

Greetings BUSD families,

We are excited to share that Berkeley Unified School District will be using Remind for easier family communication. If you're not already familiar with [Remind](#), it's a classroom communication tool that makes it easy to stay involved with your child's learning. Remind is free to use, and you'll be able to get and send messages on any device—even a simple text message from your phone!

As part of this rollout, official accounts have already been created for all the educators and parents. The first time a staff member contacts you in Remind, you will also be sent directions on how to use Remind. All you need to do is follow the steps in the message to finish setting up your account. [Here is a video demo](#) to see how Remind works.

### How to Login to Remind

To access your Remind account as a family member, go to [Remind.com](#) and login using your email address provided as your official BUSD contact. This is the email you would use to access Illuminate.

### How to Setup Remind

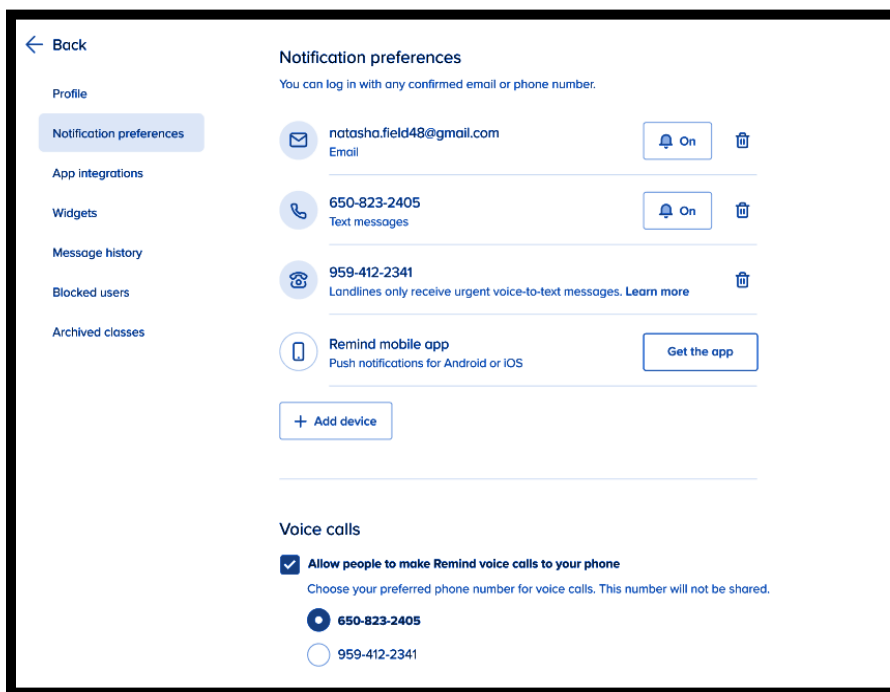
When you successfully log into Remind, click your name in the upper left corner and then click on "Account settings".

You must set your [notification preferences](#) to decide what devices/format of messages you want. You can choose to get emails, text notifications, messages in the [Remind App](#) (iOS and [Android](#)) or any combination of these items.

Remind also allows for staff to call families. If you want your student's teachers to be able to call you using Remind please check **"Allow people to make voice calls to your phone"**.

If you prefer to just get emails, no problem! Just be sure that your email address in Remind is correct and is turned on as the only way to receive notifications.

If you do not see a Remind class listed in your Remind account for one of your student's courses, you can email the teacher for a link or code to join their course.



**When should I expect a Remind message?**

Most Remind communication to parents will likely be about critical upcoming deadlines, or individual requests or concerns about a student. We will let families know if a student has a substitute or if an instructor has a technical issue, for example with Zoom, and needs to change how class meetings are held. Your school principal may send a message through Remind if there is an emergency or a school-wide event.

**Do I have to turn on Remind notifications to get Remind messages?**

No. You can turn off Remind sending you live updates and just check the Remind website for any updates or information.

**How is Remind different from Illuminate, Google Classroom, Seesaw, and Email?**

Your student's official attendance and grades are kept in Illuminate. Google Classroom and Seesaw are where staff post assignments, live video conferencing links, and resources for students.

**Can I just email the teacher? Do I have to use Remind?**

Of course you can e-mail a teacher! Email is just one way of receiving notifications from Remind and you can always use e-mail to reach out and contact a teacher.

**What makes Remind a safe service to use?**

Personal contact information stays private. Phone numbers aren't exchanged between teachers and parents. Messages can't be edited or deleted, so a complete message history is always available to access and download.

**Does it cost anything to use Remind?**

Remind is free to use for teachers and families. Standard text messaging and data rates may apply, so check to see if you're on a per-text phone plan or a limited data plan. You can always log in to your account on the web with no data charges.

For help with Remind please contact [StudentTechHelp@berkeley.net](mailto:StudentTechHelp@berkeley.net)