1. PowerSchool Weekend Updates and Fixes

Several Transcript items along with other updates and fixes were promoted into PowerSchool over the weekend. Please review the list below for details. If you have any problems or questions concerning these updates, please contact the Home Base Support Center at homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov.

   a. Transcript Items:
      I. Excluded the state course name/title if the state course name/title is the same as the local course name
      II. Updated Weighted and Unweighted GPA points to be multiplied by the number of credits to reflect the actual total used
      III. Added repeating header
      IV. Updated the Performance Information Weighted and Unweighted GPA points to be multiplied by the number of earned credits to reflect the actual total used
      V. Corrected school information to use the current school instead of the student’s school information
      VI. UNC Minimum Requirements – Scripts
         i. Updated process course list to resolve transcript calculation issues for some affected students
         ii. Updated process course list for course 2023X to now be counted for 2012 school year and above

Note: There is a known issue with UNC Min Button – It does not run properly for a single student. Pearson is working on a fix. Another known issue is with
the Math Rigor flag. It is not displaying correctly for the 12 – 13 year. Please note that more UNC Min fixes will be coming.

VII. NEW – Added NEW Mid-Year Transcript as a replica of the Official NC Transcript  
    i. Added mid-year GPA and mid-year GPA Class Rank with a title to NC Mid-Year Transcript  
    ii. Increased padding in performance section to separate the GPA’s from the notes at the bottom for all transcripts  

Note: When printing transcripts for students that have graduated (graduated students that have records in PowerSchool – not the historical students) they still print from NC WISE/eSIS. LEAs will need to print the transcript from the students home school – NOT the graduated school.

b. PowerSchool School Setup (Departments – All current Departments removed and new list of Departments installed)

c. Staff Roles – patch was left off when we pushed this page last weekend. This fixes the issue when the wrong person is displayed when you maneuver to this page.

d. Enterprise Controller (Code Sets)  
   I. Updated Staff Roles codes to remove 12 items no longer in use  
   II. Updated Code set for Diploma Codes to place the FRC values into the description drop-down  
   III. Recreated the Program Codes list with all entries from eSIS and added missing code value from import data – approved with the New Academic page that was pushed out 12/20  
   IV. Updated local EC course code table for use in new course creation for Course Number 42052X0 – removed duplicate record (pushed to production 3/5)  
   V. Updated local EC course code table for use in new course creation for Course Number 20512X0 – removed duplicate record (pushed to production 3/6)

2. Maintenance Weekend (Release Notes)

The next Home Base maintenance weekend will take place Friday, March 14 – 17, 2014. The system will shut down Friday 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.

Home Base will be returned to service no later than 6 a.m., Monday, March 17. If a delay in bringing up the system should occur, users will be notified via NC SIS email.

This maintenance weekend will include updates to the PMR Data Collection and Validation, SAR Data Collection and Validation, Dropout Data Collection and Validation, AIG Data Collection and Validation, ALP Collection (New), Extended Schema Definitions and other miscellaneous enhancements. Please review the 2014 North Carolina Reporting Release Notes (Feb. 28) attachment for details. Also attached is the PowerSchool 7.10.2 Release Notes. This document contains documentation on PowerSchool System Requirements, PowerSchool Components and resolved issues.
3. Register Now!!! Build Workshops and Two New Load Only Process Workshops Added

Attention! Please do not wait to sign up for the Build Workshops. Why? We are required to give Pearson several weeks of advance notice as to whether a class is a solid go based upon the number of participants. Classes are being canceled and sessions repurposed due to a lack of registrations. Any sessions canceled at this time will not be rescheduled until June.

We understand that most people would prefer to attend the April and May sessions but unfortunately, there are not enough resources on our end or Pearson’s to accommodate everyone during these months. Therefore, some sessions will need to be held during March and June.

Two additional (2 Day) Load Only Process classes (March 18/19 and 20/21 – Rockingham) have been added to the schedule. If you have not attended one of these classes, please sign up. These may be the final two Load Only Process additions for now. Also, please review the Time to Sign Up sheets (http://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/) periodically for recent changes.

For questions pertaining to the schedules, please contact the Home Base Support Center at homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov.

4. Removal of Staff Roles

The following roles that were listed under Staff Information as Occupation Codes have been removed. They are considered classroom activities and are listed correctly with the Additional Staff Roles in the course sections area of PowerSchool.

AC-Alternate Classroom Teacher
DARE Officer
(EC) – Co-Teacher
ESL Teacher
Facilitator
Gifted Program Teacher
Learning Assistance Teacher
Resource Teacher
Supervising Adult
Teacher Assistant
Teacher of Hearing Impaired
Teacher of Visually Impaired

If you have questions pertaining to the removal of these classroom roles from Staff Information, please contact the Home Base Support Center at homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov.

5. New PMR Due Dates and Updates
PMR Months 1 and 2 have been finalized and data as of February 24, 2014 was used. We will be publishing this data on the student accounting page in the near future. [http://www.ncpublicschools.org/fbs/accounting/data/](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/fbs/accounting/data/)

If you have made changes and run your PMR for Month 1 and/or 2 after the morning of February 24, that data will not be reflected in the published ADM reports for Month 1 and 2. The changes will be picked up when we process Month 9 for Final ADM.

DPI will be locking down Month 1 and 2 PMR and you will no longer be able to run the PMR for these two months. For the remaining PMR months, after each due date listed below, DPI will lock down that specific month and you will no longer be able to run PMR for that specific month after the due date.

All PMRs for Month 3 and beyond that have already been run and approved prior to the March 14, 2014 maintenance weekend, will need to be re-run after the maintenance weekend is complete. DPI will un-approve all these PMRs (Months 3 and beyond) as part of the maintenance weekend so you can run them after completion of the maintenance weekend.

The following dates are the new revised due dates for PMR.

PMR 3 – March 21, 2014
PMR 4 – March 28, 2014
PMR 5 – April 9, 2014
PMR 6 – April 16, 2014
PMR 7 – April 23, 2014
PMR 8 – 7 days after your month 8 PMR interval ending date has passed
PMR 9 – 7 days after your month 9 PMR interval ending date has passed

If you have any questions related to PMR, please contact Ozella Wiggins at Ozella.wiggins@dpi.nc.gov.

6. Student Ethnicity Correction

Due to a software error, some students’ PowerSchool "Federal Ethnicity" attribute, which had been set to indicate a choice of a Hispanic Federal Ethnicity, was reverted to a Non-Hispanic choice for the Federal Ethnicity. This data element can be found on the student "Demographics" page in PowerSchool.

Pearson has corrected this software error, but the existing data requires correction. Through data analysis, DPI has created lists of students whose Federal Ethnicity attribute may need correction. These students are currently characterized (through the PowerSchool Federal Ethnicity data attribute) as having selected a Non-Hispanic Federal Ethnicity, and we believe they should be characterized as having selected a Hispanic Federal Ethnicity.
The data analysis to determine the affected students resulted in a list of students who may need to have their Federal Ethnicity data adjusted. These lists require secure transport and will be provided to the LEAs via the testing coordinators.

Please review these lists and confirm that these students’ records should reflect a choice of Hispanic as their Federal Ethnicity. DPI’s intent is to execute a script to update the Federal Ethnicity data attribute of all of these students to reflect a choice of Hispanic unless informed otherwise by March 10, 2014.

Upon review, if you know that any of these students should not be characterized as having chosen a Hispanic Federal Ethnicity, please inform Lori Ivey at lori.ivey@dpi.nc.gov, and those students will be removed from the list of students to be updated by the software script.

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