

Training Guide



tx Connect
OCTOBER 2009



Texas Computer Cooperative

iTCCS ★ RSCCC ★ TxEIS

Contents

Introduction	3
How to Display a Page in Another Language	3
How to Display Help	4
How to Contact the Teacher	4
Registration and Login	7
How to Register as a New User	7
How to Log On	10
How to Reset a Password	11
Summary	13
Attendance	15
Detailed Attendance	15
Calendar View	16
Totals View	16
Grades	19
How to View Assignment Grades for a Class	19
How to View Semester and Final Averages	21
Assignments	23
How to View Assignments	23
Alerts	25
How to Read Alerts	25
How to Change an Alerts Subscription	26
Attendance Alerts	26
Average Alert.....	27
Assignment Alerts	27
How to Receive Alert Notices by E-Mail.....	28
My Account	29
How to Change a Hint Question/Answer	29
How to Change a Password	30

How to Add Another Student to an Account31

How to Add or Update an E-Mail Address31

Error Handling.....33

Appendix 1 - Calculating Averages35

 Percent-based.....35

 Point-based.....38

 Multiplier-based.....39

 Transfer Students.....41

 Dropped Assignments42

 Rounding Numbers43

 Missing and Incomplete Grades43

Appendix 2 - System Requirements45

 PC Operating System.....45

 Browser Setup.....45

 Windows Internet Explorer.....45

 Mozilla Firefox46

 Safari for Mac OS X.....47

Introduction

The parent portal application, txConnect, provides parents and guardians Web access to school-related information about their students including grades and attendance. It works in conjunction with txGradebook. Parents can access txConnect from anywhere with an Internet connection.

The txConnect application consists of the following:

- Registration and Login
- Student Summary
- Attendance
- Grades
- Assignments
- Alerts Subscription
- My Account
- Administrator Access

This training guide is for district and campus use. For more information about administrator access, see the txGradebook/txConnect Administrator Training Guide.

How to Display a Page in Another Language

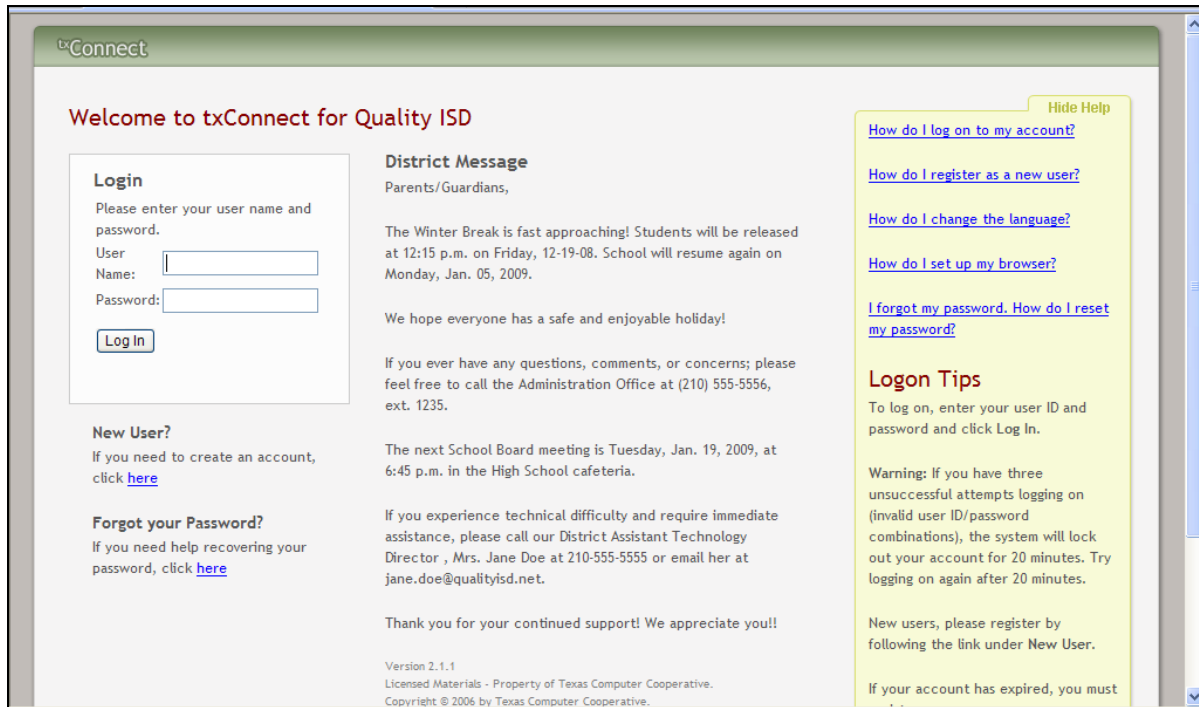
The parent can change the language in which a page is displayed by clicking the language from the list of available languages at the bottom of the page. The list is available on all pages, so the language can be changed on any page.

- Some information may not be translated to other languages, if the campus or district has not created a translated version.
- The parent's language setting is saved until he changes to another language.
- If the browser uses *persistent cookies*, and/or if the default language has been set for the browser to a preferred language, the language setting is saved so the parent does not need to change the language every time he visits txConnect. Otherwise, the parent must change the language every time he visits txConnect.


How to Display Help

On any page in txConnect, the parent can display Help for a page by clicking **Help** in the upper-right corner of the page. The information is displayed in a pop-up box with how-to links to more detailed information in the Help system.

To close the Help pop-up box, click **Hide Help**.



How to Contact the Teacher

If the teacher has provided contact information, office hours, and/or other notes in txGradebook, a yellow note icon  is displayed beside the teacher's name anywhere the teacher's name appears (e.g. the Summary, Attendance, and Grades pages). The parent can click the icon to see the information.

If the teacher has provided an e-mail address in txGradebook, his name is displayed as a link to his e-mail address anywhere the teacher's name appears. If the parent clicks the name, the default e-mail client (as specified in his Internet Options settings) opens with the teacher's address in the **To** field.

Note: If the parent uses Web-based e-mail (e.g., Gmail or Yahoo! Mail), he can copy the e-mail address from the default e-mail client to a Web-based e-mail message.

The screenshot displays the txConnect web application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the txConnect logo and several menu items: Summary, Attendance, Grades, Assignments, Alerts, My Account, and Logout. A Help button is located in the top right corner of the main content area.

On the left side, there is a vertical list of student names under the heading "Students". The names listed are: NICOLE MARIE S. ALDOVER, AMADEUS R. BEHRMAN, LEON K. BUTLER, HANNAH R. CALKIN, JOSEPH N. ENNEN (highlighted), and CASSANDRA J. VAN WINKLE. Below the last name, there is a red link that says "4 new alerts".

The main content area is titled "Summary" and is for "JOSEPH N. ENNEN at Quality Middle School". Below this, there is a section for "Campus Notes" with a message: "This is a campus wide message to see if the message saves after running MTGR.".

The "Class Schedule" section contains a table with the following data:

Period	Course	Instructor	Current Average as of 7:30AM 7/28/09	Today's Attendance as of 1:59PM 7/28/09
1	PE 8	JOHN D. GENERALLY		
2	CONTENT MASTERY	KATHLEEN M. CUNNINGHAM	non-graded class	
2	LANG ARTS 8	FRANCILLE NELSON	085	
3	PRE-ALGEBRA	CANDACE A. TISUE		
5	STDY SKLS/HLTH8	JOHN R. AMOS	1	
6	AM HIST 8	MILES R. BURLEW		
7	EAR SCI 8	JOHN R. AMOS	99	
8	SPAN I	CHERRYL G. BEELER		

Below the table, there is a "Teacher Note" for CHERRYL G. BEELER. The note includes the text "Available la" and "My phone # is 223-9033." followed by a link "spanol" and a "(close)" link.

Registration and Login

When a parent accesses txConnect, the following Login page is displayed. The parent must register as a new user.

txConnect

Welcome to txConnect for Quality ISD [Help](#)

Login
Please enter your user name and password.
User Name:
Password:

New User?
If you need to create an account, click [here](#)

Forgot your Password?
If you need help recovering your password, click [here](#)

District Message
This is a district wide message to see if the message saves after running MTGR.

We are testing this district wide message to make sure it appears correctly in the parent portal. We hope to finalize testing today.

If we continue to experience errors, notification of the appropriate personnel will require an email sent to the district director of technology.

His email address is: johndoe@esc20.edu

Please know that we are addressing this issue as quickly as possible and hope to have it resolved in a timely manner.

If you require immediate assistance, please call our District Administration office at 210-555-5555 asking to speak with Mr. John Doe.

Thank you for your gracious patience!

Version 1.1.1.3
Licensed Materials - Property of Texas Computer Cooperative.
Copyright © 2006 by Texas Computer Cooperative.
All rights reserved.

How to Register as a New User

The registration process is self-administered, which means that the parent chooses his user name and password. If he forgets or loses his password, or wishes to change it, he will go through an automated process to reset his password.

The parent must provide at least one valid student portal ID, which the campus provides. The parent must have a valid student portal ID for every student he wants to add to his account.

From the Login page, click the link under **New User** to go to the Registration page. The Registration User Info - Step 1 of 3 page is displayed.

txConnect

Registration

Help

User Info - Step 1 of 3

Please provide a user name, password, and e-mail.

User Name:
Must be between 6 and 9 alpha-numeric characters. (example: ABC5555)

Password:
Must be between 6 and 9 characters; must contain at least 3 of the following character types: uppercase, lowercase, numeric, punctuation.

