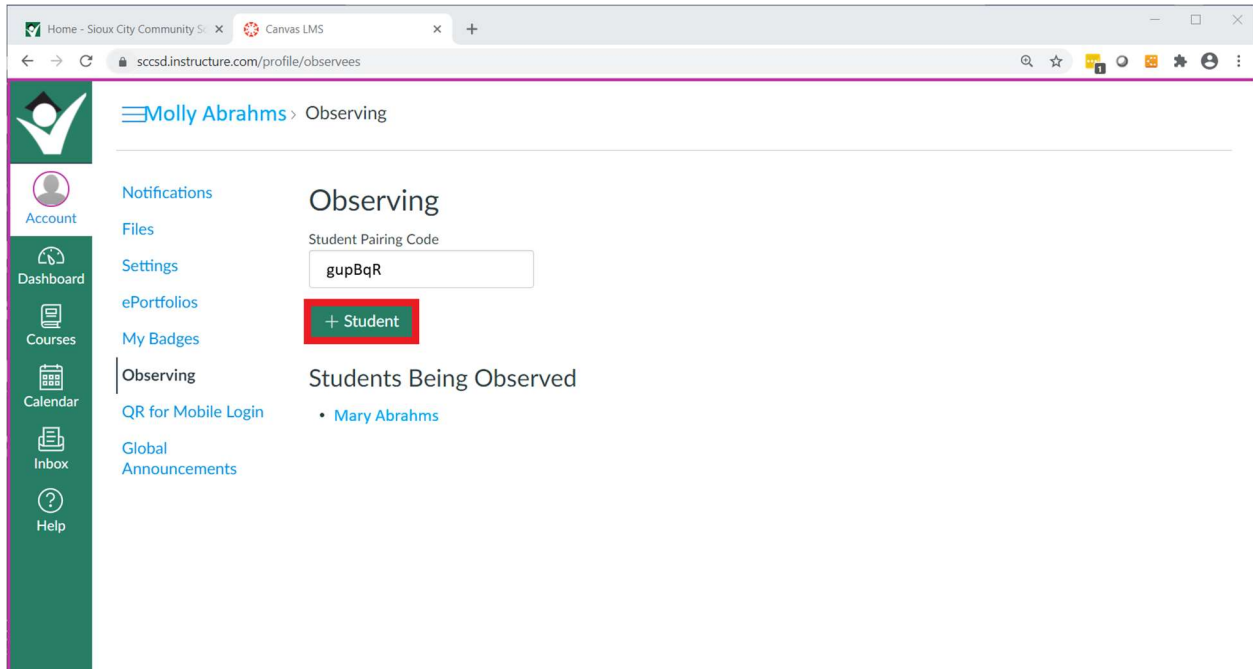
You will be presented with a Canvas login screen. To login, type in your username and password and click the Log In button. To set up a new account, click on the "Parent of a Canvas User?" link:

When creating an account, a pop-up form will open. Fill in your name, email address, a password and the pairing code of your student. If you have more than one student pairing code, just enter one of them. We will take care of any more below. Check the Terms box and click Start Participating button.

If you have more than one student you want to observe, after you have set up your account you can add more students. Log into your parent account, click on the "Account" menu item in the main left navigation and then click on the "Observing" menu item. Type in the additional pairing code and click the "+ Student" button.

Repeat for each student!