Launching your app from start to finish

Product Overview

With nearly 80% of parents having access to a smartphone today, mobile needs to be a priority in any communications strategy. When you
go mobile, you are empowering your families to get involved and engage with students and schools in the way they prefer, from the device of their choice. Blackboard Mobile Communications App with integrated student data gives your parents one place to access their notifications, grades, assignments, attendance, and more, all in an app that is branded for your district.

Implementation Overview

Implementation of the Mobile Communications App with student integration is anticipated to be completed within 4-6 weeks from the project kick off. The implementation of your mobile app does not require other projects to implement, but is designed to occur seamlessly with the other student data integrated products like Web Community Manager Dashboard, Teacher Messaging, and Mass Notifications.

Implementation of this product will center on the integration and automation of data from various client software products. Commonly affected systems include:

- Student Information System (required)
- Cafeteria Management System (optional)
- Transportation Management System (optional)
- Human Resource System (optional/varies)

In addition to facilitating data integration, your project manager will speak to the best practices associated with the initial setup of your app.

Below is a sample timeline that may be adjusted by your project manager depending on individual client needs.

	Responsible Party	
	Blackboard	District
Start (S)	• Project startup call	
S+1 week	• Data Integration set up & authentication • Start app artwork • Begin account configuration • Begin app configuration	• Complete app questionnaire • Install DataLink
S+2 weeks	• Begin data verification and adjustments • Submit app to app stores	• Approve artwork • Review app
S+3 weeks	• Data integration complete	• Final data verification
S+4-6 weeks	• App store approval (app is not live yet) • App launch (app goes live)	• Final app review.

Implementation Deliverables

- Easy-to-Use administration interface
- Available on iOS devices and Android devices
- Imported accounts for directory
  - Schools
  - Teachers
  - Staff
- App activity reporting
- Authenticated access to (based on available data):
  - Contact information
  - Grades
  - Completed, missing, and future assignments
  - Class information
  - Bus route information
  - Class information
  - Lunch balances
  - Library information and balances
- Customizable user preferences
- App-push notifications
- Aggregated Stream
- Integrated news feed
- Integrated social media feeds
  - Facebook
  - Twitter
  - Instagram
  - YouTube
- Integrated calendar
- Tip-line
- Resource folder
- Access to website information
- App deep-launching

Data Integration

Full use of Mobile Communication App with student data integration requires access to and automation of several files. These same files will be used for this, as well as future data integrated product implementations. The assigned project manager will outline the required integration activities and secure a data integration specialist to advise the you on establishing access to the necessary data files and then import the files.

Clients may take advantage of standardized Blackboard integrations in place for various K-12 systems. Project managers will alert clients if Blackboard has an integration for a client's affected system. Otherwise, clients will need to produce files consistent with the file specifications linked below. In all cases, clients should verify their integration methods, even when using a standardized Blackboard integration, to ensure the data being produced in their files is consistent with their use of their software product. example: mapping of phone numbers

Clients are required to automate the transfer of their files to a secure FTP (SFTP) site for Blackboard processing. Clients are invited to use the free Blackboard file transfer tool, DataLink. The project manager will discuss file transfer during the project kick off and subsequent meetings.

Link to File Specifications: https://dlmaster.parlant.com/specs/