



Canvas Observer Account Directions

What is Canvas?

Canvas is the learning management system (LMS) utilized at all Pennridge middle schools and the high school. It is a centralized hub for your child's courses. While PowerSchool is still the grade book of record, Canvas offers students and teachers a system to collect and return work, share course resources, and communicate regarding course events. An observer account allows parents and guardians to be a part of this process.

What is an Observer Account?

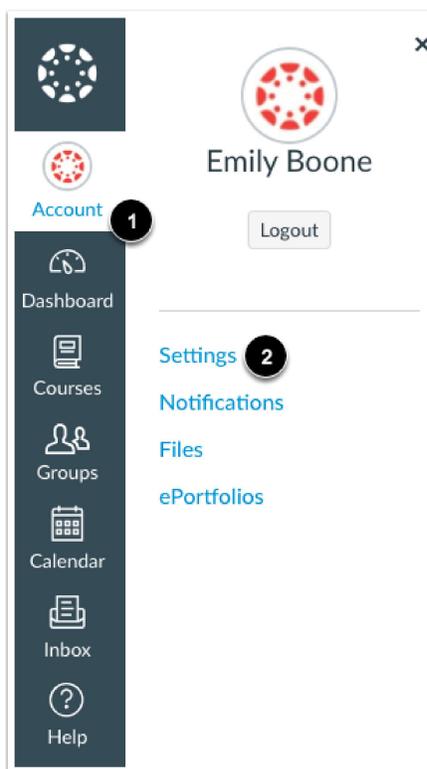
Observer accounts allow parents and guardians to view course materials and calendars. Observers cannot participate in the class, but can gain insight into what is happening in each of their high school children's classrooms.

How do families get a Canvas Observer Account? To create an observer account, follow these steps:

Is there a Canvas Parent App? Yes, an app is available for both Android and iOS. When searching for Pennridge in the app, look for pennridge.instructure.com

Step 1: Your child must generate a Pairing Code from his/her account.

Figure 1



- Have your child sign into pennridge.instructure.com using their username and password provided at school
- After logging-in, your child should click on **Account (1)** and then **Settings (2) (Figure 1)**
- On the far right of their screen, your child will see a button that says **Pair with Observer (Figure 2)**
- A **Code (1)** will be generated, copy this code (**Figure 3**) to use with the creation of your observer account and then click **OK**

Figure 2

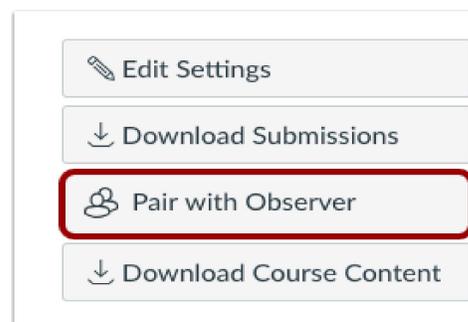
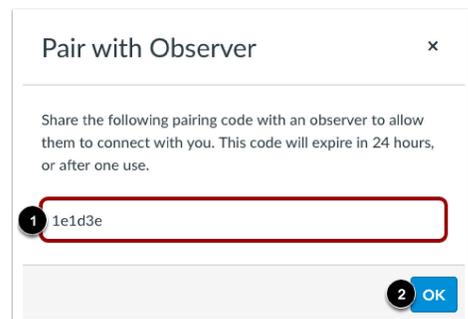
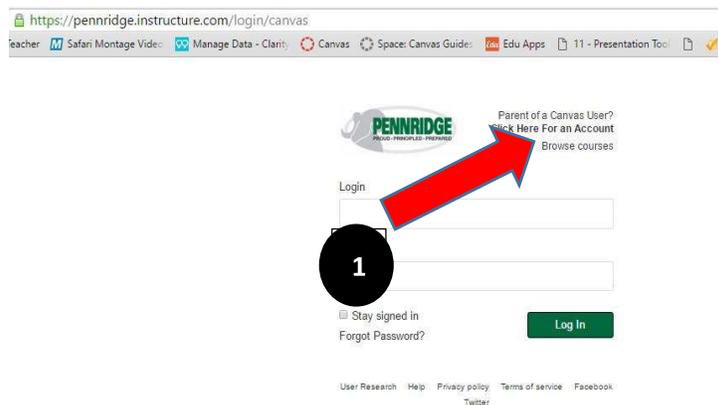


