

All Applications Release Bulletin

February 2013

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About Release 92_4

Release 92_4 is a wide-ranging release that introduces significant enhancements to certain areas of the system, as well as minor enhancements throughout all applications.

- *For schools using Campus Store, please note that there are some significant structural changes being made to sales history. Due to these changes, your database update will run significantly longer than usual. Please see the Business Office Bulletin for details.
- **For our self-hosted (non-Cloud) schools, please note that there are also some special technical considerations related to the Senior Systems, Inc.'s PCI compliance initiative. Please see the Security Release Bulletin for details.

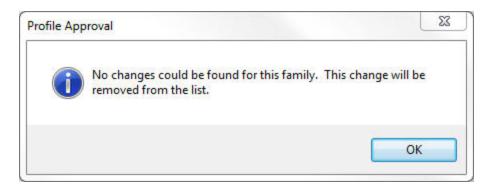
As always, please contact <u>Support@senior-systems.com</u> if you have any questions about these new and enhanced features.

All Applications Enhancements

There are quite a few enhancements that affect all or multiple Advantage applications. Some of these are documented in more detail in separate release bulletins.

PCI and Security - As part of a major initiative to implement PCI compliance, a number of changes have been made to Advantage applications and My BackPack, including the encryption of Social Security Numbers, removing the ability to store credit card numbers, and changes to My BackPack user account management. See the dedicated Security Release Bulletin for details.

Approving Profile Changes - When My BackPack users make changes to their profile, some types of changes only impact certain applications. In most cases, this is seamless for school staff. However it is possible for a user to log into an application and open a record with an outstanding change in a different application that the user does not have access to modify. Previously when this was the case, the system would not allow the user to continue until all changes to the record were addressed. Now, the message below will appear (because the system knows that there are outstanding changes to the record), but the user can click OK and continue working. Note that this does not clear the change from the list of changes pending approval.



Global Updates Enhancements - Previously, upon completion of a Global Update task, the tool closed immediately. Now, upon completion of the update, the screen remains open and remembers your settings, to expedite processing tasks.

Save Settings on Dialog Screens - Users will notice that save settings functionality has been added to multiple screens throughout the system. Note that this functionality is only available on certain types of screens, so you will not see it everywhere.

Region Field Expanded - The Region field can now accept up to 15 characters. This field is available throughout Address Maintenance.

System Administration and My BackPack (General) Enhancements

System Administration

Global Update Report - When running a Global Update, the system gives the user a change report before saving the update. Previously, the report printed automatically. Now, you can preview the report and choose whether or not to print before confirming or canceling your update.

Default Settings for New Web User Accounts - Previously, the Web ID Creation Wizard's default behavior was causing issues for LDAP user accounts, by setting passwords to expire and be revalidated upon first login. This is no longer an issue. In addition to other changes being made to My BackPack user account management, the code has been changed to ensure that expiration and revalidate check boxes are not set upon account creation if LDAP is selected.

My BackPack

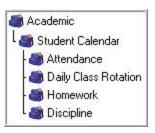
My BackPack Message Per Connection Limit - Some schools using different messaging services were reaching message-per-connection limits when using the broadcast email function. Now, there is a 20-message per connection limit on email jobs being created by My BackPack. This will not interrupt any existing functionality, and will account for message-per-connection limits.

My BackPack Redesign

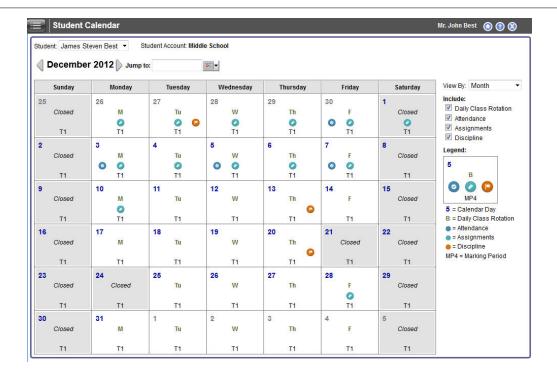
In Release 92_3, we introduced the redesigned My BackPack. The redesign introduced advanced customization options, as well as some commonly requested overall design enhancements. In Release 92_4, we completed the redesign by introducing new versions of the Student Calendar, the Profile page, and the Daily Assignments page. Note that the services to implement these changes can be scheduled through your Sales representative. Not sure who to talk to? Feel free to contact Custom@Senior-Systems.com if you have any questions about these new and enhanced features.

