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.

In this Issue:

1. PowerSchool Updates Planned for this Weekend
2. Capacity Planning
3. New Documents on the Web
4. PowerSchool Scheduling Workshop Survey
5. Java Update 1.7.0_45 Issue with PowerTeacher Gradebook and ReportWorks Developer
6. Maintenance Weekend Rescheduled for Oct. 25
7. Transcript Update

1. PowerSchool Updates Planned for this Weekend

The following updates will be deployed into PowerSchool this weekend:

- Incident Management Page – enable users to enter in-school suspensions (ISS)
- Student Vehicles – new page addition
- Staff Pages (Staff Security Settings - fixed custom security option to prevent users from assigning to groups higher than their own after change in PS 7.9)
- Student Home Page updated – added a Student Number Button to help search Student ID
- State Student Number update – this update will ensure state student numbers are populated for all future students.
- The Admission Status update – (This will be a 2-part fix) The first part deployed this weekend will resolve about 50k records in Production. The second part has not been created as is waiting a request from NCDPI. We expect this will resolve about 1700 records with no value in Production.
- Standard Report Card Updated to handle special characters.
- Removing Systems Reports – removing ADA/ADM because the PS standard calculation is different from the NC calculation.
2. Capacity Planning

During the CCB meeting, LEAs were informed that we would be sending out an email asking them to submit tickets to the Home Base Support Center with information on their plans to roll out the Parent and Student portals so we can work with Pearson to plan server resources so performance will not be impacted by the additional users who will be added to the system. We will be sending out a future email detailing exactly what is needed. Those who have submitted tickets may be contacted if more information is needed.

3. New Documents on the Web

A blank template of the duplicate student spreadsheet has been posted to the www.nc-sis.org home page under current issues and documents. Users may access it directly by clicking on the following link: http://www.nc-sis.org/Documents/PS_Duplicate_Student_SpreadsheetBEB.xls.

4. PowerSchool Scheduling Workshop Survey

The NCDPI Training Team for PowerSchool will be providing Regional PowerSchool Scheduling Workshops for LEAs. To ensure your specific needs are met, we are requesting your feedback during the planning stages of this endeavor. A list of questions have been compiled and included in this survey to give us a clearer picture of when, where and how this training should be conducted.

Please take the time to answer the questions in this survey. There are only nine questions and it should only take 15 to 20 minutes to complete. You may access the survey by clicking on the link below. The deadline for completing the survey is Monday, October 21 at 5 p.m. If you experience any technical problems, please send an email to ncsis@dpi.nc.gov.

Survey link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SBZBM9

5. Java Update 1.7.0_45 Issue with PowerTeacher Gradebook and ReportWorks Developer

Pearson has identified an issue where PowerTeacher Gradebook and ReportWorks Developer do not successfully launch on computers running the latest version of Java (version 1.7.0_45) on Mac and Windows.

Pearson recommends that teachers and other staff avoid updating to this version of Java in order to continue using PowerTeacher Gradebook and ReportWorks Developer.

Workaround

In many cases, users who have already updated to the latest version of Java can use the alternate launch method for PowerTeacher Gradebook and ReportWorks Developer or they can uninstall Java (version
and revert back to an earlier version. Pearson is actively investigating this issue. Additional information will be provided once a solution is available.

6. Maintenance Weekend Rescheduled for Oct. 25

Previously, you were told that the maintenance weekend originally scheduled for Oct. 18 had been postponed to Nov. 1. PMR fixes for ADM allotments need to be deployed in a shorter time frame; therefore, we are rescheduling the maintenance weekend for October 25.

Please make a note and inform your staff that the next maintenance weekend will occur October 25. If you have questions concerning the rescheduling of this maintenance weekend, please contact the Home Base Support Center at homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov.

7. Transcript Update

As mentioned in the NC SIS Weekly Bulletin, Pearson is finalizing testing data imports and, barring no major issues, expects to begin loading data within the week. Please begin reviewing your transcripts and report any anomalies to the Home Base Support Center at homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov.

Remember, you will no longer be able to view the immunizations nor previous school data on the NC Standardized Transcript which is the official transcript. This is in compliance with HIPPA and FERPA laws. To view this information, users will need to run the unofficial student transcript.

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: ncss@dpi.nc.gov