



## NC SIS Weekly Email Bulletin

This NC SIS Weekly Email Bulletin highlights issues and announcements that were communicated to users this week. It also features late-breaking and recurring news about NC SIS (PowerSchool).

Topics for this issue:

1. Home Base Maintenance Weekend for February 2016
2. PowerSchool Update - Hosting Move Schedule Change
3. Invitation for HBUG Meetings
4. New Third Party Vendor Approved - Educator's Handbook
5. Upcoming Training Webinars and Workshops

### 1. Home Base Maintenance Weekend for February 2016

The next Home Base maintenance weekend is scheduled for Friday, February 19 through Monday, February 22. Maintenance will be performed on the PowerSchool application and the UID system. All other Home Base applications will be accessible through the IAM Service.

PowerSchool will shut down today at approximately 5 p.m. Once maintenance is completed a message will be sent to notify users that the system is up and available for use. PowerSchool will be returned to service no later than 6 a.m., Monday morning. If a delay in bringing up the system should occur, users will be notified.

This maintenance weekend will **NOT** include the 9.2 PowerSchool upgrade and Rackspace migration as previously stated. The PowerSchool Group has requested more time to address environment issues in order to provide the increased performance and reliability we expect with this migration. Please refer to the 'PowerSchool Update – Hosting Move Schedule Change' below for more details.

For clarity, here are some important facts to know:

- NCDPI is continuing to pursue actions to correct system performance in the current environment.
- The PowerSchool 9.2 upgrade cannot occur without the migration. The upgrade and migration are scheduled to occur concurrently.
- The student transfer fix is ready for NCDPI testing (QA); however, it is programmed for PowerSchool version 9.2 and cannot be deployed until the upgrade.
- The LEP program area is aware of the delay and is investigating a workaround for data collection. More details will be forthcoming.

## **2. PowerSchool Update - Hosting Move Schedule Change**

Please see the attached communication from PowerSchool Group, LLC.

Through various forums, our LEA representatives have been extremely clear that migrating to a stable hosting environment for PowerSchool is a priority. NCDPI fully supports this priority.

After discussions with PowerSchool Group over the last week, the decision has been made to delay both the upgrade and the migration by three weeks until the next scheduled maintenance weekend (March 11-13, 2016). While we prefer a quick transition to Rackspace, critical components necessary for a successful migration are not ready. The performance of the Rackspace environment would not be at an acceptable standard for our customers.

PowerSchool Group has requested more time to address environment issues in order to provide the increased performance and reliability we expect with this migration.

Thank you to our LEA partners who continue to work with us to test and identify areas of concern to ensure smooth transition.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions.

Rosalyn Galloway  
Home Base Manager  
NCDPI

## **3. Invitation for HBUG Meetings**

An invitation for the next round of Home Base User Group Meetings scheduled for March is attached. Please review the information and use the link provided in the attachment to register for the meeting in your region.

## **4. New Third Party Vendor Approved - Educator's Handbook**

NCDPI has approved the integration with the third-party vendor, Educator's Handbook. Please remember, the cost of this integration and support are between the LEA and the vendor. Also, LEAs remain responsible for the security and integrity of all data imported through a third party vendor.

Information concerning this vendor can be viewed at <http://www.educatorshandbook.com/>. A listing of all approved third party vendors can be obtained at [http://www.nc-  
sis.org/Documents/enhancements/Approved\\_Third\\_Party\\_Integrations.pdf](http://www.nc-<br/>sis.org/Documents/enhancements/Approved_Third_Party_Integrations.pdf).

## **5. Upcoming Training Webinars and Workshops**

- **Athletic Eligibility in PowerSchool**

This webinar will demonstrate the new Athletic Eligibility functionality in PowerSchool. The webinar will be recorded and posted to the [www.nc-sis.org](http://www.nc-sis.org) website.

Thursday, May 26, 2016

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

<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/2653270361947006210>

- **Coordinators Object Reports Groups 1 and 2 Workshop Session**

This face-to-face workshop will be delivered in two parts. When registering, you are registering for the set of dates together. All attendees must be employees of a North Carolina public school. Management companies are not permitted to attend.

Part 1 topics are inclusive of the following:

Basics, Grid, Form Letters (starting with Absence Letters), Student Lists, Mailing Labels and Certificates

Part 2 topics are inclusive of the following:

More advanced/in-depth look at Transcript, Data Tags, School Based Report Cards, Schedule Listings and Object Reports from Templates (Importing/Exporting)

Audience: PowerSchool Coordinators Only

Attendees will be using their own LEA/school instance and will need appropriate access and login information in order to complete this workshop. Classes will be held from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily at the NCDPI Bldg., 301 N. Wilmington Street, Room 564, Raleigh, NC 27601.

**Group 1**

Part 1 – December 1 – 2, 2015

Part 2 – April 4 – 5, 2016

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7222>

**Group 2**

Part 1 – December 3 – 4, 2015

Part 2 – April 6 – 7, 2016

<https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/7223>

- **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**

Thursday, March 10, 2016 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/1805276417069994754>

Monday, March 28, 2016 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2758246234607665410>

Wednesday, April 13, 2016 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3271220086011695874>

Tuesday, May 17, 2016 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7882350851067114498>

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>

**\*\* Note: All registration information is subject to NC Public Records Law**

Please visit the NC SIS website ([www.nc-sis.org](http://www.nc-sis.org)) for additional information including webinars and training documentation.

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