Student Calendar - The Student Calendar has been totally redesigned with usability improvements and new features. Faculty, parents, and students can now use the Student Calendar to view and manage daily class rotation, attendance, assignments, and discipline. The ability to view assignments and discipline on the calendar is totally new with Release 92_4.

• **Security Setup** - The school has granular control over which of the new options users can access through the Student Calendar through My BackPack user groups. Each key is associated with what type of information is available in the legend, 'Include' options, and on the calendar itself. Because of the significant changes made to the calendar, no user groups are granted access to these keys upon database update.

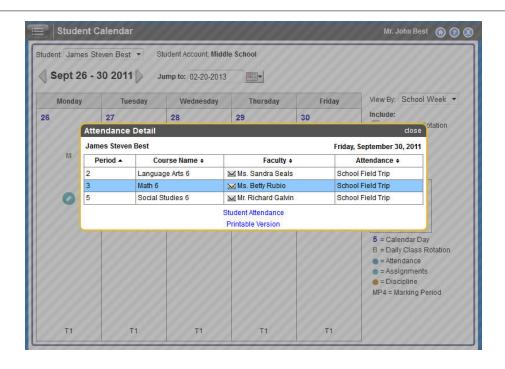


 Using the Calendar - Parents and students can choose a variety of different ways to view their information. The calendar is available in day, week, school week (5 days), and month modes. Users can choose what type of information they want to include using the checkboxes to the right of the calendar. A legend explaining what each icon means is also available.

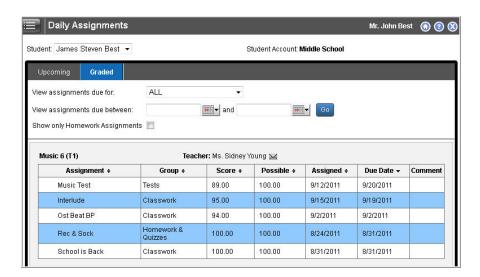


• **Detail Views** - Users can click any of the icons on the calendar to view details about each item. The information that appears on each detail screen varies based on your school's setup and the information available to the user. Each detail screen offers the ability to print and link to the related area of My BackPack.

Use Case: A middle school student with a five class daily rotation may have a hard time keeping track of homework assignments day to day. When the student gets home, the parents may log into My BackPack to check the Student Calendar and print out their student's homework assignments for the day.

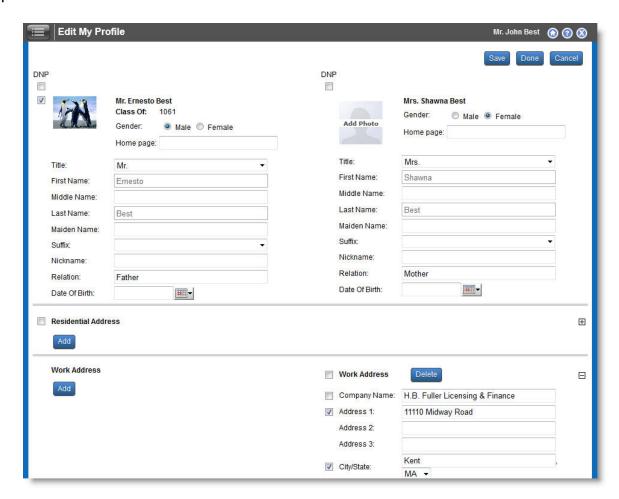


Daily Grades and Comments - The Daily Grades and Comments screen look and feel has changed significantly. The redesign makes information available to users with minimal navigation. You will notice new filtering options along the top, including week-at-a-glance features. You will also notice small improvements, such as the course 'Summary' is now available simply by clicking the course name, a more intuitive navigation method. Teacher email addresses are available as links throughout, and assignments are now viewed in 'Detail' screens (and can be printed from these screens), similar to details on the redesigned Student Calendar.