Confirm Password:
Password must match entry in password field exactly. (case sensitive)

E-mail: (optional)
Must be a valid e-mail address format. (example: name@name.com)

Next

Available languages: [English](#) [español](#)

Step 1:

1. In the **User Name** field, the parent types a user name that will identify him when he logs on to txConnect, such as a combination of letters from his first and last names.
 - The user name must be six to nine characters and must be unique (i.e., not used by anyone else in the district).
 - The user name is not case-sensitive (i.e., it does not matter if it is uppercase or lowercase letters).
 - If the parent types a user name that is already taken, the system notifies him that the user name is taken. Another user name must be entered.
2. In the **Password** field, the parent enters a password that he will use when he logs on to txConnect.
 - The password must be six to nine alphanumeric characters.
 - It must be a combination of the following: uppercase, lowercase, numeric, and/or punctuation (e.g., aBc1234).
 - The password is case-sensitive (i.e., it must always be typed exactly as it is entered here, including uppercase and lowercase letters).
3. In the **Confirm Password** field, the parent retypes his password exactly as it was typed above. This step confirms that the parent typed his password as intended.
4. The **E-mail** field is used to send the parent attendance, grade average, and assignment alerts. It is an optional field.

5. Click **Next**.

- If all required data was not entered, a red message is displayed to the right of each field that is missing data. That information must be provided before he can continue.
- If the data was entered correctly, the Hint Question - Step 2 of 3 page is displayed.

Step 2:

1. In the **Question** field, the parent selects a question to which he will provide an answer. The question is asked in the event that the parent loses his password.
 2. In the **Answer** field, the parent types the answer to the question. He will be required to answer the question correctly in order to recover his password. The parent should select a question for which he will easily remember the answer. Answers are case-sensitive (i.e., it must always be typed exactly as it is entered here, including uppercase and lowercase letters).
3. Click **Next**.
- If the data was entered incorrectly, a red message is displayed to the right of each field that has incorrect data. That information must be provided before he can continue.
 - If the data was entered correctly, the Add Students - Step 3 of 3 page is displayed.

Step 3:

1. In the **Student Portal ID** field, the parent types his student's portal ID provided by the campus. If he does not have this ID, he must contact the campus to get the ID. He cannot continue without entering a valid student portal ID.

Note: The student portal ID must be typed exactly as it is printed (i.e., uppercase and lowercase letters).

2. In the **Student Birth Date** field, the parent types his student's complete birth date in the MM/DD/YYYY format (e.g., 01/19/1998). The date entered here must match the birth date in his student's record at the campus. He cannot continue without entering the correct birth date.
3. Click **Add**. The student's name is displayed in the **Added Students** box on the right side of the page. The parent must successfully add at least one student in order to create an account.
4. The parent can repeat the previous steps to add another student or click **Finish**. The Summary page for the first student in the parent's alphabetical list is displayed.

How to Log On

Reminder: A new user must create a user ID and provide a unique student portal ID for each student to gain access to students' records. District or campus administrators distribute the student portal IDs.

1. From the Login page, in the **User Name** field, the parent types his user ID. The user ID is not case-sensitive.
2. In the **Password** field, the parent types his password. The typed text is hidden. The password is case-sensitive.
3. Click **Log In**. The student's Summary page is displayed.
 - If the parent has more than one student in his account, the Summary page for the first student in his alphabetical list is displayed.
 - If the parent entered an invalid user ID and/or password, an error message will prompt him to reenter the data.

Warning: If the parent has three unsuccessful attempts logging on (invalid user ID/password combinations), the system will lock out his account for 20 minutes. He should try logging on again after 20 minutes.

How to Reset a Password

If the parent has forgotten his password, he can reset it using an automated process. He will be required to provide the answer to his hint question. With the correct answer, he can reset his password to a new password.

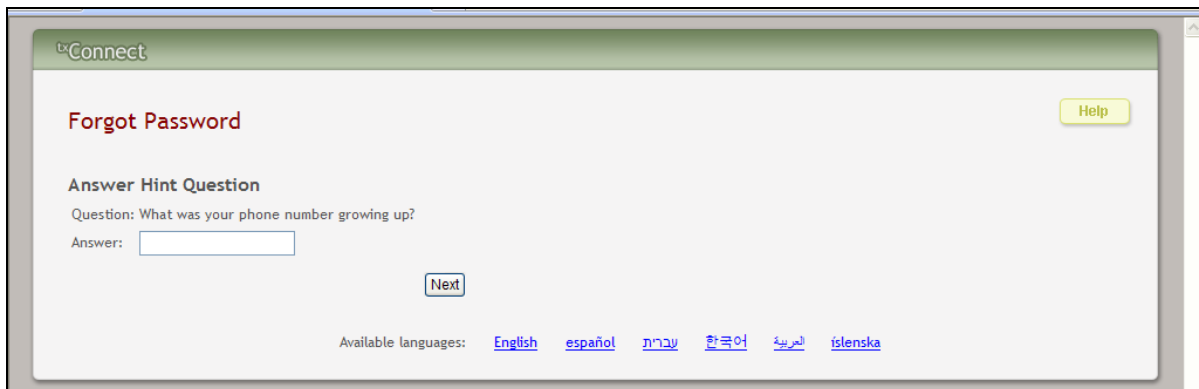
If he has forgotten his user name, he must re-register.

1. From the Login page, the parent clicks the link under **Forgot your Password** to go to the Forgot Password page. The Forgot Password Enter User Name page is displayed.



The screenshot shows the txConnect 'Forgot Password' page. At the top left is the txConnect logo. Below it, the title 'Forgot Password' is displayed in red. A yellow 'Help' button is in the top right corner. The main section is titled 'Enter Username' and contains a text input field labeled 'Username:'. Below the input field is a 'Next' button. At the bottom, there is a link for 'Available languages:' followed by links for English, español, עברית, 한국어, العربية, and íslenska.

2. In the **User Name** field, the parent types his user name.
3. Click **Next**. The Answer Hint Question page is displayed with his hint question.



The screenshot shows the txConnect 'Forgot Password' page at the 'Answer Hint Question' step. The title 'Forgot Password' is in red. A yellow 'Help' button is in the top right corner. The main section is titled 'Answer Hint Question' and contains the text 'Question: What was your phone number growing up?' followed by a text input field labeled 'Answer:'. Below the input field is a 'Next' button. At the bottom, there is a link for 'Available languages:' followed by links for English, español, עברית, 한국어, العربية, and íslenska.

4. In the **Answer** field, the parent types the answer exactly as he entered it when he registered in txConnect. (Later on whenever he updates the hint question in his account, that answer must be entered here.)
5. Click **Next**. The Set New Password page is displayed.

txConnect

Forgot Password

Help

Set New Password

Must be between 6 and 9 characters; must contain at least 3 of the following character types: uppercase, lowercase, numeric, punctuation.

New Password:

Confirm Password:

Finish

Available languages: [English](#) [español](#)

6. In the **New Password** field, the parent types a new password that he will use when he logs on to txConnect.
 - The password must be six to nine alphanumeric characters.
 - It must be a combination of the following: uppercase, lowercase, numeric, and/or punctuation (e.g., aBc1234).
 - The password is case-sensitive (i.e., it must always be typed exactly as it is entered here, including uppercase and lowercase letters).
7. In the **Confirm Password** field, the parent retypes his password exactly as it was typed above. This step confirms that he typed his password as intended.
8. Click **Finish**. The Summary page for the first student in his alphabetical list is displayed.

Summary

The Summary page displays an alphabetical list of students that the parent has added to his account either through registration as a new user or through his My Account page. The summary for the first student in the list is displayed including the following:

- A tab for each campus if the student withdrew from a campus.

The screenshot shows the 'Summary' page for student ALYSSA R. ALLEN. The page is divided into a sidebar with a list of students and a main content area. The main content area has two tabs: 'LAKE VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL' and 'LAKE VIEW HIGH SCHOOL'. Under the 'LAKE VIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL' tab, there is a 'Campus Notes' section with the following text: 'Semester Exams will be administered the week of May 21 thru May 24, 2007.' and 'Graduation is May 25, 2007.' Below this is a 'Class Schedule' table with the following data:

Period	Course	Instructor	Current Average as of 10:54AM 6/15/07	Today's Attendance as of 10:54AM 6/15/07
4	ALG 1	STEVE C. ANDERSON	085	

At the bottom of the page, there are links for 'Available languages: English, español'.

- Campus notes created in iTCCS or RSCCC.
- The student's class schedule including period, course title, instructor name, current grade average for each class, and attendance for the current date.
- Blank attendance for a course under **Today's Attendance** if attendance has not been posted for the course.

Summary
for: DAHRA D. BLAIR at LAKE VIEW ELEMENTARY

Campus Notes
Campus Information Notes

Class Schedule

Period	Course	Instructor	Current Average as of 10:54AM 6/15/07	Today's Attendance as of 10:54AM 6/15/07
1	MATHEMATICS 4	AMBER ADAMS	090	PARENT NOTE ILL
2	LANG ARTS 4	AMBER ADAMS	093	PARENT NOTE ILL
3	SOC STUDIES 4	AMBER ADAMS	089	TRUANT
4	PHY ED 4	Amber Stuart	S	
4	MUSIC 4	CHERYL DODSON	S	
4	ART 4	EDWARD RODRIGUEZ	S	
5	SCIENCE 4	AMBER ADAMS	090	
6	READING GR 4	AMBER ADAMS	091	
7	SPELLING 4	AMBER ADAMS	A	
8	HEALTH 4	AMBER ADAMS	E+	



Available languages: [English](#) [español](#)

- Any highlighted failing grades under **Current Average**.
- Letter grades displayed under **Current Average** if the course is set up to post letter grades.
- One attendance status for the entire day, if the student is enrolled in an elementary campus which has only one period.

