



NC SIS Weekly Email Bulletin

Attachment: [November Invite – HBUG. Pdf](#)

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).

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1. PowerSchool Weekend Updates and Fixes

The following items will be promoted into PowerSchool this weekend. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Home Base Support Center at homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov.

A. Maintenance Weekend

- 1) State Compliance Reporting Release 15.10.0 will be implemented during this maintenance weekend.
 - i. Updating specific installation files to alter SAR exception 35 and RPG exception 6 rules.

B. LEP/WAPT

- 1) NC Student Pages (LEP) – Updating to prevent users from creating a new record if one exists for the current school year.
- 2) NC WAPT Administration (Roster) – Updating to resolve an issue with the display of data for LEP Status, LEP Tier and Years in US Schools columns.

C. Extending State Compliance Reporting End Dates

- 1) Dropout Report – Extending end date to Oct 23.
- 2) Retention/Promotion – Extending end date to October 30 (update for date extension will appear in PowerSchool during the early part of next week).

2. Maintenance Weekend for Home Base - October 2015

Home Base (PowerSchool)

The next Home Base maintenance weekend is scheduled for **today, October 16 through Monday, October 19**. Maintenance will only be performed on the PowerSchool application. All other Home Base applications will be accessible through the IAM Service except during the NCEdCloud IAM maintenance scheduled from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 16.

PowerSchool will shut down Friday 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 via NC SIS email.

This maintenance weekend will include a North Carolina State Compliance Reporting release. Updates will be made to Common Follow Up Collection, SAR Data Collection, Dropout Data Collection, AIG Data Entry Pages and AIG Standalone Reports. For more details concerning these revisions, please see the North Carolina Reporting Release Notes posted to the NC SIS website at http://www.nc-sis.org/Documents/requirements/2015_North_Carolina_Release_Notes.pdf.

3. IAM Integration Testing

Response Needed from LEAs/Charters that did NOT Opt Out of IAM Service!!!

We are pleased to inform you that the results from the PowerSchool and IAM integration testing are very positive.

As previously communicated, PowerSchool has been engaged with Cumberland County school district in testing a fix for the intermittent logout issues related to the integration with the Identity and Access Management (IAM) solution. Earlier this week, the same test was expanded to five other school districts and fortunately, all districts, including Cumberland, have reported positive results.

Since PowerSchool reports that very few users in the districts tested continued to experience this problem after applying the fix, we plan to apply the fix to all districts' instances that did not OPT out of the PowerSchool/IAM integration, this weekend.

If you have any concerns regarding PowerSchool implementing this fix in your instance, please let us know by submitting a ticket to the Home Base support center (homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov).

For districts who opted out from using IAM in PowerSchool, we will coordinate with each district on when to re-enable the integration after all issues have been resolved.

4. NC WISE OSE Environment

Please be reminded that maintenance is also scheduled for the NC WISE OSE environment from 5 p.m., Friday, October 16 through 7 a.m., Monday October 19. This environment is impacted by a scheduled ITS maintenance window and must be offline for patching during this timeframe.

5. NCEdCloud IAM Service

There will be a database software update resulting in downtime of the NCEdCloud IAM Service this Friday evening, October 16, between 6:00-7:00 PM eastern time. During the upgrade logins to my.ncedcloud.org and IAM Service-integrated applications will not be available.

During this maintenance period the IAM Service's RapidIdentity software will be updated to meet Amazon Web Services' new database requirements.

To view a complete schedule of Home Base maintenance periods, please click on the following link: http://www.nc-sis.org/Documents/maintenance/Home_Base_Maintenance_Sched.pdf.

6. Extending State Reporting Due Dates

Several LEAs and charters experienced a PowerSchool Service server issue this week which prevented them from connecting to PowerSchool. The issue is now resolved; however it did cause some extended downtime for those that were affected. To help remedy their loss in productivity, NCDPI staff and business owners have agreed to extend some critical state reporting due dates. Below are a list of those dates that have been changed.

- 2014 – 15 Dropout Data Collection – New Approval End Date – October 23, 2015
 - Charter schools who have reported zero dropouts to Ken Gattis via email are not required to use the dropout approval process.
- Retention/Promotion (RP) Collection End Date Extended to October 30, 2015

7. Home Base User Group Invite - November

The attached PDF is an invitation for the next round of Home Base User Group Meetings that are scheduled for November. Please review the information and use the link provided in the attachment to register for the November meeting in your region.

8. Upcoming Training Webinars and Workshops

a) Attendance Tracking and Notification

This webinar will cover the setup process for attendance tracking in PowerSchool. Topics will include LEA and School Setup, Running of Reports and Methods for generating letters from PowerSchool.

Date, Time and Registration Link

Wednesday, October 28, 2015

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

<https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/4969814917481453313>

b) End of Term Process in PowerSchool

This webinar will cover the End of Term Process and how to prepare for the end of the marking period. The tasks covered include running grade verification reports, storing grades and running the NC Report Card.

Date, Time and Registration Link

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5256212407749930241>

c) 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, October 21, 2015

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5587566729455331585>

Tuesday, December 15, 2015

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5771468845293949953>

Thursday, January 14, 2015

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5357317999483246594>

d) School Activity Report Webinar - Postponed until after October maintenance weekend.

This webinar will discuss SAR policy, fatal errors and exceptions, and PowerSchool functionality as needed. It will be recorded and posted to <http://www.nc-sis.org/recordings.html>.

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

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