My Profile - The look and feel of the My Profile page in My BackPack has changed significantly. In order for the page to be more user friendly and offer a more standard user experience, we have changed the Edit Profile workflow so that now, the user can make changes and/or additions to the profile page without extensive navigation. All fields are available on one page. Expansion buttons help the user expand/contract certain areas as needed. 'Do not publish' flags are readily available beside each applicable field.

In addition to changing the profile layout, it is now possible for the user to modify their gender. If a school has the Alumni community of My BackPack, gender is an editable field. If a school does not have the Alumni community, certain fields, including the gender field, simply do not appear on the profile.



Mobile: New 'School Links' Screen

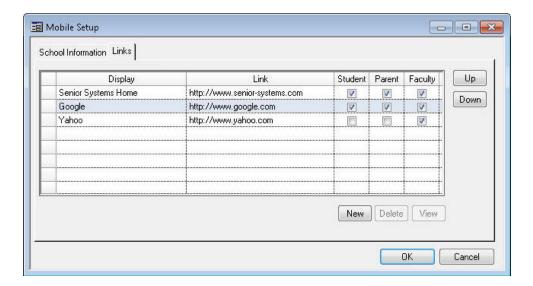
A new 'School Links' screen has been added to the Advantage mobile app. This screen is set up in Advantage System Administration. You can use this screen to provide easy and convenient access to your school website or other online resources. This page will automatically be available to all app users (depending on the visibility checkboxes), as long as there are links available.

Look and Feel - In the bottom navigation bar of the app, you will notice that the 'Contact Us' link has been changed to read 'Contact & Links'. When the app user taps the icon, the existing 'Contact Us' page will open, with a new toggle option across the top. The toggle idea for this screen is similar to the toggle used in the Student/Parent Directory, to switch between parent and student view.



Note: If there are no links available to the user (for example, if the school has not set up links, or if there are no links published to the user's community (student, parent, or faculty)) there will be no toggle and no Links page.

Setup - There is a new tab on the Mobile App setup screen in Advantage System Administration. Use this screen to add items to the 'School Links' screen. Note that you can give each link a name (the text app users will see on screen) and choose which community should have access to each link (student, parent, or faculty). You can list as many links as you like, but keep in mind that users may have to scroll down the page depending on their device.



My BackPack User Account Management

As part of Senior Systems, Inc.'s latest security initiative, My BackPack password policies have changed significantly. Our goal is to offer a more industry standard password management process. These changes apply to both the original and redesigned versions of My BackPack. The new features are outlined below, and explained in further detail in the following sections.

Note: These changes ONLY apply to My BackPack account management. Database user account management has not changed.

Changes in My BackPack

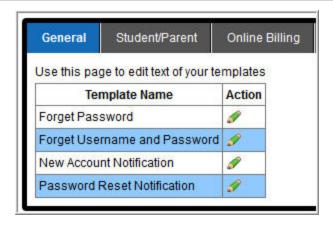
Password Merge Field Removed - The "Password" merge field is no longer available in Broadcast Email or Mail Merges. Passwords will no longer appear in mail or email.

New Reset Password Link Merge Field - A new "Reset Password Link" merge field has been added to Broadcast Email. This merge field generates a link, unique to the user, that can be used to reset the user's password. As an additional layer of security, the link expires after 72 hours. The "Reset Password Link" is used in two situations: when a new account is created and when a password is reset (either by the school, or by the My BackPack user).



Important: The unique URL generated by this merge field expires after 72 hours. If a parent does not use the URL to reset their password within the allotted period of time, the parent can simply use the Forgot Password tool to request another unique URL.

In support of these new features, there are several new broadcast email templates and a new merge field available. The new email templates include password retrieval instructions, a password reset notification, and an account creation notification. When new My BackPack accounts are created or a password is reset, the system automatically enables these new security measures on the account. In order to access their account, the user must use a secure link sent via email to set or reset their password.