Figure 3



Step 2- Create your Observer Account and Pair your Account with your child

1. Log-in to pennridge.instructure.com/login/canvas
As shown, click on “Click Here for an Account”



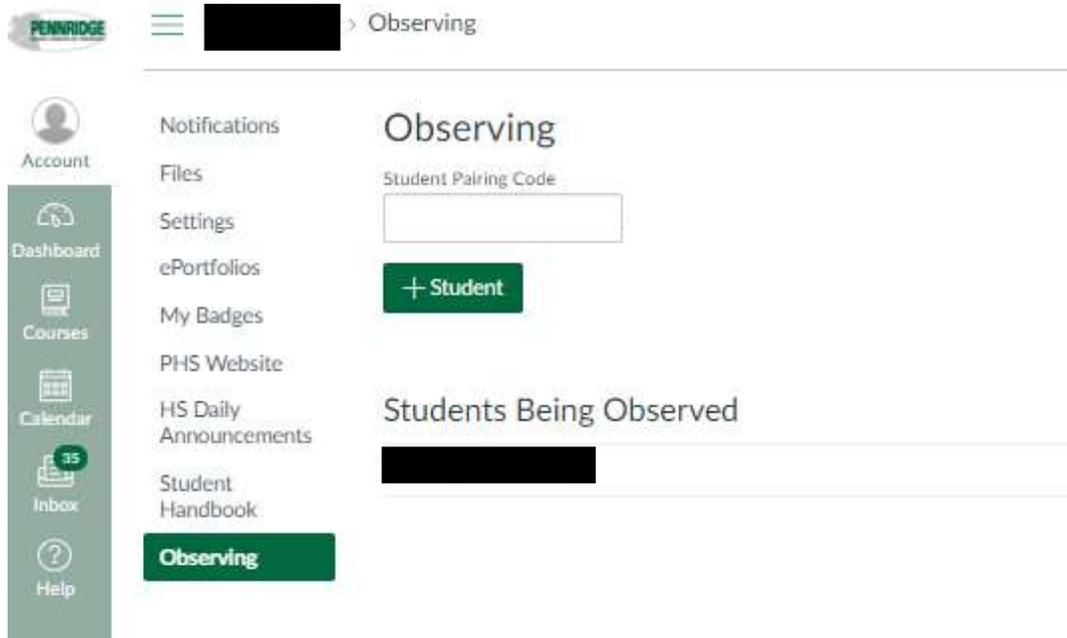
2. Fill in the form (shown at right) with the following information:
 - a. Your name
 - b. Your email address
 - c. A password of your choice
 - d. Re-enter your password
 - e. Your Child’s Pairing Code
 - f. Acknowledge and accept the terms of use and then click on the “**Start Participating**” button
3. The next time you visit Canvas via pennridge.instructure.com/login/canvas simply enter the email you used to create the account and the password you entered in step C. You will now be able to view course materials and calendars.

A screenshot of a "Parent Signup" form. The form is titled "Parent Signup" and has a close button (X) in the top right corner. It contains several input fields: "Your Name", "Your Email", "Password", "Re-enter Password", and "Student Pairing Code". There is a link "What is a pairing code?" next to the "Student Pairing Code" field. At the bottom of the form, there is a checkbox labeled "You agree to the terms of use and acknowledge the privacy policy." and two buttons: "Cancel" and "Start Participating".

Have multiple students at the middle school or high school levels?

To add another student to the observer account you created:

