



April 15, 2016

Digital Teaching and Learning

ACADEMIC SERVICES AND DIGITAL LEARNING



NC SIS Weekly Email Bulletin

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Grade Suppression Scripts

Tonight, April 15, 2016, PowerSchool will execute two scripts against all NC instances of PowerSchool. These scripts will help ensure that use of the grade suppression functionality does not impact grades that are not part of the SBE policy.

These scripts will execute the following data changes within PowerSchool:

1. Exclude all grades prior to SY 2015-2016 from grade suppression.
 - a. Stored grades with TermID<2500
2. Exclude all grades made in grades K-8 from grade suppression.
 - a. Stored grades with grade_level<9

Both scripts above will change the ExcludeFromSuppression from 0->1 (No->Yes) for all grades that meet the criteria.

Support Center Update

Message from Dan Urbanski, NCDPI Support Center Manager

In an effort to provide you with the highest level of quality service, we would like to remind you that the Technology Support Center supports the core PowerSchool product and customizations deployed by the NCDPI. Customizations outside the NC customization package are not supported. These include customized pages, reports and plug-ins obtained through outside sources, e.g., PowerSource and all integrations with third party vendors.

Benchmark Tests in the Parent Portal

Until recently, student benchmark tests results were available in the PowerSchool Parent Portal. This was caused by a defect in the integration between Schoolnet and PowerSchool; these assessment results were never intended to be part of the parental view. The Parent Portal is now functioning as intended.

Benchmark assessments are formative in nature and not intended to be formal indicators of student achievement. To obtain results to your student's benchmark assessments, we encourage you to contact your student's teacher or school.

GPA Trigger Process Update

NCDPI is currently working with PowerSchool to correct the known issues with the stored grades trigger process that affects students with grade 9 entry dates $\geq 7/1/2015$. The current version of the trigger process, which changes the GPA value added field, does not process all courses correctly. As a result, incorrect GPA values may be added for certain courses causing the GPA calculations for some students to be incorrect.

The Change Request to fix these errors is currently with PowerSchool for review and the associated work will be pursued expeditiously. Both NCDPI and PowerSchool recognize the sensitive nature of student GPA and the adverse impact this has had on LEA business.

Once the work is completed and deployed to NC PowerSchool instances, the incorrectly stored data will be corrected via script. Additional communications will be sent as this work progresses.

State Reporting Dashboard Performance Update

NCDPI has become aware of performance issues with the State Compliance Reporting (SCR) dashboard. Currently, for many users, the dashboard is performing extremely slowly or suffers intermittent unavailability. The solution to these issues requires a re-engineering of the dashboard. This work has been underway since the upgrade to PowerSchool 9.2.1 and is targeted for release into NC PowerSchool instances with the next maintenance weekend (April 22-24, 2016).

CTE Override

NCDPI has become aware of instances where CTE concentrator overrides have not been completed correctly on the student academic page. These errors can adversely impact the reporting of Endorsements and other related items. Please use the updated document, ['Grad Plan Phase 2', which explains the procedure in detail.](#)

You may also view a [short walkthrough video of the necessary steps.](#)

Briefly stated, to successfully complete an override for the CTE plan data, users must complete four items in that area of the Student Academics page:

1. Select the appropriate Concentration(s) in the box.
2. Select Yes or No from the CTE Override dropdown (under the box).
3. Enter a reason in the text field provided (required for Yes only).
4. Submit the page.

GDV Report Auto-Run

Part of the April 2016 State Compliance update is a new feature that automatically runs the State Compliance Reports (SCRs) on the first day of submission. The April release will include this feature for GDV; other reports will be phased in through later SCR releases.

LEAs and charters may still run the State Compliance Reports manually before the submission window begins (as allowed in current functionality); however, the reports will automatically run on day one of the submission window to ensure all schools have run the collection at least once.

March HBUG Materials

The PowerSchool presentation on 'Grade Suppression and Replacement' that was used at the March HBUG meetings has been placed in the google folder below along with other materials provided during the March HBUG meetings.

