



February 3, 2017

Digital Teaching and Learning

ACADEMIC AND DIGITAL LEARNING



NC SIS Weekly Email Bulletin

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2017 Home Base Symposium - Early Registration Deadline Extended!



The 2017 Home Base Symposium's early registration deadline has been extended to Friday, **February 10, 2017**. Please watch and share this [2017 Home Base Symposium Video](#) featuring symposium highlights.

You can also find more information including the [Registrant List](#) at www.nc-sis.org or click [here](#) to register.



NC SIS Website Migration

The NC SIS website's (www.nc-sis.org) migration to a new server did not take place on January 30 as previously scheduled. It will take place **Monday, February 6, at 6 p.m.** This activity will require an outage of approximately two hours. If problems should occur with restoring the site, a message will be sent informing site users of the delay.



Home Base Maintenance Weekend - Feb. 10-12, 2017

The next Home Base maintenance weekend is scheduled for Friday, February 10, through Sunday, February 12, 2017. Maintenance will be performed on the PowerSchool application only.

Included in this maintenance weekend is the deployment of PowerSchool 9.2.4.4, Impact on Client Workstation Security. Please review the [9.2.4.4 Release Notes](#) located on the NC SIS website.

PowerSchool will be taken offline Friday, February 10, at 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, February 13. If a delay in bringing up the system should occur, users will be notified via email.



Cyber Security Awareness - Increase in Phishing Attacks

NCDPI was notified by the North Carolina Department of Information Technology (DIT) – Enterprise Security Risk Management Office (ESRMO) of an increase in phishing attacks. Phishing and Spear Phishing are social engineering techniques attempting to acquire sensitive information such as usernames, passwords, and credit card details (and sometimes, indirectly, money), often for malicious reasons, by masquerading as a trustworthy entity in an electronic communication. The latest advisory from DIT regarding a new phishing attack that request employees W-2s.

NCDPI has also been made aware of other attacks pretending to come from technology support staff, or a vendor like Microsoft, asking the recipients to click on a link to verify their email/network account. Please remember that technology staff will never ask users to click on any link for account verification or any other purposes.

Please read the [ESRMO ADVISORY NUMBER 2017-002 – W-2 Request Phishing Attacks](#). The advisory includes an example of this type of phishing attack and a list of phishing attack red flags. Please remind your staff and students to never send any private information in an email, even in response to what may seem to be a trusted email address.



NCEES Nightly Feed

NCDPI is happy to announce that the NCEES nightly employee data feed has been updated to accommodate the issues outlined below:

Issue #1 LEAs who transitioned to LINQ HR

Several LEAs have moved their HR processing to LINQ HR, a 3rd party human resource application. To accommodate those LEAs, a process was built to collect data from the LINQ HR system, HRMS, and charter/agency schools.

Issue #2 Re-Write of the nightly feed

The current file creation process was unstable and inaccurate. New development of the file allows for an enhanced email process and alleviates the current character limitation of 100 characters for school locations. It also eliminates the sending of inactive employees into school locations.

The NEW process for pulling email addresses are

1. PowerSchool
2. LINQ
3. HRMS or via upload process for charter schools and/or agency schools

Question: How will this affect users?

Answer: End-users will notice updated e-mail addresses, demographic, and accurate location information within the Truenorthlogic system.

Target Completion

This process is targeted for implementation Sunday, February 5. Changes will appear in the Truenorthlogic system on Monday.

Coming Future Developments

- An option for an LEA or charter/agency school to select the default email source
- Ability to remove inactive employees

If you experience any technical problems with the Truenorthlogic application, please contact the Home Base Support Center at (919) 807-4357 or submit a ticket to the [Remedy portal](#).



PowerSchool Training Needs Assessment Survey

The Home Base Professional Learning Team is planning more training opportunities, and we want to hear from YOU!!!

This survey is designed to identify areas of improvement for training resources available to PowerSchool users. The goals of this effort are to: 1) develop resources that will provide direction on setting priorities and allocate limited resources in order to have the greatest impact, and 2) to create clearer

understanding on the alignment of goals, strategies, professional development, and desired outcomes with the instructional strategies associated with the greatest success.

