NC SIS Weekly Email Bulletin

Attachment: Disabling SSO for PowerSchool Admin and Teacher Users

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).

In this issue:

1. PowerSchool Weekend Updates and Fixes

2. Reminder: Maintenance Weekend for September 2015

3. Reminder: IAM and PowerSchool Updates sent on Thursday, Sept. 17

4. SAR Update for September 18, 2015

5. Reminder: Course Code Requests

6. Temporary Administrative/Teacher PowerSchool Opt-Out

7. Reminder: Common Follow Up Update

8. New and Updated Information on the Website

9. Upcoming Training Workshops and Webinars

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 15.9.0 will be deployed into PowerSchool. Please see full details provided in the NC Reporting Release Notes (http://www.nc-sis.org/Documents/requirements/2015_North_Carolina_Release_Notes.pdf).
B. Student Data (Bulk Test State Level Records and Local PowerSchool Student Records)
1) Applying a script that changes the 'Show on Transcript" attribute to "No" for a specific set of EOG test.
C. Adding Accountability Views to Production
1) Updating the ACC_TEST view with the Accommodation codes that are assigned to the student test record.
D. Deployment of Script Updates for Five NC sqlReports
1) Incident Report by School
2) Vision Screening Report
3) Hearing Screening Report

4) Medication Log Report
5) Student Health Office Visit Report

2. **Reminder: Maintenance Weekend for September 2015**
The next Home Base maintenance weekend is scheduled for **Friday, September 18 through Monday, September 21**. 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 Service's maintenance period scheduled for 6 p.m. – 7 p.m., Friday, September 18.

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 AIG Data Collection, AIG Data Entry Pages, AIG Standalone Reports, Discipline Collection, Graduate Data Verification Collection, Principle Monthly Reporting Collection, Retention/Promotion/Graduation Data Collection and School Activity Reporting Collection. 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. **Reminder: IAM and PowerSchool Updates sent on Thursday, Sept. 17**
IAM Upgrade/Service Outage
There will be a software upgrade resulting in downtime of the NCEdCloud IAM Service this Friday evening, September 18, between 6:00 and 7:00 p.m. EDT. During the upgrade logins to my.ncedcloud.org and IAM-integrated applications will not be available.

The IAM Service's RapidIdentity software will be upgraded from version 3.3 to 3.4. Relevant enhancements include:
- Application dashboard performance improvements
- Improve load time of Applications module with large number of ACL-filtered Applications
- Stability fixes
- Re-enable version 1 of the Captcha (uses text not images)
- Ability to make certain changes in the future without having to have an outage

A message will be sent when work is complete and service is restored.

IAM Fix Update
Both Vendors continue to work to identify and resolve the issue concerning the PowerSchool/IAM Service integration. At this time, the issue has not been isolated. Work continues around the clock as this remains a top priority for both teams. Currently, an ETA for resolution is not available. When available, the resolution will be tested before re-integration of the IAM service.

The issues are localized to the PowerSchool product. All other Home Base applications (SchoolNet, NCEES) are performing well. Access to these systems through IAM has not been impacted.

We will continue to provide weekly updates on the status of the integration as a standalone NC-SIS email unless events dictate more frequent updates.

4. **SAR Update for September 18, 2015**
    The SAR collect started September 2nd and will go through November 13th, 2015. We hope that you have been running the SAR and working on exception issues that may need your attention.

    The SAR has a new report. The new Class Size report is the official class size data that will be reported in the School Report Card in 2016/17 for the 2015/16 data. We are very excited to give schools the opportunity to see the data for the first time at such an early timeframe. We are still working on required setup for the report. As you work on your SAR and review your SAR reports, please keep in mind that your Class Size report is not reflecting accurate data at this time. We will continue to update you on the progress of updating this report which will also effect the finalization of your SAR for 2015/16.

    We are also adding 4 new columns to the Personnel Summary Report. The columns will show "in field/out of field" information to help with HQ reporting. The 4 pieces of information are also populated on the Section screen in PowerSchool when setting up your scheduled sections. The 4 new columns need teacher certification information in PowerSchool before data will be populated. NCDPI is working on getting the teacher certification data in PowerSchool at this time.

