The NC SIS Email Bulletin highlights issues and announcements that were communicated to users during the week. The bulletin also features late-breaking and recurring news about NC SIS and the PowerSchool project.

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1. More Scheduling Workshops Posted for March and April 2014

The last of the 3 day Prepare to Build Workshops and 2 Day Load Only Process Workshops have been posted to the NC SIS Training Calendar. These final workshop dates and locations are listed below. Please make sure your high schools and middle schools are registered for the appropriate class. Workshops with low registration will be rescheduled or canceled. So please register as soon as possible!

Schedules for the 4 day Build Process workshops will be coming soon. In order to attend the 4 day Build Process workshop, attendees MUST have attended one of the 3 day Prepare to Build classes. Schools who register to attend a 4 day Build Class without having attended a 3 day Prepare to Build will not be permitted to participate in the class. It is imperative that all schools building their schedule from scratch based on student course requests attend a 3 day Prepare to Build and a 4 day Build workshop.

A) Prepare to Build Workshop
This session is for schools who build a true student-driven schedule each year. They do NOT copy and tweak their existing schedule.

This 3 day class will give instruction on tasks to be completed prior to returning to a 4 day Build Workshop. Participants will be given several options of 4 day Build Workshops to attend for their region at a later date.

This session is for ONE person per school - this should be the person responsible for entering scheduling data and school setup into PowerSchool.
New Date and location:
March 3 – 5 (Duplin)

B) Schedules for the 4 day Build Process
Dates and locations coming soon!

C) Load Only Process (2 Day)
This session is for schools that have found a schedule that works well for them from year-to-year.

This 2 day class will give instructions on tasks to be completed using the PowerScheduler to copy and tweak the master schedule from the current year. Attendees will also learn how to enter student course requests and load those requests for optimum scheduling.

This session is for ONE person per school - this should be the person responsible for entering scheduling data and school setup into PowerSchool.

New Dates and locations:
March 6 – 7 (Duplin)
April 14 – 15 (Montgomery)
April 16 – 17 (Cabarrus)

Materials will be sent for both workshops the week prior to training. To register, please go to the March and April calendars and locate the dates and locations most suitable for you.

http://www.nc-sis.org/calendar_March.html

http://www.nc-sis.org/calendar_April.html

2. Home Base Maintenance Weekend - Update

The next Home Base maintenance weekend will begin today at 5 p.m. However, the 7.10.0 PowerSchool Release will NOT be installed as previously mentioned. Pearson has discovered an issue with this release; therefore, we will only be installing 7.9.1.3 which is a cumulative to 7.9.1.2. Please see the attachments for updates that will take place.

Once maintenance is completed a message will be sent to notify users that the system is up and available for use. **Please do not access Home Base during the maintenance period.**

Home Base will be returned to service no later than 6 a.m., Monday, January 6. If a delay in bringing up the system should occur, users will be notified via NC SIS email.

3. New Documents on the Web

Stored Grades Correction
4. 2014 Home Base Symposium

Don’t forget! Online registration is now available for the 2014 Home Base Symposium set for February 17 – 19. The cost to attend is $115 for normal registration (postmarked by 1/31/2014) and $250 for late (postmarked on or after 2/01/2014) and onsite registrations. Please ensure payments are made by check payable to NCDPI Cash Collections and mailed to NC Department of Public Instruction, Cash Collections, 6336 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-6336. For more detailed information and registration, click on the following link: http://www.nc-sis.org/symposium14.html. You may also click this link for direct access to the online registration: http://apps.schools.nc.gov/pls/apex/f?p=121:6.

Remember, registrations are not complete until payment and a copy of the completed registration form are received at NCDPI. When completing registrations, please ensure your email address is correct. Certificates of Attendance will be sent to the email addresses entered on the registration form.

Several rooms have been reserved at the Sheraton Four Seasons Hotel for Home Base Symposium guests. You may click on the following link for a copy of the hotel reservation form: http://www.nc-sis.org/Documents/symp_2014/Home_Base_Hotel_2014.doc. Please return to the address listed on the form and not to NCDPI.

A team of DPI staff and Pearson staff will be presenting on different topics throughout the Symposium.

We are so excited about this year’s Symposium. As always, the conference is geared toward NC SIS data managers and LEA coordinators; however, this year, there will be some sessions pertaining to Schoolnet and the NC Educator Evaluation System.

If you have questions concerning the Symposium, please contact Terra Dominguez, terra.dominguez@dpi.nc.gov. Questions pertaining to registration may be addressed to Yolanda Wilson, yolanda.wilson@dpi.nc.gov.

NC SIS
NC Department of Public Instruction
Education Building, Room 320
301 North Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27601

919-807-3190 Office
919-807-3421 Fax
email: ncsis@dpi.nc.gov