Attendance

To display the student's attendance, click **Attendance** on the menu at the top of the page. When the parent views the Attendance page, the Detailed Attendance tab is displayed by default.









Detailed Attendance

- The date is displayed in the column heading if the student was marked absent or tardy for any period during the day.
- If the student was not present for the entire class, a code is displayed for the period and date. A description of each code is displayed in the **Key** section of the page (e.g., excused, unexcused until a note is received, etc.).
- If the student was present and on time for the entire day, the date is not displayed.
- If the teacher has provided contact information, office hours, and/or other notes, a yellow note icon  appears beside the teacher's name. The parent can click  to see the information, and then click **close** to close the Teacher Note window.

Attendance
for: DAHRA D. BLAIR at LAKE VIEW ELEMENTARY on 6/15/2007 10:54:14 AM

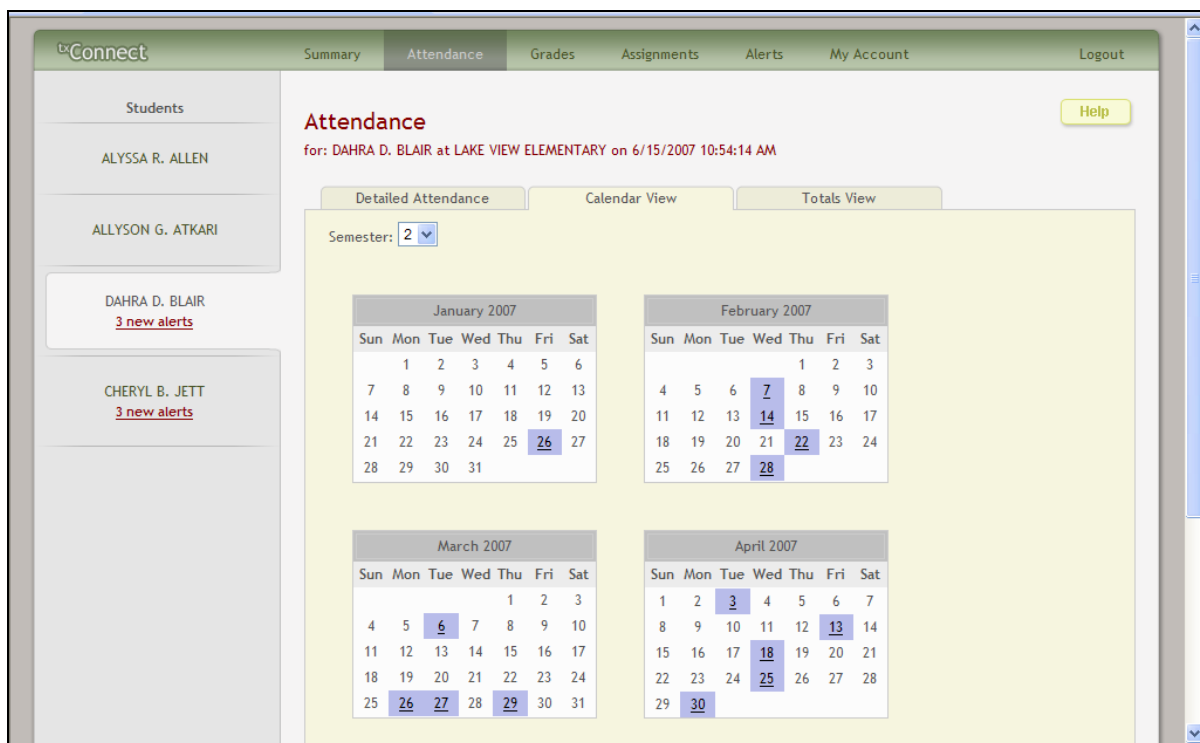
Semesters: 2

Key
1: Excused Tardy - ill 8: UNEXCUSED TARDY A: PARENT NOTE ILL O: OTHER T: TRUANT
U: UNEXCUSED UNTIL NOTE



Period	Class	Teacher	5/3	5/4	5/9	5/17	5/18	5/21	6/12	6/13	6/15
1	MATHEMATICS 4	AMBER ADAMS 								A	A
2	LANG ARTS 4 	AMBER ADAMS 	U	A	A	A	A	8	A		A
3	SOC STUDIES 4	AMBER ADAMS 									T
4	PHY ED 4	Amber Stuart									
4	MUSIC 4	CHERYL DODSON									
4	ART 4	EDWARD RODRIGUEZ									
5	SCIENCE 4	AMBER ADAMS 									
6	READING GR 4	AMBER ADAMS 									
7	SPELLING 4	AMBER ADAMS 									
8	HEALTH 4	AMBER ADAMS 									

Calendar View

1. Click the **Calendar View** tab to see the attendance details in a calendar view instead of a table view. All months for the current school year are displayed as the parent scrolls down.
 - If the student was not present for the entire class for any period of the day, the day is highlighted on the calendar.
 - The parent can click the date to open the attendance details for the highlighted day. For each period, the student's attendance is displayed. The period is only listed if the student was marked absent or tardy for that period. Otherwise, the period is not listed in the attendance details window.
2. Click **Close** to close the attendance details window for the highlighted day.



Totals View

1. Click the **Totals View** tab to see tardies and attendance totals for the semester.
 - The student's classes are listed by period, and the total number of school-related absences (e.g., UIL events or field trips), nonschool-related absences (e.g., illness or family emergency), and tardies is listed.
 - If the teacher has provided contact information, office hours, and/or other notes, a yellow note icon  appears beside the teacher's name. The parent can click  to see the information.

2. Click **close** to close the Teacher Note window.

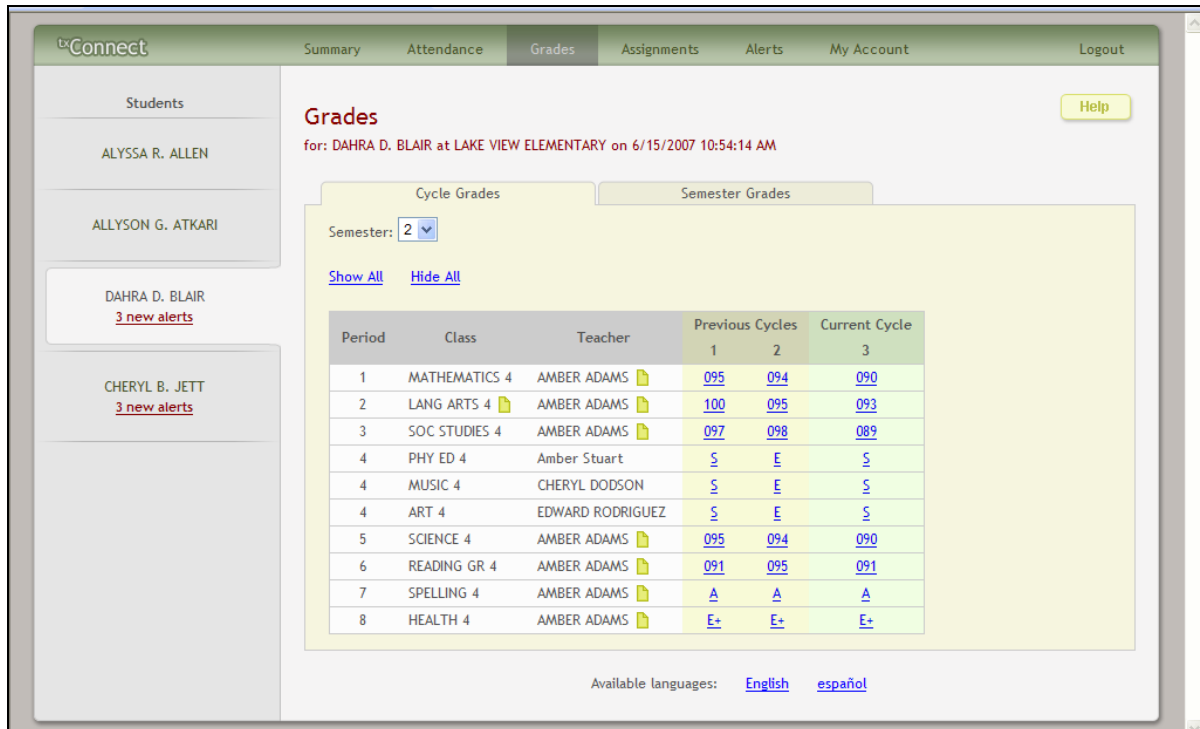
The screenshot displays the 'Attendance' section of the txConnect interface. The user is logged in as DAHRA D. BLAIR. The page shows a table of attendance records for Semester 2. The table has the following columns: Period, Class, Teacher, Total Absences, School Related, Non-School Related, and Tardies. The data is as follows:

Period	Class	Teacher	Total Absences	School Related	Non-School Related	Tardies
1	MATHEMATICS 4	AMBER ADAMS	2	0	2	0
2	LANG ARTS 4	AMBER ADAMS	21	0	21	3
3	SOC STUDIES 4	AMBER ADAMS	0	0	0	1
4	PHY ED 4	Amber Stuart	0	0	0	0
4	MUSIC 4	CHERYL DODSON	0	0	0	0
4	ART 4	EDWARD RODRIGUEZ	0	0	0	0
5	SCIENCE 4	AMBER ADAMS	0	0	0	0
6	READING GR 4	AMBER ADAMS	0	0	0	0
7	SPELLING 4	AMBER ADAMS	0	0	0	0
8	HEALTH 4	AMBER ADAMS	0	0	0	0

Available languages: [English](#) [español](#)

Grades

The parent can view his student's grades by clicking **Grades** on the menu at the top of the page. When the Grades page opens, the Cycle Grades tab is displayed by default.



