NC SIS Weekly Email Bulletin

In this issue:

1. A Message of Gratitude from the NCDTL Home Base Team
2. A Home Base Meet Ups, Thank You!
3. Next Home Base Maintenance Period - Tonight, November 20
4. NCDIT Patching for UID
5. GPA and Grade Scale Automation Q & A Webinars - Dec. 7
6. PowerSchool 19.11.2.3 Upgrade
7. Reminder: Student Transfer Between PSUs
8. Reminder: The 2020-21 NC Purple Star Award Application Process is Now Open!
9. Reminder: PowerSchool IPT Certification in February 2021
10. Reminder: Fall Legislative Class Size Report - Expires Nov. 30
11. Reminder: NC Contact Page
12. Reminder: Annual Military Student Identifier
13. 2020-2021 Webinars
14. Friday Round Up Featuring: Imagine Math
15. Did You Know?
16. NCDPI Technology Support Center



A Message of Gratitude from the NCDTL Home Base Team

As we approach the holiday season, those of us on the NCDTL Home Base Team would like to express our gratitude to each of you for everything you do to support the use of digital resources in the public schools of North Carolina, especially during these challenging times.

May you enjoy the warmth of family and laughter this holiday season, and stay safe!



Thank You, Home Base Meet Up Participants!

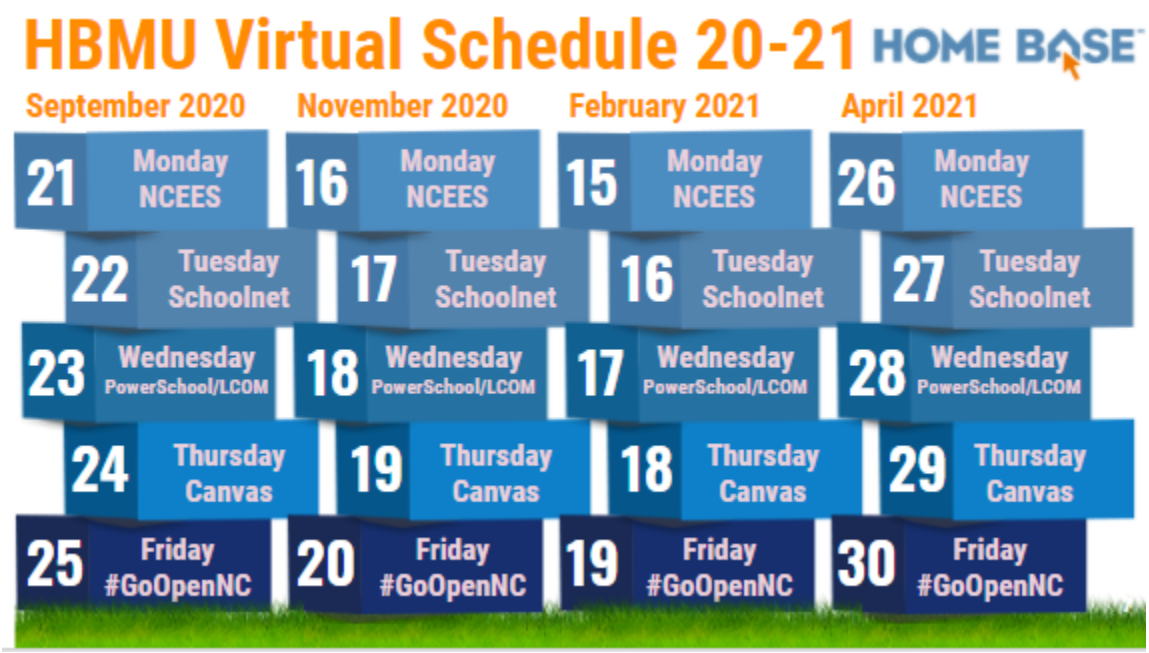
Thank you for attending the November 2020 Home Base Meet Ups! Your attendance and active participation is what makes these collaborative networking sessions such a successful event. Don't forget to complete our survey and receive your .1 CEU credit for attending the training sessions.

For those who were unable to attend, we have made the presentations and recordings available for you to view at your convenience. Please use the links below to access the files.

