



NC SIS Weekly Email Bulletin

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 item was promoted into PowerSchool this week. No updates will be made this weekend. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Home Base Support Center at homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov.

A. Student Data Updated

- 1) A script that updated the NCDPI Students Extended Schema Table with data based on the Read-to-Achieve Promotion Status for the 2014-15 school year was applied Thursday evening, September 10.

2. Reminder: Call for UAB Agenda Items

The next NC SIS User Advisory Board meeting will be held Thursday, September 17 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Please submit all suggested agenda items to Angelia Herring, angelia.herring@dpi.nc.gov, by Friday, September 11. We will be limiting the agenda items covered during the UAB meetings to a total of five due to time constraints. You will be informed if we are unable to cover your item(s) during the meeting.

Please click on the links to register for the UAB and/or CCB meetings if you have not already done so. You will only need to register once for all meetings scheduled through Dec. 17, 2015.

UAB Registration URL: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/498258355442804993>

CCB Registration URL: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2390234192844187137>

A complete listing of all UAB and CCB meetings is located at <http://www.nc-sis.org/meetings.html>.

3. PowerSchool and IAM Update Communicated Thursday, September 10

As we have reported previously, PowerSchool has recently been experiencing intermittent logout issues related to the integration with the Identity and Access Management (IAM) solution. Both vendors, PowerSchool and IDAuto, continue to work together around the clock, along with NCDPI staff and volunteer LEAs to isolate this issue and provide a permanent solution. The problem, however, proves to be extremely difficult to reproduce in test environments given the intermittent nature of the issue.

We believe that it is time to provide LEAs and charter schools with other options in order to be able to efficiently use PowerSchool. LEAs and charter schools will now have the option to temporarily opt out of IAM integration with PowerSchool for their administrators and teachers and revert back to the PowerSchool native authentication mechanism.

If your LEA or charter school chooses to opt-out of the IAM integration with PowerSchool for administrators and teachers, you will need to log a ticket with the Home Base Support Center at homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov. You will then receive a packet of information on how this can be achieved and you will be assigned to a support center professional who can assist you in this transition.

Please note the following:

- This option applies only to teachers and administrators, not to students. Students will continue to use IAM to access PowerSchool in order to keep things simple for them. Furthermore, intermittent access for students does not impact instruction. Students only use PowerSchool for checking schedules, attendance and grades.
- Opting out applies only to PowerSchool. All other Home Base applications and other integrated applications will continue to use IAM for authentication.
- Users will still be able to access PowerSchool from the IAM portal, but when they click on the PowerSchool icon, they will be redirected to PowerSchool where they will be prompted to enter their PowerSchool credentials.
- When PowerSchool and IdAuto resolve the issues, we will coordinate with your district administrators on the best timing to return to the IAM authentication method for PowerSchool for your staff.

We sincerely appreciate your patience and your forthright feedback through the various emails, tickets, office hours, and meetings as we continue to work on this issue. We are particularly thankful to the many LEAs who have volunteered and are working with us for the various levels of testing we are performing.

As always, we will keep you updated.

Thank you,

Michael Nicolaidis

Chief Information Officer

NC Department of Public Instruction

Michael.Nicolaidis@dpi.nc.gov

4. Reminder: Graduate Data Verification (GDV) Correction Window Change

TO: Superintendents, Charter School Directors, Student Information System Coordinators,
Accountability Directors/Coordinators

FROM: Verna Lalbeharie, Director of Digital Teaching and Learning
Tammy Howard, Director of Accountability Services

NCDPI has received feedback from the field about the inability to submit information for the Graduation Data Verification correction window process.

Due to recent issues related to PowerSchool and the login issues related to IAM, we understand that it has been a challenge to complete data corrections for Graduation Data Verification (GDV) Window Report. Because of the multiple requests from the field, NCDPI is reverting the correction file to the original GDV report. Please note corrections already made via the GDV Window Report will be captured and do not have to be re-entered.

To those districts who were able to complete the submissions, no additional verification is necessary.

NCDPI will be sending out instructions for an alternative process later this morning. This process will be similar to the data correction utilized in 2013-14 involving the district test coordinator. To accommodate this, the deadline for the accountability data correction window has been extended to Thursday, September 17, 2015.

If you have any questions, please contact the Home Base Support Center at homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov.

5. Reminder: 2015 – 16 Course Code List Updated

The 2015-16 Course Code Master List has been updated. The new document is posted on the website at <http://www.nc-sis.org/courses.html> and the last update date is (8/25/2015). The changes in the list are highlighted in yellow.

This updated list of course codes includes a code for each CTE program area for transfer credit from out of state. This course code is to be used only when there is no course in the NC CTE Essential Standards equivalent to the course the student took in another state. Depending upon the program area and the cluster, this course may count automatically toward a concentration or may require an

override. These codes CANNOT be used for any course except for CTE. You can use the local description for the specific course content if you wish.