How to View Assignment Grades for a Class

The Cycle Grades page displays current grade averages for the current cycle and posted grade averages for previous cycles. For the current semester, the assignment grades for each class can be viewed. For previous semesters, only the posted average is available.

1. The parent clicks the grade average for the class and cycle he wants to view. The grade average is expanded below the period row to display all grade data that has been entered. In addition to the assignment grades, the calculated average and posted average are displayed.

Grades
for: DAHRA D. BLAIR at LAKE VIEW ELEMENTARY on 6/15/2007 10:54:14 AM

Semester: **2**

[Show All](#) [Hide All](#)

Period	Class	Teacher	Previous Cycles		Current Cycle
			1	2	3
1	MATHEMATICS 4	AMBER ADAMS	095	094	090

Assignment **Due Date** **Grade** **Late** **Redo**

Daily Participation (Weight 20%)

Open Discussion	1/16/2007	98
Group Discussion 1	1/25/2007	93
Board Work	1/25/2007	98
Poster	2/15/2007	95
Show and Tell	2/22/2007	85
Open Discussion 2	2/22/2007	91
Daily Participation average		93

Homework (Weight 15%)

Chapter 9	1/16/2007	95
Chapter 9 summary	1/19/2007	92
Chapter 10	1/25/2007	91

Journal (Weight 20%)

Numbers	1/16/2007	99
If Only I Could...	1/16/2007	96
Once I Counted	1/25/2007	95
Did You Know...	2/8/2007	95
My Favorite Things	2/15/2007	100
Differences Between	2/22/2007	86
Journal average		95

Quiz (Weight 20%)

Cycle 1 Quiz	2/22/2007	95
Quiz average		95

Citizenship S
Posted Average 095



(close details)

Period	Class	Teacher	Previous Cycle 1	Previous Cycle 2	Current Cycle
2	LANG ARTS 4	AMBER ADAMS	100	095	093
3	SOC STUDIES 4	AMBER ADAMS	097	098	089
4	PHY ED 4	Amber Stuart	S	E	S
4	MUSIC 4	CHERYL DODSON	S	E	S
4	ART 4	EDWARD RODRIGUEZ	S	E	S
5	SCIENCE 4	AMBER ADAMS	095	094	090
6	READING GR 4	AMBER ADAMS	091	095	091
7	SPELLING 4	AMBER ADAMS	A	A	A
8	HEALTH 4	AMBER ADAMS	E+	E+	E+

Available languages: [English](#) [español](#)

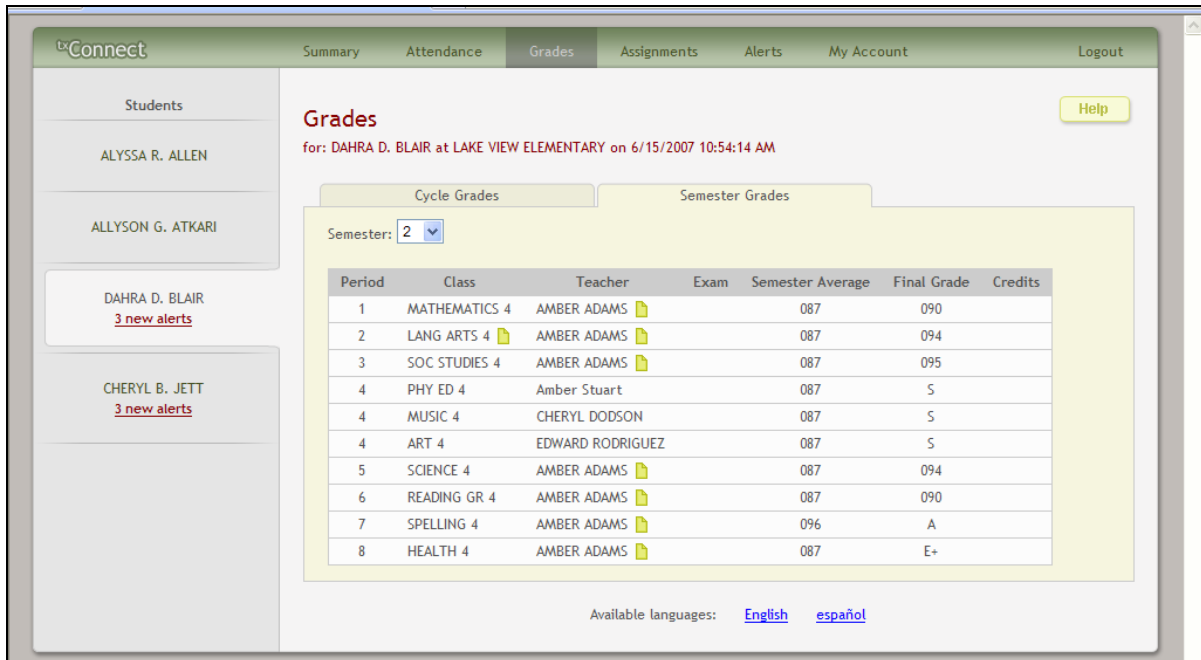
- The calculated average is the average calculated using the student's grades and the teacher's method for calculating the average. The calculated average is not displayed for closed cycles.
- The posted average is the actual grade that was posted for the student for the class. In some circumstances, the posted grade is different than the calculated average. The

posted average is the official grade that appears on the report card. For previous cycles, only the posted average is displayed.



- Assignments are displayed by category. For each category, the category weight is displayed, and the average for each category is displayed.
 - The calculated average, posted average, and category average are displayed as letter grades if the course is set up to post letter grades.
 - For each assignment, the due date and grade are displayed. The **Late** and **Redo** columns indicate if the assignment was turned in late or redone.
 - If an assignment grade has been dropped, the message "dropped" is displayed next to the grade.
 - If an assignment grade has been excluded, the message "excluded" is displayed in place of the grade.
 - If an assignment is missing, an M is displayed in place of the grade.
 - If an assignment is incomplete, an I is displayed in place of the grade.
 - If the teacher entered any notes related to the student's assignment grade, the notes are displayed below the grade.
2. To return to the unexpanded grade average view, click **close details** for the grade average that was expanded.
 3. To show assignment grades for the current cycle for all courses, click **Show All**.
 4. To hide the assignment grades for all courses, click **Hide All**.
 5. If the teacher has provided contact information, office hours, and/or other notes, a yellow note icon  appears beside the teacher's name. If the teacher has provided course notes or assignment notes, the icon is also displayed by the course and/or assignment. The parent can click  to see the information, and then click **close** to close the Note window.

How to View Semester and Final Averages

From the Grades page, the parent clicks the **Semester Grades** tab to see the student's posted semester and final averages. The data is only available for closed semesters. For the current semester, no data is displayed.



For each period, the exam grade, semester average, final grade, and credits are displayed.

- **Exam** is the student's semester exam grade for the course.
- **Semester Average** is the student's posted semester average for the course.
- **Final Grade** is the student's posted final grade for the course. For one-semester courses, this grade is posted after the semester is closed. For year-long courses, this grade is only posted after the final semester of the year is closed.
- **Credits** is the number of credits received for the course that count toward graduation requirements.
- If the teacher has provided contact information, office hours, and/or other notes, a yellow note icon  appears beside the teacher's name. If the teacher has provided course notes, the icon is also displayed by the course. The parent can click  to see the information, and then click **close** to close the Note window.


Assignments

The Assignments page allows the parent to view all of the student's assignments for all courses or for a specific course. He can view all assignments, only assignments that have been graded, or only pending assignments (assigned but not yet graded).