<https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B65v7-xO6iwsNXhvZDFWYW9jZmc&usp=sharing>

Upcoming Training Webinars and Workshops

a) Athletic Eligibility in PowerSchool

This webinar will demonstrate the new Athletic Eligibility functionality in PowerSchool. The webinar will be recorded and posted to the [NC SIS Website.](#)

Date, Time and Registration Link

Thursday, May 26, 2016

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2653270361947006210>

b) PowerSchool Q & A

This webinar will not contain any presentation. It will be an open forum for attendees to ask their scheduling questions to a panel of DPI staff members.

Dates, Times and Registration Links

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3271220086011695874>

Friday, June 10, 2016

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3370667614209404161>

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6209691299522393089>

Thursday, June 16, 2016

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8912773566200419841>

Monday, June 20, 2016

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3112422019658833921>

Thursday, June 23, 2016

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8078778603369568001>

Thursday, June 23, 2016

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4978574726971441921>

c) Build and Load 2 Day Workshops (Scheduling)

These sessions are designed for schools creating a master schedule using the "build and load" method. Prior to attending this session, schools must have completed steps A-K in the "PowerScheduler: Prepare to Build" workbook, and have validated their build data, clearing validation errors that result. Schools will work with their scheduling teams to complete the build and load processes to the extent that time allows.

This is not a training session. It is a hands-on work session. Schools should plan to send all personnel needed to complete the build and load processes. Up to 4 people per school may attend. Only coordinators may register schools.

Sessions will run from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily. Lunch will be on your own.

Region 4 Build and Load 2 Day Workshop

Date: April 18 - 19, 2016

Location: Sampson Middle School, 1201 West Elizabeth Street, Clinton, NC 28328

Registration Link: <https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7354>

Region 8 Build and Load 2 Day Workshop

Date: April 21-22, 2016

Location: Cool Springs Administration Offices, 382 West Main Street, Forest City, NC 28043

Registration Link: <https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7363>

Region 1 Build and Load 2 Day Workshop **Date:** April 25-26, 2016

Location: The Central Service Office, 715 US Highway, 13 North, Windsor, NC 27983

Registration Link: <https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7340>

Region 1 Build and Load 2 Day Workshop

Date: April 28-29, 2016

Location: The Central Service Office, 715 US Highway, 13 North, Windsor, NC 27983

Registration Link: <https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7341>

Region 6 Build and Load 2 Day Workshop

Date: April 25-26, 2016

Location: Union County Schools, 721 Brewer Drive, Monroe, NC 28112 Registration Link:

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7358>

Region 6 Build and Load 2 Day Workshop

Date: April 28-29, 2016

Location: Union County Schools, 721 Brewer Drive, Monroe, NC 28112 Registration Link:

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7359>

Region 3 Build and Load 2 Day Workshop

Date: May 2-3, 2016

Location: Facility Services, 601 A. West Market Street, Smithfield, NC 27577 Registration Link:

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7352>

Region 3 Build and Load 2 Day Workshop

Date: May 5-6, 2016

Location: Facility Services, 601 A. West Market Street, Smithfield, NC 27577 Registration Link:

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7353>

Region 7 Build and Load 2 Day Workshop

Date: May 2-3, 2016

Location: Watauga High School, 300 Go Pioneers Drive, Boone, NC 28607 - Room 2202 (After checking in at the office, proceed straight down the entry hall to the end. Room is to the right.)

