



**Parents/Guardians:
Please review to learn how to receive
TEXT MESSAGES
from your school!**

Dear Parent(s),

We have recently implemented a new school notification system called Power Announcement. This notification system is loaded with new features that will make it easier for us to keep in contact with your family. To guarantee the messaging system is used efficiently, we will need to confirm your contact information is accurate and up-to-date at all times.

Power Announcement allows our school to send messages using **email, voice, and text messaging**. Voice calls will be sent with 402-762-3561 as the caller ID number. You may want to add this phone number to your address book to help you recognize incoming calls from the school easily. Emails will come from drunyan@southcentralunified.org. Text messages will be sent using a caller ID of 956-64. You may want to add this phone number to your address book as well. Please note you will not be able to reply to text messages sent from the school.

Power Announcement is integrated with the existing PowerSchool Parent Portal. If you log-on to the Parent Portal you will now see a new link called “Power Announcement”. You will be able to see all the contact information our school has listed for you. Within this section of the Parent Portal, you will also be able to choose your communication preferences based on message category, such as School Closures or Student Bulletins, and message type (email, voice and/or text message). You may opt-out of any message category except for Emergency Messages.

The screenshot shows the PowerSchool Parent Portal interface. On the left is a navigation menu with items: Grades and Attendance, Grade History, Attendance History, Email Notification, Power Announcement (highlighted with a red arrow), Teacher Comments, School Bulletin, Class Registration, Balance, and My Calendars. The main content area is titled "Grades and Attendance: Edwards, Joey P". It features a table for "Attendance By Class" with columns for "Exp", "Last Week" (M, T, W, H, F), "This Week" (M, T, W, T, F), "Course", "Q1", "Q2", "S1", "Q3", "Q4", "S2", "Absences", and "Tardies". The "Attendance Totals" row shows 0 Absences and 0 Tardies. Below the table is a legend for attendance codes: Blank=Present, A=Absent, T=Tardy, TE=Tardy Excused, P=Parent Excused, U=Unexcused, S=School Excused, I=In School Suspension, O=Out of School Suspension, X=Truant, V=Vacation, F=Field Trip. A blue arrow points from the "Power Announcement" link in the navigation menu to the "Power Announcement" link in the main content area.



Setting up your parent preferences is your responsibility. *To receive text messages, you must go to Preferences by Message Type and check the box next to contact me using Text Messaging.* By default, phone calls and email are chosen. You will receive messages to every contact field shown and every message category that has all three message types chosen. Tolls and charges associated with receipt of messages from the school are your responsibility and not the responsibility of the school. Please be sure to set your unique preferences if there are any numbers or addresses you do not like to be contacted at. *All phone numbers and email addresses must be in a valid format to save properly.*

ANNOUNCEMENT

[Collapse All](#) [Expand All](#)

▼ Preferences By Message Type

Option	Choice
Contact me using Text Messaging.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Contact me using Email.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Contact me using Phone Calls.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

▼ Preferences By Contact Field

Field	Data	Option
Mom's Cell Phone	<input type="text"/>	Send Phone Calls <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Send Text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Home Phone	<input type="text"/>	Send Phone Calls <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Extra Email	<input type="text"/>	Send Emails
Guardians Email	<input type="text"/>	Send Emails

▼ Preferences By Message Category

Category	Message Types to Recieve
Emergency Notifications	Emergency Messages will be sent to all available contact methods
Student Bulletins	Text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Attendance Notifications	Text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
School Cancellation Messages	Text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
General Messages	Text <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Email <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

[Save Preferences](#)

Emergency messages are always sent with all three message types (email, text, and voice calls) and to every contact field shown even if you have opted out. We cannot change this. Emergency messages will be labeled as such so you will know it is an actual emergency.

If you do not have access to log into the Parent Portal, you may contact the school directly to request changes.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's school. We hope you appreciate this new school notification system and the flexibility it will provide for you as a parent.

Thank you,
 Jason Searle
 Middle School Principal
 South Central Unified School District #5