How to View Assignments

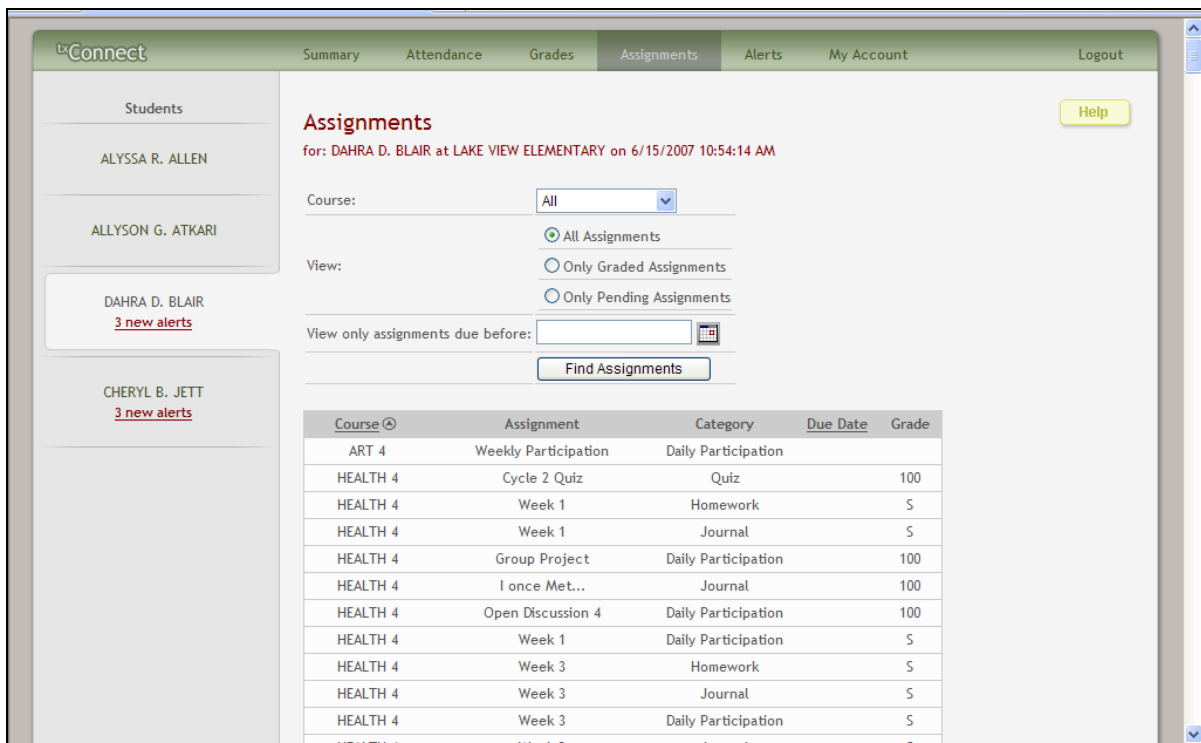
Click **Assignments** on the menu at the top of any page. The Assignments page is displayed for the student currently selected.

The screenshot shows the txConnect interface for the 'Assignments' page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for Summary, Attendance, Grades, Assignments (selected), Alerts, My Account, and Logout. On the left, a sidebar lists students: ALYSSA R. ALLEN, ALLYSON G. ATKARI, DAHRA D. BLAIR (with 3 new alerts), and CHERYL B. JETT (with 3 new alerts). The main content area is titled 'Assignments' and includes a 'Help' button. Below the title, it says 'for: DAHRA D. BLAIR at LAKE VIEW ELEMENTARY on 6/15/2007 10:54:14 AM'. There are three filter sections: 'Course' with a dropdown menu set to 'All', 'View' with radio buttons for 'All Assignments' (selected), 'Only Graded Assignments', and 'Only Pending Assignments', and 'View only assignments due before:' with a text input field and a calendar icon. A 'Find Assignments' button is located below these filters. At the bottom, there is a table with columns 'Course', 'Assignment', 'Category', 'Due Date', and 'Grade', and a single row containing 'No Selected Assignments'. At the very bottom, it says 'Available languages: English español'.

1. In the **Course** field, the parent selects a specific course or **All** to view assignments for all courses.
2. For **View**, the parent selects the assignments he wants to view.
 - **All Assignments** displays all assignments.
 - **Only Graded Assignments** displays only assignments that have been graded.
 - **Only Pending Assignments** displays only assignments that have been assigned but not yet graded.
3. In the **View only assignments due before** field, the parent enters a date if he wants to view only assignments that were due before that date. For example, he can enter today's date to see all assignments that were due up to today. He can also click  to select a date from the calendar. This field is optional. If a date is not entered, all assignments are included in the search.

Note: If a date is entered in the field and the teacher has not entered a due date for an assignment, the assignment is not displayed in the search results.

4. Click **Find Assignments**. All assignments that match the criteria entered are displayed in the table at the bottom of the page.
 - If an assignment grade has been dropped, the message "dropped" is displayed next to the grade.
 - If an assignment grade has been excluded, the message "excluded" is displayed in place of the grade.
 - If an assignment is missing, the message "missing" is displayed in place of the grade.
 - If an assignment is incomplete, the message "incomplete" is displayed in place of the grade.
5. In the Assignments table, click **Course** to sort the assignments by course, or click **Due Date** to sort the assignments by due date.



Alerts

Alerts are messages notifying a parent that his student has grades or attendance information of which he should be aware, such as an absence or a low grade. If the student has alerts, the number of alerts is displayed below the student's name on the left side of the page.

When a parent creates a txConnect account, he is automatically subscribed to two alerts:

- Unexcused absence alerts, first occurrence of the day
- Failing grade alerts

An alerts subscription can be changed at any time.

How to Read Alerts

To go directly to the Alerts page to read the message(s), the parent clicks the alerts notification below the student's name. He can also click **Alerts** in the main menu at the top of the page and select the student for whom he wants to see alerts.

The screenshot shows the txConnect Alerts page for DAHRA D. BLAIR. The page has a navigation bar at the top with tabs for Summary, Attendance, Grades, Assignments, Alerts, My Account, and Logout. On the left, there is a list of students with their names and the number of new alerts: ALYSSA R. ALLEN, ALLYSON G. ATKARI, DAHRA D. BLAIR (3 new alerts), and CHERYL B. JETT (3 new alerts). The main content area is titled 'Alerts' and shows a notification for DAHRA D. BLAIR at LAKE VIEW ELEMENTARY on 6/15/2007 10:54:14 AM. Below this, there are buttons for 'View Alerts' and 'Subscribe to Alerts'. A checkbox labeled 'View Read Alerts?' is present. A table displays the alerts:

Date	Description	Read?
6/15/07	Student received an Excused Absence in period 1.	<input type="checkbox"/>
6/15/07	Student received an Excused Absence in period 2.	<input type="checkbox"/>
6/15/07	Student received a Tardy in period 3.	<input type="checkbox"/>

At the bottom, there are links for 'Available languages: English español'.

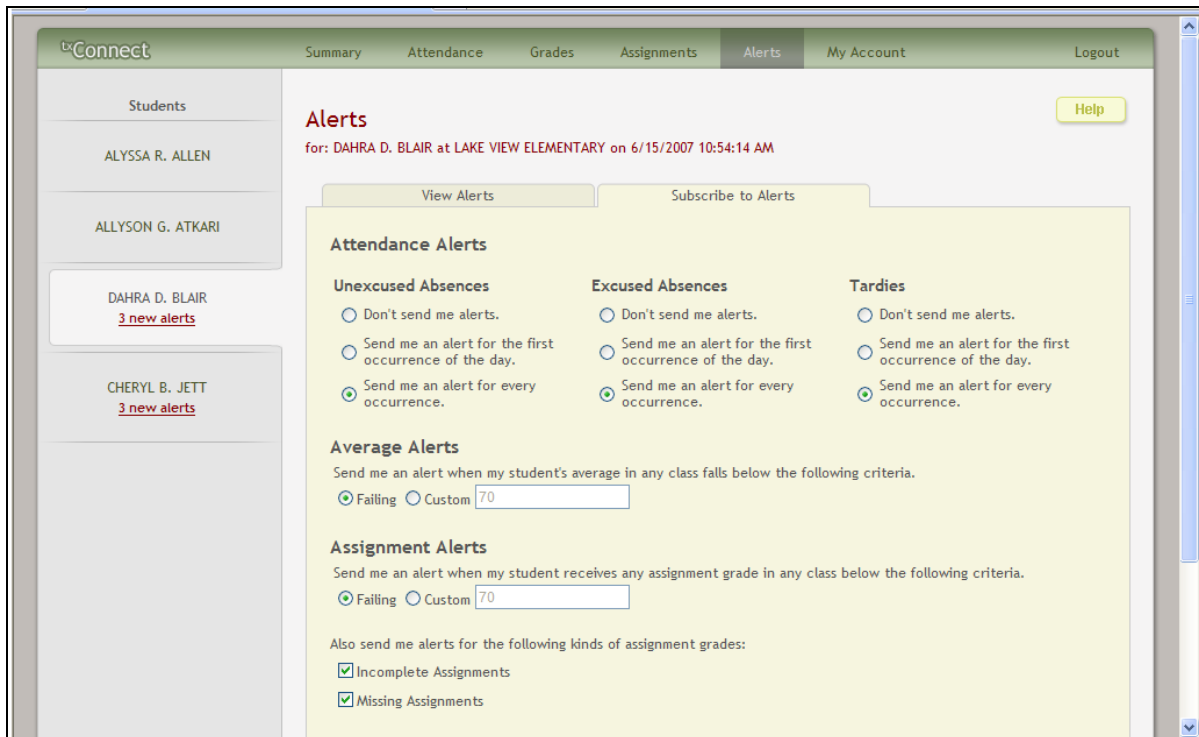
The complete alert message is displayed on the Alerts page under **Description**. If the student has more than one alert, the alerts are displayed in the order received, with the most recent alert at the top of the list.

- New alerts that have not been read are bolded.
- Once the parent has read an alert, he can click the **Read** check box to indicate that he has read the alert. The alert will be shaded gray.
- If the parent selects the **Read** check box accidentally, he can clear it to change the alert back to unread.
- The parent can adjust the page to display or hide the alerts he has already read.

- To see only new, unread alerts, the **View Read Alerts** check box should be blank.
- To see all alerts, the **View Read Alerts** check box should be selected.

How to Change an Alerts Subscription

From the Alerts page, the parent can change his alerts subscription by clicking the **Subscribe to Alerts** tab.



An alerts subscription must be set for each student on the parent’s account.

There are three categories of alerts: Attendance, Grade Average, and Assignment Grades.

Attendance Alerts

The attendance alerts allow the parent to indicate if he wants to receive alerts for absences and tardies.