    With required updates to the Class Size report and the teacher certification data needed, work continues to be done to meet the needs for both new features of reporting data with the SAR collection. NCDPI will keep you informed on the progress.

    To not delay the work needed for the SAR collection, please run your SAR and work on Exception issues but do not approve your SAR until NCDPI communicates that it is appropriate to do so. Please keep in mind that when updates are put in during maintenance weekends, you should re-run your SAR during the collection timeframe to get the required updates in the collected data.

    There is a recording of the SAR presentation from September 8th posted on the NC-SIS training site that we encourage you to listen to if you were not able to join the webinar. There will also be another SAR webinar on October 6th.

    If you have questions on the SAR collection, please contact Sandra Johnson at
    sandra.johnson@dpi.nc.gov

5. **Reminder: Course Code Requests**
    Dear LEA Coordinators and Charter Administrators

    The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) is in the process of updating course codes for the 2016-17 school year. In order to ensure the current course code system is meeting the varied needs of LEAs, NCDPI will be gathering course code requests through October 2, 2015. Please

complete this [form](#) to submit a course code request for the 2016-17 school year. Decisions will be made for new course codes based on the working guidelines of the Agency-Wide Course Code Committee.

NCDPI appreciates and values your input. If you have any questions concerning this request, please email Hunter Huffman at hunter.huffman@dpi.nc.gov.

6. **Temporary Administrative/Teacher PowerSchool Opt-Out (See Attachment)**
As communicated earlier, in an attempt to provide relief to affected LEAs and Charter Schools, NCDPI is giving LEAs the **option** to opt out of the IAM service for their administrative (/admin) and teacher (/teachers) users. The instructions for completing this process are attached to this message and were sent via NC-SIS Tuesday, Sept. 15. Any district wishing to opt out should complete a ticket to the HBSC (homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov). The ticket is critical for NCDPI tracking purposes. Assistance with this process is available through the HBSC as well.

For districts/charter schools that opt out, the reintegration timeframe will be flexible to avoid interruption or complication of business tasks that may be underway at the time (benchmarks, testing, etc.).

We thank you for your patience, assistance and feedback during this process.

7. **Reminder: Common Follow Up Update**
An update to the Common Follow Up (CFU) is being implemented over the September maintenance weekend (Sept. 18 - 20, 2015) to correct the identification of 14 year old students. The report is not currently identifying these students correctly. Based on this correction it is necessary for **all schools to re-run their CFU after completion of the maintenance weekend.** It is not necessary to "approve" the report. The data will be pulled by NCDPI after the collection ends regardless of approval status.

Warnings/errors about blank diploma types can be ignored for non-senior students. Only seniors who graduated are required to have this information populated.

Career plans are only required for seniors who completed a CTE concentrator. All other students' data may remain blank.

Again, **all schools (even those that have previously approved the report) MUST re-run the CFU data collection AFTER the completion of the Maintenance Weekend.**

We appreciate your patience as we work to complete the CFU data collection as accurately as possible.

8. **New and Updated Information on the Website**
   - 10 Point Scale – 09/16/2015
     http://www.nc-sis.org/Documents/academic_progress/10-Point_Scale.pdf
   - ALP in PowerSchool Webinar – 09/09/2015

http://www.nc-sis.org/recordings.html
- ALP Fall 2015 Presentation – 09/09/2015
  http://www.nc-sis.org/Documents/presentations/PS_PPT_ALP_Webinar_Fall_2015_revSept9.pdf
- ALP-ALS Report for 2015-16 – 09/09/2015
  http://www.nc-sis.org/Documents/presentations/PS_PPT_ALP_Report_2015-2016.pdf
- NC Release Notes – 09/16/2015
  http://www.nc-sis.org/Documents/requirements/2015_North_Carolina_Release_Notes.pdf
- SAR Webinar – 09/08/2015
  http://www.nc-sis.org/recordings.html
- SAR Presentation I – 09/10/2015
  http://www.nc-sis.org/Documents/presentations/PS_PPT_09_10_2015_SAR_Webinar.pdf
- SAR Presentation II – 09/10/2015
  http://www.nc-sis.org/Documents/presentations/PS_PPT_SAR_Report_2015-2016v2SMH9_9_15.pdf

9. **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) **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

h) **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

i) **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

j) **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.

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