Instant Connect Portal The Communication Tool for Mount Vernon City Schools

Hello Jacket Family!

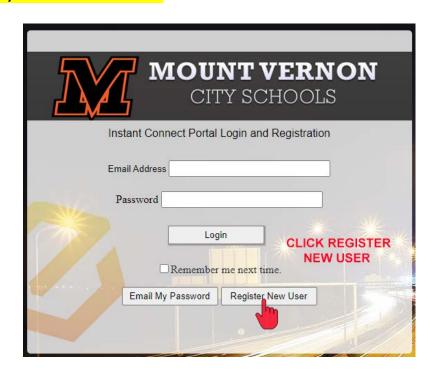
Mount Vernon City Schools uses Instant Connect as our comprehensive alert notification system, including attendance, district and building notifications, community information, and closings and delays. We believe the reliability, flexibility, and speed of the Instant Connect significantly enhance our ability to communicate school news as well as school closings and delays in a more efficient and timely manner.

We request that employees, parents/guardians, students, or community members set up an Instant Connect Portal Account to receive alerts and notifications from MVCSD. The Instant Connect dashboard will allow users to manage their accounts and customize the type of alert(s) they wish to receive.

Even if you are already receiving messages from Instant Connect, it is important that you register as a New User to set up your dashboard and select the communications you would like to receive.

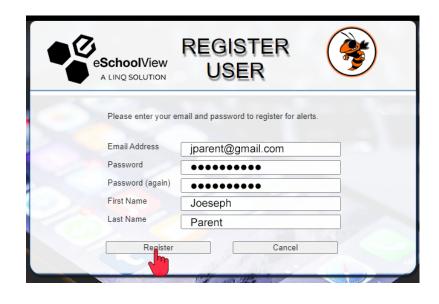
To create your Instant Connect Portal account

- select the <u>Instant Connect Link</u>
- Select | Register New User |.



Enter the requested information

- Enter your Email Address
- Enter the password of your choice
 - o (at least 6 characters).
- Confirm your password
- Enter your First Name and Last Name
- Select | Register |.



If you receive a message stating that you are already registered in the system.

- Select | Cancel |
- Enter your Email Address
- Select | Email My Password |
- Instant Connect will email your account password. You must select the <u>Instant Connect Link</u> and log in again using your new password.



If you did not receive the message that you are already registered in the system, you will be taken to the **PORTAL EDIT** for Mount Vernon City Schools Alerts.

Enter the requested information

- You can enter up to three contact numbers
- Please select Voice Calls and Text Messages (for phones that can receive text messages).
 - MOST ALERTS FROM MVCSD WILL BE TEXT MESSAGES and EMAILS
- You can enter up to two email addresses.
- Select the group(s) for which you would like to receive messages.
 - DISTRICT OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS INCLUDE
 ALERTS THAT COME FROM THE
 SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE, FOOD SERVICE,
 TRANSPORTATION AND CENTRAL OFFICE.
- Click | Apply | to register for this service.

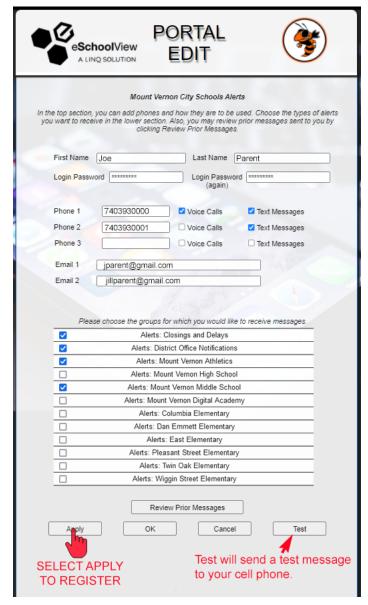
Your contact information will be uploaded to eSchoolView's secure server.

Select **|Test|** to have a test message sent to your phone and email.

Text Communication: the first test you receive is an introductory text message from **87569**, our District, that will prompt you to **opt-in** to continue receiving text communication from Mount Vernon City Schools.









Frequently Asked Questions

What information do you already have in your system? At the beginning of each school year, parents log into OneView Parent Portal to update their student's Emergency Medical Form. Contact information: home phone, cell phone, and email addresses are pulled into the student data system and used by Instant Connect to contact parents.

What will happen when the voice call system is used? When an attendance call or alert call is placed, you will receive a phone call at each phone number in our system. You may also receive a text notification and email.

If I have children in more than one school, will I get repeat calls? No. The system will call each of your numbers only once.

What if a called number is not answered? The announcement will be left on your voicemail or an answering machine if there is no answer. If you do not have an answering machine or voicemail service, or your voice mailbox is full, the system will redial your number up to three times.

Why am I asked if I want to Opt-in for Texting? Some individuals may not want to receive Text messages. We are giving you the ability to allow texting from the district. The first text message you receive from the district will allow you to continue receiving texts from MVCSD.

You can opt-in for text messaging at any time by sending the word Yes or Sí to the short code - 87569. Once you opt-in, Instant Connect will send you a confirmation that your phone number is subscribed to Mount Vernon City Schools.

My work phone number requires dialing an extension. Should I include my work number on the list? Not for the Instant Connect service. We still want your work contact information for our records, however <u>Instant Connect is not capable of dialing an extension</u>. Only direct-dialed lines can be reached.

Will our school still use other traditional means to communicate alerts and information to parents? Yes, we will continue using other traditional means to communicate alerts and announcements, including our District website, radio, TV, and Twitter.

I am already receiving notifications from Mount Vernon City Schools, do I really need to register again? Yes, by registering as a new user, you will be able to manage your own alert/notification dashboard and select communication that is pertinent to your family.

Is there an app for my mobile phone? Yes, download the **BrightArrow Mobile 2.1** app from the app store for your mobile device:



BrightArrow Mobile 2.1

<u>Apple App Store</u> | <u>Google Play Store</u>

I received an email notification about closings and delays but am not receiving text messages? It is possible that text messaging was opted-out sometime in the past. To reactivate this feature, text the word yes or si to 87569. You should receive a confirmation message stating that you are subscribed to Mount Vernon City Schools.

I am not receiving any communication from Mount Vernon City Schools? If you are registered and are not receiving communication, please contact:

- Deb Doup, District Registrar <u>dedoup@mvcsd.us</u> or by phone at (740) 397-7422 ext. 6000
- John Frye, District Web Manager <u>ifrye@mvcsd.us</u> or by phone at (740) 397-7422 ext. 6038