Your district's feedback is very important to us as we plan our calendar training opportunities. So please, click the survey link above and tell us about your training needs.

It's imperative that we reach all users such as coordinators, principals, data managers, counselors, office staff, nurses, testing personnel, special programs and more (other) to complete this survey. Therefore, we are requesting that you share this link with all your district's PowerSchool admin users!

The [PowerSchool Training Needs Assessment Survey](#) will remain open through **Friday, February 17, 2017**, to allow time for distributing to your district's PowerSchool admin users. If you have any questions or need technical assistance with this survey, please contact Cami Narron at cami.narron@dpi.nc.gov, or Tiffany Kinney, tiffany.kinney@dpi.nc.gov.



OCR/CRDC - Congratulations on Phase I

One hundred percent of Charters and LEAs have completed the LEA level CRDC PowerSchool Preview reports! The staff at the NC DPI appreciates your tenacity and thoroughness!

Please remember that any data that was not captured in PowerSchool (PS) or other external data files will need to be recorded in the Federal Submission Portal. The NC DPI will upload the following:

- LEA level CRDC PS Data
- School level CRDC PS Data
- Expenditure and FTE
- Teacher Certification (separate from the PS data file)

The NC DPI will upload PS data and external data during the week of February 6, 2017. In parallel, LEAs and Charters will receive accounts from the Feds into the Federal Submission Portal. LEAs and Charters may log in and create accounts during the February 6, 2017 upload, but should not upload any data at that time. Do not update or add data until notified by the NC DPI.

Note:

(1) LEAs and Charters will be responsible for adding Teacher absenteeism information and any data that was not recorded in PowerSchool.

(2) LEAs and Charters may update any information as necessary to complete the collection.

(3) LEAs and Charters will resolve any errors and certify the data in the Federal Submission Portal prior to April 24, 2017. Can we make it a goal to complete certification by mid-March?

Thank you to all who worked to make this first phase a success.



New on the Web

[Pre-Scheduling Q & A Webinars - 01/30/2017](#)

[Pre-Scheduling Q & A Webinars - 01/31/2017](#)

[Pre-Scheduling Q & A Webinars - 02/01/2017](#)

[Pre-Scheduling Q & A Webinars - 02/01/2017](#)

2017 NC SIS Training Calendar

The [2017 Training Calendar for PowerSchool](#) related training is available on the [NC SIS website](#). To access the calendar, users may click on "Training" located on the blue menu bar and select "Calendar". If you are unable to view the calendar on your first attempt, either refresh the page, clear cache and cookies from the browser and then re-open it, or open the calendar in a different browser.



Training sessions and dates are listed below. Please visit this calendar often for additional training sessions and updates.

Pre-Scheduling Q & A Webinar

Description: 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

March 9, 2017

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Registration URL: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5645891432929024770>

PowerSchool New Charter Setup Q & A Webinar

This webinar will address new charter school setup for the 2017-2018 school year. It will cover what information needs to be collected and completed before attending training at DPI. Time will be given for questions.

Dates/Times

March 22, 2017

10:00 AM. - 11:00 AM

Registration URL:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3306971816299323651>

April 19, 2017

2:00 PM - 3 PM

Registration URL:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1810443032407775235>

PowerSchool New Charter Training

ATTENDEES MUST BE AN EMPLOYEE OF THE SCHOOL AND NOT A MANAGEMENT COMPANY.

This is a three and a half day workshop to walk new charter school users through the process of setting up their school for the new year. This session will include, but is not limited to:

- Logging into PowerSchool
- Navigating the system
- Enrolling students
- Withdrawing students
- Adding teachers/staff
- Creating the master schedule
- Scheduling students and teachers to classes

May 23 - May 26, 2017

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM (Tues. - Thurs)

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Fri.)

Registration URL:

<http://bit.ly/PSNewCharter17-18>

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

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