1. Under **Unexcused Absences**, the parent selects one of the following:
 - If he does not want to be notified of his student's unexcused absences, he selects **Don't send me alerts**.
 - If he only wants to be notified of an unexcused absence for the first occurrence of the day, he selects **Send me an alert for the first occurrence of the day**.
 - If he wants to be notified of every unexcused absence throughout the day, he selects **Send me an alert for every occurrence**.

2. Under **Excused Absences**, the parent selects one of the following:
 - If he does not want to be notified of his student's excused absences, he selects **Don't send me alerts**.
 - If he only wants to be notified of an excused absence for the first occurrence of the day, he selects **Send me an alert for the first occurrence of the day**.
 - If he wants to be notified of every excused absence throughout the day, he selects **Send me an alert for every occurrence**.
3. Under **Tardies**, the parent selects one of the following:
 - If he does not want to be notified of his student's tardies, he selects **Don't send me alerts**.
 - If he only wants to be notified of a tardy for the first occurrence of the day, he selects **Send me an alert for the first occurrence of the day**.
 - If he wants to be notified of every tardy throughout the day, he selects **Send me an alert for every occurrence**.

Average Alert

The average alert allows the parent to be notified that the student's grade average in a class falls below a specified grade. By default, the parent will receive an alert any time the student's grade average in a class falls below failing. The parent may change the alert by specifying another grade.

To specify another grade, select **Custom**. In the custom field, type a numeric grade (0-100). Any time the student's average falls below this grade, the parent will receive an alert.

Assignment Alerts

The assignment alert allows the parent to be notified if the student receives an assignment grade below a specified grade in any class. By default, the parent will receive an alert any time the student receives a failing assignment grade in any class. The parent can change the alert by specifying another grade.

To specify another grade, select **Custom**. In the custom field, type a numeric grade (0-100). Any time the student receives an assignment grade below this grade in any class, the parent will receive an alert.

The parent may also choose to be notified if the student has an assignment marked as missing or incomplete. Select **Incomplete Assignments** to be notified of incomplete assignments. Select **Missing Assignments** to be notified of missing assignments.

How to Receive Alert Notices by E-Mail

If the parent wants to have alert notices sent to his e-mail address, he must select **Send me an email when an alert is generated** at the bottom of the page. Also, he needs to have entered his e-mail address on the My Account page. The **Send me an email when an alert is generated** check box is not displayed if the district has not set up e-mail notification.

Note: E-mail alert notices do not contain the information specific to the alert. The notice simply informs the parent that he has one or more unread alerts in his account.

The parent must click **Save Subscriptions** before leaving the page. Otherwise, the changes will not be saved.

My Account

The parent can change his account settings through the My Account page. To access the My Account page, click **My Account** on the menu at the top of any page.

The screenshot shows the 'My Account' page in the txConnect system. The navigation bar at the top includes 'Summary', 'Attendance', 'Grades', 'Assignments', 'Alerts', 'My Account', and 'Logout'. The 'My Account' section is active, displaying a 'Help' button and a description: 'This page allows you to review and change your account settings.'

Hint Question [Change](#)
 Question: What was the name of your first pet?
 Answer: test

Password [Change](#)
 Password: *****

Students [Change](#)

Student Name	Associated Users	Last Login
ALYSSA R. ALLEN	Leighann	6/15/07 3:00 PM
ALLYSON G. ATKARI	Leighann	6/15/07 3:00 PM
DAHRA D. BLAIR	Leighann	6/15/07 3:00 PM
CHERYL B. JETT	Leighann JaneDoe	6/15/07 3:00 PM 6/15/07 2:26 PM

Email Address [Change](#)
 Email Address: leigh.dalros@esc20.net

Available languages: [English](#) [español](#)

How to Change a Hint Question/Answer

The hint question/answer is used to verify the parent's identity if he has forgotten his password. The parent's current hint question and answer are displayed under **Hint Question**. He can change the question, the answer, or both.

1. Next to **Hint Question**, click **Change**.

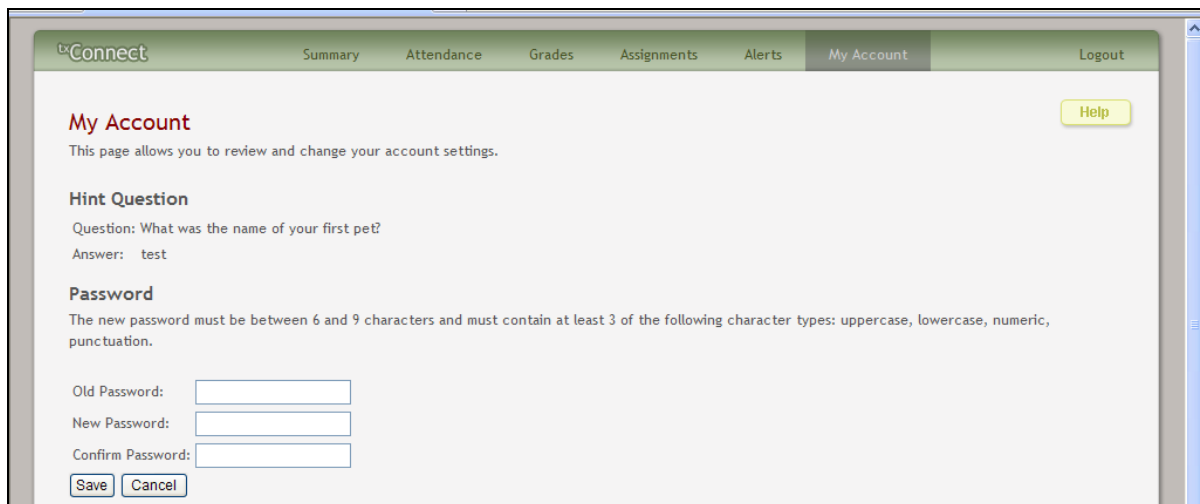
The screenshot shows the 'My Account' page with the 'Hint Question' section expanded. The 'Question' is set to 'What was the name of your first pet?' (shown in a dropdown menu). The 'Answer' is 'test'. There are 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons below the input fields.

2. The parent makes changes to the question and/or answer and clicks **Save**.
 - If the data was entered incorrectly, a red message is displayed to the right of each field that has incorrect data. The information must be provided to change the hint question/answer.
 - If the data was entered correctly, the new hint question is displayed under **Hint Question**.

How to Change a Password

The parent can change his password any time. For security purposes, it is recommended that the password be changed periodically.

1. Next to **Password**, click **Change**.



The screenshot shows the 'My Account' page in the txConnect system. The page has a navigation bar with links for Summary, Attendance, Grades, Assignments, Alerts, My Account (selected), and Logout. Below the navigation bar, the page title is 'My Account' and there is a 'Help' button. The main content area contains a 'Hint Question' section with a question 'What was the name of your first pet?' and an answer 'test'. Below this is the 'Password' section, which includes instructions: 'The new password must be between 6 and 9 characters and must contain at least 3 of the following character types: uppercase, lowercase, numeric, punctuation.' There are three input fields: 'Old Password:', 'New Password:', and 'Confirm Password:'. At the bottom of the form are 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons.

2. In the **Old Password** field, the parent enters his current password.
3. In the **New Password** field, the parent enters a new password.
4. In the **Confirm Password** field, the parent retypes his new password exactly as it was typed above.
5. Click **Save**.
 - If the data was entered incorrectly, a red message is displayed to the right of each field that has incorrect data. The information must be provided to change the password.
 - If the data was entered correctly, the new password is saved. Next time the parent logs on to txConnect, he must use the new password.

How to Add Another Student to an Account

If the parent wants to add another student to his txConnect account, he must have a valid student portal ID issued by the student's campus.

1. Next to **Students**, click **Change**.

Delete	Student Name	Associated Users	Last Login
<input type="checkbox"/>	ALYSSA R. ALLEN	Leighann	6/15/07 3:00 PM
<input type="checkbox"/>	ALLYSON G. ATKARI	Leighann	6/15/07 3:00 PM
<input type="checkbox"/>	DAHRA D. BLAIR	Leighann	6/15/07 3:00 PM
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHERYL B. JETT	Leighann JaneDoe	6/15/07 3:00 PM 6/15/07 2:26 PM

Save Cancel

Email Address
Email Address: leigh.dalros@esc20.net

Available languages: [English](#) [español](#)

Add New Student

Student Portal ID:

Birth Date:

Add

2. Under **Add New Student** in the **Student Portal ID** field, the parent types his student's portal ID.
3. In the **Birth Date** field, the parent types the student's complete birth date in the MM/DD/YYYY format (e.g., 01/19/1998). The date entered here must match the birth date in the student's record at the campus.
4. Click **Add**. The student's name is displayed in the **Students** box.
5. Click **Save** to save the changes.

If the student was successfully added to the account, his name appears in the **Students** list on the left side of every page. The students are listed in alphabetical order.

6. To delete a student from an account, click next to the student to delete.
7. Click **Save** to save the changes.

If the student was successfully deleted from the account, his name no longer appears in the **Students** list on the left side of every page.

How to Add or Update an E-Mail Address

If the parent wants to receive alert notices by e-mail, he must provide an e-mail address. His current e-mail address is displayed under **Email Address**, if he previously entered it. The parent can add or update his e-mail address at any time.

1. Next to **Email Address**, click **Change**.

The screenshot shows a web interface titled "Students". It contains a table with three columns: "Student Name", "Associated Users", and "Last Login". Below the table is an "Email Address" section with a text input field containing "leigh.dalros@esc20.net" and "Save" and "Cancel" buttons. At the bottom, there is a language selection option: "Available languages: English español".