- NCEES Recording: https://youtu.be/sZgGqSrbpkU
- NCEES Slides: https://bit.ly/nceeshbmu2020nov
- Schoolnet Recording: https://youtu.be/Pv3OLNScI3U
- Schoolnet Slides: bit.ly/snHBMU1120
- PowerSchool Recording: https://youtu.be/FUM1zxQgQgA
- PowerSchool Vendor Slides: https://bit.ly/hbmu_ps
- PowerSchool Slides: https://bit.ly/novPS
- Learning.com Recording: https://youtu.be/R6vHXOm7ihY
- Learning.com Slides: https://bit.ly/LCOMHBMUNOV20
- Canvas Recording: https://youtu.be/fZrz0u5_55M
- Canvas Slides: https://bit.ly/canvashbmunov20
- GoOpenNC Slides: https://bit.ly/goopennchbmunov20

- GoOpenNC Recording: https://youtu.be/05mOVu9vB-8

Future Home Base Meet Up dates are below. Please mark your calendars accordingly.





Next Home Base Maintenance Period - Nov. 20

The next Home Base maintenance period is set to begin tonight, **Nov. 20.** PowerSchool is the only application that will undergo maintenance. All other Home Base applications will remain available.

The PowerSchool application will be brought down on **Friday, Nov. 20, at 7 p.m., and returned to service by 7 a.m., Sunday morning, Nov. 22**. Maintenance will be a little longer than usual due to an Oracle upgrade. Once completed, PowerSchool will be made accessible to all users.

Note: Each year, a list of scheduled maintenance windows are published by NCDPI. This is published in advance to help teachers and administrators better prepare for temporary outages and loss of access. Please review the 2020-2021 maintenance schedule and put these dates on your calendar. In most cases, the entire maintenance window is not necessary and we can return systems to service earlier than listed. If emergency maintenance is required in addition to these scheduled dates, all users will be notified in advance.

If you have any questions pertaining to this maintenance, please contact the Home Base Team at home_base@dpi.nc.gov.



NC DIT Patching for UID

The NC Department of Information Technology (DIT) will be performing monthly Linux patching, including the UID System servers, this Sunday, November 22, 2020, between 4:00 A.M. and 12:00 P.M. The Staff and Student UID systems will be unavailable during this time. Therefore, please do not enroll, transfer, or update student demographic information in PowerSchool during this period.



GPA and Grade Scale Automation Q & A Webinars - Dec. 7

On Monday, December 7, we will be holding two Q&A webinars for the GPA and Grade Scale Automation. Details regarding these changes can be found in the 2021-2022 GPA and Grade Scale Automation memo. During this Q&A we will be reviewing the changes for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year within PowerSchool as well as

providing an opportunity for LEAs and charter schools to ask any questions or concerns regarding any of these changes.

- LEA's Q&A Webinar – December 7 from 1:00-1:45 - Webex Link for LEA's
- Charter School's Q&A Webinar – December 7 from 2:30-3:15 Webex Link for Charter School's

If you have any questions or concerns prior to this meeting please email brandon.young@dpi.nc.gov.

Reminder: PowerSchool 19.11.2.3 Upgrade

NCDPI's statewide PowerSchool upgrade to version 19.11.2.3 is planned for the December 18-21 maintenance weekend. The upgrade will include two new enhancements, as well as resolve several issues users may currently be experiencing. Beta testing for this release will begin on November 23. Details of what this upgrade entails will be available soon in the release notes for PowerSchool SIS 19.11.1.0 through 19.11.2.3. The new enhancements include:

- PowerSchool Admin – Demographics - Using the new Default Country for Student Demographics setting, you can choose a specific country and display only the states for that country.
- PowerSchool Admin – PowerTeacher Pro Settings -- Districts now have the option to hide the PTG links in the PowerSchool SIS Teacher portal. This setting can be found under the Start Page > District Setup > PowerTeacher Pro Settings > Default Gradebook Type page.

PowerSchool will be taken offline Friday, December 18 at 5 p.m. and will resume operations no later than Monday, December 21 at 6 a.m. More information pertaining to this upgrade will be provided as we move closer to the implementation date.



Reminder: Student Transfer Between PSUs

Please be reminded that student record requests shall be made within 30 days of the student's enrollment. Upon receipt of the request, the school from which the student transferred shall not withhold the student records for any reason. Failure to release the student records will result in displaying the student as enrolled in both schools which can skew state reporting and affect funding.