For questions pertaining to the 2015-16 Course Code List, please contact the Home Base Support Center at homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov.

6. New and Updated Information on the Website

- Principal Monthly Report (PMR) Webinar – 09/10/2015
<http://www.nc-sis.org/recordings.html>
- Principal Monthly Report (PMR) Presentation – 09/10/2015
http://www.nc-sis.org/Documents/presentations/PS_PPT_Principal_Monthly_Report_ppt_-_2015-2016.pdf
- School Attendance & Student Accounting Overview – 09/10/2015
http://www.nc-sis.org/Documents/presentations/PS_PPT_PMR_Sch_Attendance_and_Student_Accting_Overview.pdf

7. Upcoming Training Webinars and Workshops

a) Accommodations in PowerSchool

This webinar will cover policy and demonstrate Accommodations functionality in PowerSchool. It will be recorded and posted to the www.nc-sis.org website.

Date, Time and Registration Link

Thursday, October 15, 2015

8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. EDT

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6186434428647120897>

b) AIG Policy and Functionality Webinar

This webinar will cover the AIG policy and functionality in PowerSchool. It will be recorded and posted to the www.ncsis.org website.

Date, Time and Registration Link

Monday, September 28, 2015

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. EDT

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8021038848823083010>

c) ALP/ALS in PowerSchool Webinar

This webinar will discuss policy and functionality in PowerSchool as related to students in Alternative Learning Programs and/or Alternative Learning Schools. It will be recorded and posted to the www.nc-sis.org website.

Date, Time and Registration Link

Thursday, October 8, 2015

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. EDT

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1950210739704648450>

d) Discipline Incidents in PowerSchool Webinar

This session is geared to those responsible for entering Incident data into the PowerSchool application. It will include a demonstration on how to enter disciplinary incidents into the PowerSchool application. Functionality as well as policy will be discussed.

Dates, Times and Registration Links

Thursday, October 8, 2015

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. EDT

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5233500894313656834>

e) Dropout Reporting Webinar

This webinar will discuss Dropout Reporting in PowerSchool - how to run the reports as well as how to enter/clean up data. It will be recorded and posted to the www.nc-sis.org website.

Date, Time and Registration Link

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. EDT

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5017506233101582594>

f) Military Connected Students

This webinar will discuss policy and demonstrate how to update the PowerSchool record for military connected students.

The webinar will be recorded and posted to <http://www.nc-sis.org/recordings.html>.

Date, Time and Registration Link

Wed, October 7, 2015

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. EDT

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8229541437143037954>

g) New User Training

This is a 4 day workshop designed to train new users on the day-to-day processes of using PowerSchool. This session will include, but is not limited to:

- Logging in to PowerSchool
- Navigating the system
- Enrolling students
- Withdrawing students
- Attendance
- Adding Teachers/Staff
- Adding or changing course sections
- Scheduling students and teachers to classes
- PMR Overview
- SAR Overview
- RP (Retentions/Promotions) Overview

Date and Registration Link

- September 14-17: <https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/6304>

Classes will be held at NCDPI in Raleigh. Class times will be from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Lunch will be on your own

h) PowerSchool School Counselor Training Workshop

This is a face-to-face workshop to be held at DPI in Raleigh. Times for the workshop are 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

This class is geared to school guidance counselors. This workshop will be a hands-on training covering the basic functionality of PowerSchool pertinent to School Counselors. It will cover basic navigation, state reports, attendance, and graduation plans/progress monitoring.

Dates and Registration Links

October 12, 2015 - <https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/6817>

October 13, 2015 - <https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/6819>

i) PowerTeacher Grade Book Workshop

This is a face-to-face workshop that will be held at NCDPI in Raleigh. Times for the workshop are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

This workshop will go cover basic PowerSchool & PowerTeacher functionality such as taking attendance, creating assignments, entering assignment grades, working with categories/groups, printing reports, final grade setup/weights, etc.

Date and Registration Link

September 18, 2015 - <https://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/form/6813>

j) Principal Monthly Reporting

This webinar will demonstrate how to run the PMR in PowerSchool as well as clean up data. It will be recorded and posted to the www.nc-sis.org website.

Date, Time and Registration Link

Monday, October 5, 2015

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. EDT

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4942490952766523394>

k) Retention/Promotion Report Webinar

This webinar will cover Retention/Promotion reporting. Policy, as well as PowerSchool functionality, will be discussed. The webinar will be recorded and posted to <http://www.nc-sis.org/recordings.html>.

Date, Time and Registration Link

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. EDT

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5384220848751638017>

l) School Activity Report Webinar

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>.

Date, Time and Registration Link

Tuesday, October 6, 2015

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. EDT

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3334716880911301378>

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

NC SIS

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