Student Name	Associated Users	Last Login
ALYSSA R. ALLEN	Leighann	6/15/07 3:00 PM
ALLYSON G. ATKARI	Leighann	6/15/07 3:00 PM
DAHRA D. BLAIR	Leighann	6/15/07 3:00 PM
CHERYL B. JETT	Leighann JaneDoe	6/15/07 3:00 PM 6/15/07 2:26 PM

Email Address
Email Address: leigh.dalros@esc20.net
Save Cancel

Available languages: [English](#) [español](#)

2. In the **Email Address** field, the parent enters a current e-mail address and clicks **Save**.
 - If the data was entered incorrectly, a red message is displayed to the right of the field. The e-mail address must be in a valid format (e.g., *someone@example.net*) to continue.
 - If the data was entered correctly, the new e-mail address is displayed under **Email Address**.

Error Handling

In many cases, application errors that cause error messages are corrected quickly. Often if the parent waits for a while and then returns to txConnect, the system will work properly.

If an error is caused by invalid data that he has entered, a message on the page prompts him to correct the entry. Once he corrects the error, he can continue.

The following types of errors may be generated in the txConnect application:

- **Unexpected error:** This error is due to some exception that has been generated by the application. If the parent loses his session, he is returned to the Login page or the current page. The application logs the exception information.
- **Database communication error:** This error occurs if the application is unable to communicate with the txConnect database. Usually, this is a very brief issue. Wait a few minutes, and then try the action again. The error is logged in the event log.
- **Session loss error:** This error occurs if the session has been cleared because the application was reset. If the parent loses his session, he is returned to the Login page. If this occurs, the parent should wait a few minutes and then log on again. The error is logged in the event log.
- **Configuration error:** This error occurs if there is an error in the web.config file or service environment. The error is logged in the event log when starting the application.

If an error persists, contact the system administrator at the e-mail address displayed on the error page. Be sure to provide the following:

- The error message, including the code that is displayed below the error message
- The action that the parent attempted when the error occurred

Appendix 1 - Calculating Averages

To calculate a student's cycle average for a course, the parent must know the weighting type used for the course (Percentage, Point, or Multiplier). The weighting type is displayed on the Cycle Grades page. Click the cycle average to see the detail view for the course.

- If the weighting type is percent-based, the category weights will show % (e.g., 90%).
- If the weighting type is point-based, each assignment grade will display the earned points and total points (e.g., 9/10).
- If the weighting type is multiplier-based, the category weights will show X (e.g., 2x).

The parent should perform the calculations for the appropriate weighting type for the course.

Percent-based

If the course uses percent-based weighting, the teacher assigns a percentage to each assignment category. Examples of assignment categories are homework, tests, labs, quizzes, etc. The percentages for all categories must total 100%.

Formula for percent-based:

1. For each category, take the sum of all points earned for all assignments.

Points Earned 1 + Points Earned 2 + Points Earned 3 = Total Points Earned

For example:

The Homework category has three assignments. The student earned a 70/100, 80/100, and 90/95 for those assignments.

$$(70 + 80 + 90) = 240$$

The Test category has two tests. The student earned a 45/50 and 100/100 for those tests.

$$(45 + 100) = 145$$

The Cycle Exam category has no grades yet.

Extra credit:

If the student has extra credit points, include the extra credit (EC) points in the Total Points Earned.

$$(\text{Points Earned 1} + \text{Points Earned 2} + \text{Points Earned 3} + \text{EC}) = \text{Total Points Earned}$$

For example:

The Homework category has three assignments. The student earned a 70/100, 80/100, and 90/95 for those assignments. He also has 10 points of extra credit.

$$(70 + 80 + 90 + 10) = 250$$

2. For each category, take the sum of all possible points for all assignments.

$$\text{Possible Points 1} + \text{Possible Points 2} + \text{Possible Points 3} = \text{Total Possible Points}$$

Note: Some teachers may have total possible points for an assignment that are not 100 (e.g., 90/95).

For example:

The Homework category has three assignments. The student earned a 70/100, 80/100, and 90/95 for those assignments.

$$(100 + 100 + 95) = 295$$

The student's Total Possible Points for the Homework category is 295.

The Test category has two tests. The student earned a 45/50 and 100/100 for those tests.

$$(50 + 100) = 150$$

The student's Total Possible Points for the Test category is 150.

3. For each category, divide the Total Points Earned by the Total Possible Points.

$$\text{Total Points Earned} / \text{Total Possible Points} = \text{Category Average}$$

For example:

The student's Total Points Earned for the Homework category is 240. The student's Total Possible Points for homework is 295.

$$240 / 295 = 81.4$$

The student's Homework Category Average is 81.4.

The student's Total Points Earned for the Test category is 145. The student's Total Possible Points for the Test category is 150.

$$145 / 150 = 96.7$$

The student's Test Category Average is 96.7.

4. For each category, multiply the Category Average by the Category Weight.

$$\text{Category Average} \times \text{Category Weight} = \text{Category Value}$$

For example:

The weight for the Homework category is 50%.

$$81.4 \times 50\% = 40.7$$

The weight for the Test category is 40%.

$$96.7 \times 40\% = 38.7$$

The weight for the Cycle Exam category is 10%, but there is no category average.

5. Take the sum of all Category Values.

$$\text{Category Value 1} + \text{Category Value 2} + \text{Category Value 3} = \text{Total}$$

For example:

Add the category values for the Homework and Test categories. There is no category value for the Cycle Exam category.

$$40.7 + 38.7 = 79.4$$

6. Divide the Total by the sum of the weights for the categories that have grades, and then multiply by 100.

$$(\text{Total} / 100) \times 100 = \text{Average (if all categories have grades)}$$

$$(\text{Total} / \text{Cat Sum}) \times 100 = \text{Average (if some categories do not yet have grades)}$$

For example:

The sum of the weights of the Homework category and Test category is 90. The Cycle Exam category is omitted from the sum because it does not have grades.

The student's Total is 79.4.

$$(79.4 / 90) \times 100 = 88.2$$

The student's average is 88.

Point-based

If the course uses point-based weighting, the teacher assigns point values for each assignment category. Examples of assignment categories are homework, tests, labs, quizzes, etc. The point values must equal the total number of points for the cycle. The calculation is based on the total points, not weighting.

Formula for point-based:

1. For each category, take the sum of points earned on all assignments.

$$\text{Points 1} + \text{Points 2} + \text{Points 3} = \text{Category Points}$$

For example:

The Homework category has three assignments, each worth 50 points. The student earned a 40, 45, and 50 for those assignments.

$$40 + 45 + 50 = 135$$

The Test category has two tests, each worth 50 points. The student earned a 40 and 50 for those tests.

$$40 + 50 = 90$$

Extra credit:

If the student has an extra credit assignment, add the points for the extra credit (EC) assignment to the Category Points.

$$\text{Category Points} + \text{EC} = \text{new Category Points}$$

For example:

The student's Homework Category Points is 135. The student was awarded 5 points for a homework extra credit assignment.

$$135 + 5 = 140$$

2. Take the sum of the points earned in all categories.

$$\text{Category 1 Points} + \text{Category 2 Points} + \text{Category 3 Points} = \text{Total Points}$$

For example:

Add the points for the Homework category and the Test category.

$$135 + 90 = 225$$

3. Divide the Total Points by the Total Possible Points, and multiply by 100.

$$(\text{Total Points} / \text{Total Possible Points}) \times 100 = \text{Average}$$

For example:

The student's total points is 225. The total possible points is 250.

$$(225 / 250) \times 100 = 90$$

The student's average is 90.

Multiplier-based

If the course uses multiplier-based weighting, the teacher assigns a multiplier number (between 1-9) for each category. For multipliers greater than one, the individual assignment grades are counted multiple times. Multiplier-based weighting is often used in elementary schools.

Formula for multiplier-based:

1. Calculate the category actual value:

- For each category, add the sum of the points earned for each assignment:

$$\text{Points Assignment 1} + \text{Points Assignment 2} + \text{Points Assignment 3} = \text{Actual Category Points}$$

For example:

The Homework category has three assignments, each worth 100 points. The student earned a 70, 80, and 90 for those assignments.

$$70 + 80 + 90 = 240$$

The Test category has two tests, each worth 100 points. The student earned a 90 and 100 for those tests.

$$90 + 100 = 190$$

Extra credit:

If the student has an extra credit assignment, add the points for the extra credit (EC) assignment to the Actual Category Points.

$$\text{Actual Category Points} + \text{EC} = \text{new Actual Category Points}$$

For example:

The student's Homework Actual Category Points is 240. The student was awarded 5 points for a homework extra credit assignment.

$$240 + 5 = 245$$

- For each category, multiply the Actual Category Points by the multiplier value.

$$\text{Actual Category Points} \times M = \text{Actual Category Value, where } M \text{ is the multiplier value}$$

For example:

The multiplier for the Homework category is 2.

$$240 \times 2 = 480$$

The multiplier for the Test category is 1.

$$190 \times 1 = 190$$

- Add the sum of the actual category values for all categories.

Actual Category Value + Actual Category Value = Actual Value Total

For example:

Add the actual values for the Homework category and the Test category.

$$480 + 190 = 670$$

2. Calculate the category possible value:

- For each category, add the sum of the possible points for each assignment:

Possible Points Assignment 1 + Possible Points Assignment 2 + Possible Points Assignment 3 = Possible Category Points

For example:

The Homework category has three assignments, each worth 100 points.

$$100 + 100 + 100 = 300$$

The Test category has two assignments, each worth 100 points.

$$100 + 100 = 200$$

- For each category, multiply the Possible Category Points by the multiplier value:

Possible Category Points \times M = Possible Category Value, where M is the multiplier value

For example:

The multiplier for the Homework category is 2.

$$300 \times 2 = 600$$

The multiplier for the Test category is 1.

$$200 \times 1 = 200$$

- Add the sum of the possible category values for all categories.