Registration Link: <https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7360>

Region 2 Build and Load 2 Day Workshop

Date: May 9-10, 2016

Location: New Hanover County Board of Education Center 1805 South 15th Street, Wilmington, NC 28401

Registration Link: <https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7350>

Region 2 Build and Load 2 Day Workshop

Date: May 12-13, 2016

Location: New Hanover County Board of Education Center 1805 South 15th Street, Wilmington, NC 28401

Registration Link: <https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7351>

Region 5 Build and Load 2 Day Workshop

Date: May 9-10, 2016

Location: Office Support, Guilford County Schools, Laughlin Professional Development Center, 7911 Summerfield Rd., Summerfield, NC 27358 Registration Link:

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7356>

Region5 Build and Load 2 Day Workshop

Date: May 12-13, 2016

Location: Office Support, Guilford County Schools, Laughlin Professional Development Center, 7911 Summerfield Rd., Summerfield, NC 27358 Registration Link:

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7357>

d) Load Only 1 Day Workshops

This session is designed for schools creating a master schedule using the "build and load" method. Prior to attending this session, schools must have completed steps A-K in the "PowerScheduler: Prepare to Build" workbook, and have validated their build data, clearing validation errors that result. Schools will work with their scheduling teams to complete the build and load processes to the extent that time allows.

This is not a training session. It is a hands-on work session; schools should plan to send all personnel needed to complete the build and load processes. Up to 4 people per school may attend. Only coordinators may register a school. Each registration allows 4 people from that school to attend.

Sessions will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Lunch will be on your own.

Region 4 Load Only 1 Day Workshop

Date: April 20, 2016

Location: Sampson Middle School, 1201 West Elizabeth Street, Clinton, NC 28328

Registration Link: <https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7345>

Region 8 Load Only 1 Day Workshop

Date: April 20, 2016

Location: Cool Springs Administration Offices, 382 West Main Street, Forest City, NC 28043

Registration Link: <https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7349>

Region 1 Load Only 1 Day Workshop

Date: April 27, 2016

Location: The Central Service Office, 715 US Highway 13 North, Windsor, NC 27983

Registration Link: <https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7342>

Region 6 Load Only 1 Day Workshop

Date: April 27, 2016

Location: Union County Schools, 721 Brewer Drive, Monroe, NC 28112 Registration Link:

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7347>

Region 3 Load Only 1 Day Workshop

Date: May 4, 2016

Location: Facility Services, 601A West Market Street, Smithfield, NC 27577 Registration Link:

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7344>

Region 7 Load Only 1 Day Workshop

Date: May 4, 2016

Location: Watauga High School, 300 Go Pioneers Drive, Boone, NC 28607 **Registration Link:**
<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7348>

Region 2 Load Only 1 Day Workshop

Date: May 11, 2016

Location: New Hanover County board of Education Center, 1805 South 15th, Street, Wilmington, NC 28401

Registration Link: <https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7343>

Region 5 Load Only 1 Day Workshop

Date: May 11, 2016

Location: Office Support, Guilford County Schools, Laughlin Professional Development Center, 7911 Summerfield Rd., Summerfield, NC 27358 **Registration Link:**

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7346>

e) Scheduling Help Workshops - NEW

Scheduling Help Sessions are offered to schools who are having difficulty completing the scheduling process. Sessions are face-to-face at the NCDPI Building (301 N Wilmington St. Raleigh, NC) in Room 564. Schools will work with session facilitators to complete their schedules to the extent time allows. Sessions are scheduled for one day, but time of attendance will vary depending on degree of assistance required. Schools may register for one help session only to provide adequate availability for all schools. If after the initial signup period (thru 5/22) seats are available, they will be allotted on a first come, first served basis.

Sessions run from 9-4 each day, with lunch on your own.

Coordinators may register only one person for the workshop to represent the school. Up to 4 people per school may attend with this registration.

The training site address is listed below:

Department of Public Instruction
301 North Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601
Room 564

Date: Tuesday, May 31, 2016

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7667>

Date: Wednesday, June 1, 2016

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7675>

Date: Thursday, June 2, 2016

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7727>

Date: Friday, June 3, 2016

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7728>

Date: Monday, June 6, 2016

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7729>

Date: Tuesday, June 7, 2016

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7730>

Date: Wednesday, June 8, 2016

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7731>

Date: Thursday, June 9, 2016

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7732>

**Attendees must be an employee of a North Carolina Public school. Management companies are not permitted to attend.

**Please note, all registration information is subject to NC Public Records Law.

Visit the [NC SIS website for additional information including webinars and training documentation.](#)

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