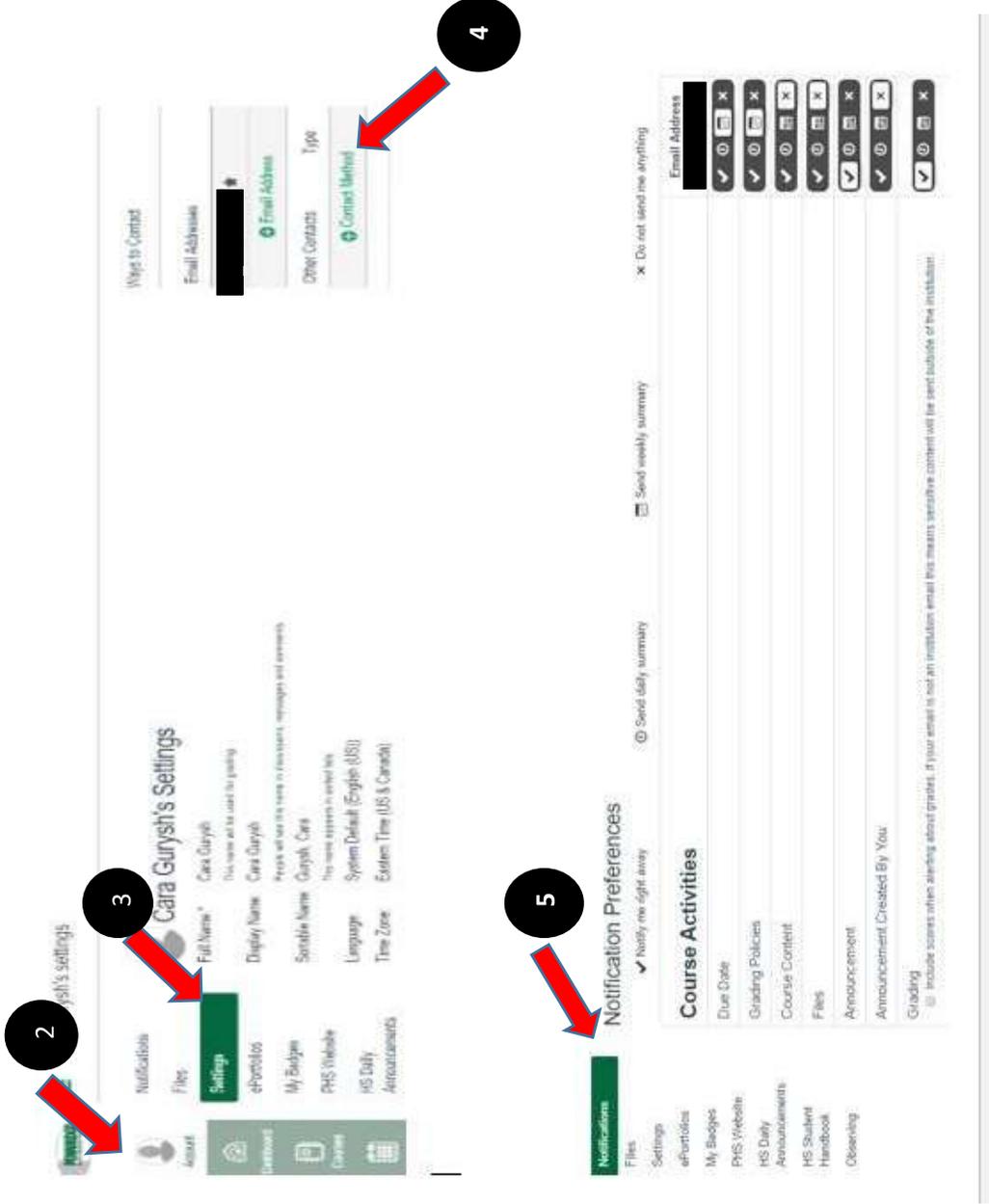
1. Log-in to your existing observer account
2. Click on **Account** found in the Green Navigation strip on the left hand side of your screen
3. Select **Settings**
4. Select **Observing**
5. Enter the pairing code for the child you wish to add to your account. (The second child must follow the same steps as the first child in order to generate a code.)



Do you want to receive notifications via text and/or email regarding happenings in your child's courses?

Set text notifications by following these steps:

1. Log-in to your existing observer account
2. Click on **Account** found in the Green Navigation strip on the left hand side of your screen
3. Click on **Settings**
4. If you would like to add a cell phone number for text messages, select + Contact Method found on the upper right hand of the screen and follow the prompts.
5. Next select **Notifications** and customize the frequency of notifications you would like via email or text.



For more information on the features and uses of an observer account review the Observer Canvas Guides found [here](#) or by

visiting <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-4033>

If you need help creating your Canvas Observer Account, email canvasparentsupport@penntd.edu