Possible Category Value + Possible Category Value = Actual Value Total

For example:

Add the possible values for the Homework category and the Test category.

$$600 + 200 = 800$$

3. Calculate the average.

Divide the actual category value by the possible category value, and then multiply by 100.

$(\text{Actual Value Total} / \text{Possible Value}) \times 100 = \text{Average}$

For example:

The student's value for actual points earned is 670. The value for possible points is 800.

$$(670 / 800) \times 100 = 83.7$$

The student's average is 84.

Transfer Students

If a student transfers into the course during a cycle, the following calculations are used to determine his working cycle average:

1. For the transfer grade, multiply the Transfer Average by the Transfer Weight.

Transfer Average x Transfer Weight = Transfer Value

For example:

The student's Transfer Average is 74.

The student's Transfer Weight is 55%.

$$74 \times 55\% = 40.7$$

The student's Transfer Value is 40.7.

2. Calculate the average of the student's assignment grades (for the remainder of the cycle) using the steps described above under Percent-based, Point-based, or Multiplier-based.

For example:

The percent-based example above shows a Working Cycle Average of 87.

3. Calculate the weight for the Working Cycle Average.

$100\% - \text{Transfer Weight} = \text{Working Cycle Average Weight}$

For example:

The student's Transfer Weight is 55%.

$$100\% - 55\% = 45\%$$

The student's Working Cycle Average Weight is 45%.

4. Calculate the Working Cycle Average Value.

$\text{Working Cycle Average} \times \text{Working Cycle Average Weight} = \text{Working Cycle Average Value}$

For example:

The student's Working Cycle Average is 87.

The student's Working Cycle Average Weight is 45%.

$$87 \times 45\% = 39.15$$

The student's Working Cycle Average Value is 39.15.

5. Take the sum of the Transfer Value and the Working Cycle Average Value.

$\text{Transfer Value} + \text{Working Cycle Average Value} = \text{Actual Working Cycle Average}$

For example:

The student's Transfer Value is 40.7.

The student's Working Cycle Average Value is 39.5.

$$40.7 + 39.5 = 80.2$$

The student's Actual Working Cycle Average is 80.

If a student transferred from a course that posts letter grades to a course that posts numeric grades and a letter grade is entered for his transfer average, the grade conversion table is used to determine the numeric value.

Dropped Assignments

For all weighting types, the teacher can specify a number of grades to drop for each category (e.g., drop the lowest two grades). If the teacher specified a number of grades to drop, the dropped grades are figured in when calculating the total points earned.

Notes:

- If the number of grades entered is greater than the number of grades to drop, then the lowest X grades are dropped, where X is the specified number to drop for that category.
- If the number of grades to drop is greater than or equal to the number of grades entered, then no grades are dropped.

Warning: If all assignments in a category do not have the same total points value, the calculations for dropping a specified number of assignments for the category may result in an average that is different than expected. If the total points value varies, the grade with the lowest number of points may not necessarily be the lowest grade.

Rounding Numbers

When calculating a student's cycle average, the parent should be aware of the following details:

- Assignment grades are always whole numbers (i.e., no decimals).
- When a category average is displayed on a student's Cycle Grades page or IPR, it is rounded to the nearest whole number. If the number to the right of the decimal is 5 or greater, the displayed grade is rounded up. If the number to the right of the decimal is less than 5, the displayed grade is rounded down.

For example, if the student's category average is 89.5, the IPR and Cycle Grades page will display 90 for the category average. If the student's category average is 90.49, the IPR and Cycle Grades page will display 90 for the category average.

- When calculating a student's cycle average, the category average is *not* rounded. The program uses the entire unrounded number (i.e., 32-bit precision) to calculate the cycle average.

Warning: If you use the rounded category average to calculate a student's cycle average, you may get a different average than the average produced by the program, since the program does *not* use the rounded category average.

- Once the cycle average is calculated, it is rounded to the nearest whole number. The cycle average is always displayed as a whole number.
- When the semester average is calculated, the rounded cycle averages are used. The semester average is rounded to the nearest whole number. The semester average is always displayed as a whole number.

Missing and Incomplete Grades

When calculating a student's average, the parent should be aware of the following details:

- If a student has an assignment grade of M (missing), the grade is calculated as a zero. A missing grade can be dropped, if applicable.

- If a student has an assignment grade of I (incomplete), no averages are calculated, and an I is displayed in place of the average. The grade remains as an I until a grade is entered for the assignment.

Appendix 2 - System Requirements

PC Operating System

The recommended operating system is Microsoft Windows 2000 (current service pack), Microsoft Windows XP (Service Pack 2), or Microsoft Windows Vista.

Browser Setup

The minimum browser for txConnect is Internet Explorer 6.0 or later. txConnect will also work with Mozilla Firefox 1.5 or later for Windows 2000, Windows XP, or Windows Vista. Mac OS X users should use Firefox or Safari. Please check your browser settings to ensure that your browser is set up to accommodate the txConnect requirements.

Note: Some antivirus software blocks cookies and pop-up windows. In addition to the instructions below, check your antivirus software to ensure that it is not blocking cookies or pop-up windows from txConnect.

Windows Internet Explorer

To add txConnect to the trusted sites:

Adding the txConnect Web site to the trusted sites means that you trust txConnect to use cookies. The use of cookies is required for proper operation of txConnect.

1. In the browser, from the Tools menu, select Internet Options. The Internet Options dialog box is displayed.
2. From the Internet Options dialog box, click **Security**.
3. Under **Select a zone to view or change security settings**, click **Trusted sites**.
4. Click **Sites**. The Trusted sites dialog box is displayed.
5. Under **Add this website to the zone**, type the exact Web site address that you use to access txConnect.

Note: If the Web site address begins with https, then select **Require server verification (https:) for all sites in this zone**. If the Web site address does not begin with https, then ensure that **Require server verification (https:) for all sites in this zone** is not selected.

6. Click **Add**. The Web site will appear under **Websites**.
7. To close the Trusted sites dialog box, click **Close**.
8. To close the Internet Options dialog box, click **OK**.

To disable the pop-up blocker for txConnect:

txConnect occasionally uses pop-up windows to display information. The pop-up blocker must be disabled for the txConnect Web site for proper operation of txConnect.

1. In the browser, from the Tools menu, select Internet Options. The Internet Options dialog box is displayed.
2. From the Internet Options dialog box, click **Privacy**. If **Turn on Pop-up Blocker** is selected, then continue.
3. Under **Pop-up Blocker**, click **Settings**. The Pop-up Blocker Settings dialog box is displayed.
4. Under **Address of website to allow**, type the exact Web site address that you use to access txConnect.
5. Click **Add**. The Web site will appear under **Allowed sites**.
6. To close the Pop-up Blocker Settings dialog box, click **Close**.
7. To close the Internet Options dialog box, click **OK**.

Mozilla Firefox

For proper operation of txConnect when using Mozilla Firefox, the use of cookies is required. The pop-up blocker must be disabled for the txConnect Web site, and JavaScript must be enabled for the txConnect Web site.

To enable cookies for txConnect:

1. In the browser, from the Tools menu, select Options. The Options dialog box is displayed.
2. From the Options dialog box, click **Privacy**.
3. Under **Cookies**, click **Exceptions**. The Exceptions - Cookies dialog box is displayed.
4. Under **Address of web site**, type the exact Web site address that you use to access txConnect.
5. Click **Allow**. The Web site will appear under **Sites**, and the **Status** will be set to Allow.
6. To close the Exceptions - Cookies dialog box, click **Close**.
7. To close the Options dialog box, click **OK**.

To enable pop-up windows for txConnect:

1. In the browser, from the Tools menu, select Options. The Options dialog box is displayed.
2. From the Options dialog box, click **Content**.

3. Next to **Block pop-up windows**, click **Exceptions**. The Allowed Sites - Popups dialog box is displayed.
4. Under **Address of web site**, type the exact Web site address that you use to access txConnect.
5. Click **Allow**. The Web site will appear under **Sites**, and the **Status** will be set to Allow.
6. To close the Allowed Sites - Popups dialog box, click **Close**.
7. To close the Options dialog box, click **OK**.

To enable JavaScript for txConnect:

1. In the browser, from the Tools menu, select Options. The Options dialog box is displayed.
2. From the Options dialog box, click **Content**.
3. Ensure that **Enable JavaScript** is selected.
4. To close the Options dialog box, click **OK**.

Safari for Mac OS X

To enable cookies for txConnect:

The use of cookies is required for proper operation of txConnect.

1. In the browser, from the menu bar, select Safari, and then select Preferences. The Preferences dialog box is displayed.
2. In the Preferences dialog box, select **Security**.
3. Next to **Accept Cookies**, select **Only from sites I visit**.
4. Close the Preferences dialog box.

To enable JavaScript for txConnect:

JavaScript must be enabled for the txConnect Web site for proper operation of txConnect.

1. In the browser, from the menu bar, select Safari, and then select Preferences. The Preferences dialog box is displayed.
2. In the Preferences dialog box, select **Security**.
3. Next to **Web Content**, ensure that **Enable JavaScript** is selected.
4. Close the Preferences dialog box.

