All Applications Release Bulletin
August 2012

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About Release 92_3

Release 92_3 is a wide-ranging release that introduces our new Mobile Apps product line, which is available for purchase through the Senior Systems Sales Department, and our My BackPack Re-Design with advanced customization, and also deploys a re-branded and enhanced Advantage Cloud (formerly "Advantage Hosted Solution") environment. We've also made updates to Web Services, changed our publishing method for release notes, and made a variety of changes and enhancements that affect multiple Advantage applications. Some of these topics are described in this bulletin; our new offerings and the Advantage Cloud enhancements are covered in more detail in separate documents.

**For our self-hosted (non-Cloud) schools, please note that there are also some special technical considerations and system requirements for this update, depending on which Advantage applications and features your school uses. See the following pages for more details.

As always, please contact Support@senior-systems.com 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.

> **Note on Database Update to Version 92_3** - Schools that use Campus Store may notice a slightly longer database update process than usual when upgrading to version 92_3. See the 92_3 Business Office Release Bulletin for more details about the update to Campus Store inventory logic.

System Requirements for New Decision Letters Features

The Archive & Publish Decision Letters features for Advantage Admissions have special system requirements that self-hosted schools should be aware of (Advantage Cloud hosted schools do not need to be concerned with these requirements).

> **VERY IMPORTANT:**
>
> **FOR SELF-HOSTED SCHOOLS,** Archive & Publish Decision Letters requires MS Word version 2007 or later, as well as .NET Framework 4 or higher: http://www.microsoft.com/net. These two components MUST be installed on any workstation that will be using this feature!
>
> For Advantage Cloud (hosted) schools, these upgrades have been handled for you, including access to MS Word version 2010 which is now installed for your Advantage Cloud work environment (see the 92_3 Advantage Cloud Release Bulletin for details).

Advantage Cloud Enhancements

Starting August 20, 2012, our hosted customers will notice a new interface for the Advantage Cloud (that's our new name for the Advantage Hosted Solution). The new cloud enhancements include user options to enable single sign on, email reminders for upcoming password changes, complete system integration with Microsoft Word and Excel 2010 (now built right into the cloud environment). See the 923 Advantage Cloud Release Bulletin for more details.

New Mobile Apps

Senior Systems is excited to introduce our new iOS and Android Mobile Apps for the Parent, Student, and Faculty Communities! For more details about how to set up these apps and to view sample screens, see the Advantage Mobile Apps Admin Guide or visit the Mobile page on the Senior Systems website for a short video demonstration. The Senior Systems Sales Department can provide you with more information about purchasing options for these new and exciting products. Inquiries can be directed to Sales by phone at (Toll Free) 888-480-0102, or by email at Sales@Senior-Systems.com.

My BackPack Re-Design With Advanced Customization

The Re-Designed My BackPack introduces several frequently requested enhancements, and allows schools to put a completely new face their site! Some of the major enhancements include a completely re-designed, role-based landing page, a new message center, and extensive customization options for schools that want to more closely match look and feel to their website.

The services to implement these changes must be purchased and scheduled through the Senior Systems Custom Branding Services Group. Watch the Senior Systems website for further announcements, or see My BackPack Redesign for a more detailed list of the enhancements and customization options.

Web Services

A few fields have been added to Advantage Web Services, making them available to third party developers and other applications. These new fields relate to student lockers, employment, industry, education, and whether a constituent is lost or deceased.

There is also an updated Advantage Web Services API Developer's Guide. This new version of the guide includes information about the new fields noted above, as well as details about a new way to implement deep linking to My BackPack pages.

The API Developer's Guide mentioned above is very technical and is intended primarily for developers. For school personnel who are just trying to get general information about Advantage Web Services, the Advantage Web Services Overview offers a helpful orientation to web services and the list of data fields which can be shared with third party applications.

Knowledge Base and Release Notes

Many schools told us that the Knowledge Base was awkward to use and that the release notes were not always displaying when selected from the menu in the applications. We have discontinued the Knowledge Base and instead published all release notes directly on our website at the following link: Advantage Release Notes This link has also been implemented into all the help menus in the applications, so all users should be able to easily access the release notes at any time.

System Administration and My BackPack (General) Enhancements

System Administration

Media Import Must Use TXT File Type - The CSV option is no longer supported for media import files since it does not function correctly with the import. Media import files must be .TXT type only.

My BackPack

Family ID Merge Field for Broadcast Email - The Family ID merge field has been added for Student/Parent and Admissions broadcast email.

Alternate ID Merge Field for Broadcast Email - The Alternate ID merge field has been added for Student/Parent and Billing broadcast email.

Spaces in User Name and Password - Previously on the Forgot User Name/Password screen, if the user entered a space before or after one of these values (or inadvertently pasted one in), the system was not able to match the entry with a record in the database. Now the system strips spaces from the value before comparing that data, providing better accuracy for this function.

My BackPack Redesign

The My BackPack Redesign with advanced customization provides schools with many new options for customizing My BackPack, and also implements some commonly requested overall design enhancements. Note that the services to implement these changes must be purchased and scheduled through the Senior Systems Custom Branding Services Group. Some of the new features include:

- Greatly enhanced ability to brand My BackPack and provide a more appealing look and/or coordinate with a school's website
- Updated login page with school-customizable panel, cleaner design which takes up less space
- Revised landing page with:
    - Responsive web design format adapts to different devices/resolutions
    - Improved groupings and group/page names
    - Role-based menus - no more community blocks, just menu with functions the user can access
    - All enrollment, inquiry, application, documents moved to separate group
    - Settings area made prominent to show available user controlled options
- New Message Center:
    - Create messages to display for parents, students, faculty, and alumni
    - Set priority and type of message
    - Set start and end times for the messages to be displayed
    - Edit, delete, de-activate messages at any time
- New Navigation menu, designed to be more tablet friendly (also featuring responsive web design)
- Ability to add a watermark to Navigation menu
- New menu for My Profile and changing schools
- Updated Student Detail page, includes both Attendance and Student Schedule; same view from Directory for consistency
- Better workflow from Search Results screens by eliminating "Details" column and making all columns clickable
- Refreshed icons where applicable and less cluttered design overall
- User functions and page titles moved to their own bar for consistent placement
- New tab format, better integrated into associated elements