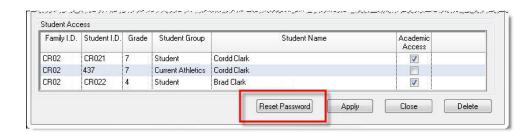


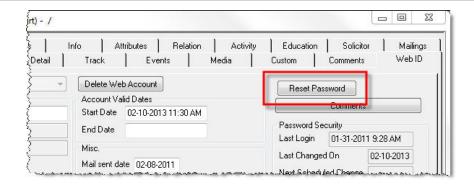
Important: When you upgrade to Release 92_4, you should immediately modify your My Back-Pack broadcast email templates for the 'Forgot Password' notifications. The password merge field used in these templates will no longer work. You should replace the password merge field with the 'Reset Password Link' merge field.



Changes in Advantage

Reset Password Button - Advantage users now have the ability to reset a My BackPack user's password manually. This ability replaces the 'View Password' function. This button appears in various locations throughout Advantage. Access to this button is controlled by a security key. Users who previously had the 'View' security key will automatically receive the 'Reset' key upon database update.



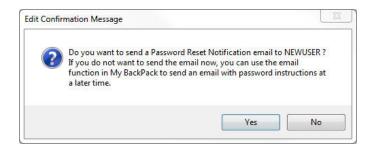


Use Case: When parents contact the school requesting assistance with account access, now staff can use the 'Reset' tool to help parents create a new password, rather than telling the parent what their password is. This was changed to address account security concerns.

Note: The 'Reset' button is disabled for My BackPack user accounts that have LDAP enabled and/or My BackPack accounts associated with Database users.

Account Creation - Within Advantage, there are two ways to create new My BackPack user accounts: individually (from the student/address record, in various locations throughout the system) and using the Auto-Assign Wizard. When you create accounts individually, you will notice a few new capabilities.

The system will ask you if you want to send a notification to the new user's email address
(es). If you select yes, My BackPack will automatically send the email. If you select no, you
can choose to send an email using the Broadcast Email function in My BackPack at a later
time. Note that the new user will not be able to access his or her new account until receiving
the unique URL that will allow them to set their initial password.



• If you choose to send the notification from within Advantage, the system will confirm that an email was sent to the email address(es) on file for the user. Note that this may include more than one email address.

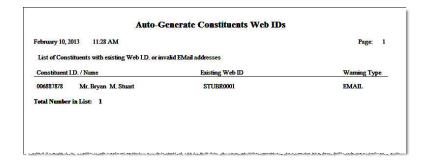


If you choose to send the notification from within Advantage but the user does not have an
email address on file, the system will notify you that an email address should be added to
the user's record.

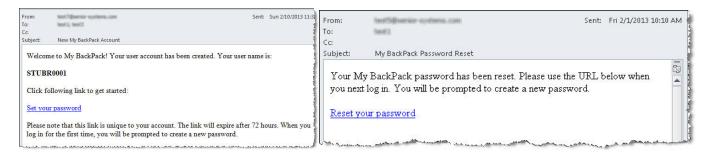


The Web ID Account Creation Wizard offers a few new features in support of the new My BackPack account management model.

- When you are creating new My BackPack accounts, you have similar options to send notifications to new users, explaining how to access their account. As with creating accounts
 individually, you can choose to send the automatic notification, or you can create a broadcast email in My BackPack separately, with details specific to the group of new users.
- If you choose to send automatic notifications through the Wizard and the system encounters problems with any of the emails (for example, if the Warnings report will notify you that there was a problem completing the email task). You can print or save this report as needed.



Automatic Email Features - Several new automatic emails have been added in support of the new My BackPack password management process. When you reset passwords and create new My BackPack accounts, Advantage will give you the option to send an automatic email notification to the user. You can choose whether or not you want to send notifications using the new notification templates (stored in My BackPack broadcast email).



USE CASE: At the beginning of the academic year, schools set up My BackPack user accounts for many parents at once using the Web ID User Account Creation Wizard. You can choose to send a broadcast email notifying the new users that their account is ready to be set up, along with specific information and instructions for the incoming class. You may also want to include instructions to use the Forgot Password tool to request another unique URL if the parent does not have a chance to use the unique URL within the 72 hours.