Reminder: The 2020-2021 NC Purple Star Award Application Process is Now Open!

Applications for the 2020-2021 NC Purple Star Award are now being accepted through February 1, 2021. The Purple Star designation is awarded to schools that demonstrate military-friendly practices and a commitment to military students and families. For more information, visit the site at https://www.dpi.nc.gov/students-families/student-support/nc-supports-military-children/purple-star-award. To apply, click on the link below:

- Purple Star Award Application



Reminder: PowerSchool IPT Certification in February 2021

The Home Base Team will be offering a virtual IPT certification training from **February 1-5, 2021.** This training will span five full days. Participants will have 90 days to take and pass the certification test after training. Each PSU is allowed a certain number of technical contacts based on their ADM. If you are unsure of your current technical contacts, please contact PowerSchool Support at 1-855-339-4790.

NCDPI has created an IPT FAQ document to help answer questions you may have. Please review this document for frequently asked questions about the training and certification.

Those who can attend the DPI offered IPT Training include:

- Anyone replacing a previous technical contact from their allotted number.
- A local charter school employee who is not employed by a data management company.

Those who cannot attend this training are:

- Charter school data management company employees
- PSUs wanting additional technical contacts above their desired allocation
- Anyone who has attended training previously and failed the certification test.

Note: Anyone who is not eligible for this training will need to arrange training and/or certification directly through the vendor, PowerSchool, and cover the cost incurred. To do so, please

reach out to the PowerSchool training team, training@powerschool.com.

Those who are eligible for this training session, please fill out the registration form.



Reminder: Fall Legislative Class Size Report

PowerSchool has confirmed that the September payroll file has been loaded into production and districts may now start running and approving the Fall Legislative Class Size report.

In addition to submitting the reports in PowerSchool, the local superintendent shall also complete a sworn affidavit (form attached) attesting that the superintendent has complied with the maximum class size requirements and the reporting requirements. Affidavits should be sent to classsize@dpi.nc.gov.

Requests for individual class size exception waivers require the completion of a form supplied by the Division of School Business. Waivers should be sent to StudentAccounting@dpi.nc.gov.

The legislated maximum for Kindergarten to 3rd grade for the 2020-21 school year are as follows:

- LEA wide class size maximum average: 18
- Individual class size maximum: 21
- These maximums apply to all K-3 classes regardless of instructional delivery method.
- When a class contains a combination of grades of more than one grade, the maximum class size

is determined by the grade span classification of the students constituting the majority in the class. If the number of students in each grade of the combination class is equal, the maximum class size is determined by the lowest grade classification of the students.

- There are no legislated maximums for class size in grades 4-12.

The deadline for submitting the LCS report, affidavits, and waivers is **Monday, November 30**.
Class size AFFIDAVIT 2020 Update.pdf

Reminder: NC Contact Page

The Home Base Team would like to remind PSUs that the NC Contacts screen in PowerSchool will be retired in favor of the new Core Contacts screen.

In the 2019-2020 school year, a PowerSchool upgrade deployed the ***new Core Contacts*** page into NC PowerSchool instances and migrated data from core Demographics (mother and father) into the new Contacts page. Data from the custom NC Contacts page was not automatically migrated into the new Core Contacts page and must be moved manually. Information on Core Contacts was provided during the September 2019 Home Base Meet-Ups, and many PSUs have finished manually moving data from NC Contacts to the new Core Contacts page.

Navigation Paths

NC Student Contact Screen
Start Page > Student Selection > **NC Information:** NC Student Contacts

New Core Contact Screen
Start Page > Student Selection > **Information:** Contacts

For PSUs who have not completed data migration from NC Contacts to Core Contacts, the resources below from PowerSchool Support may assist in this process. A PowerSchool Community account is required to access the linked resources.

- Getting started with Contacts Guide: (Includes Importing/Exporting and field mapping information) https://help.powerschool.com/t5/PowerSchool-SIS-Administrator/Getting-Started-with-Student-Contacts/ta-p/79724

On January 1, 2021, the NC Contacts page will be disabled, and the data will no longer be visible to PSUs. All NCDPI integrations that rely upon the NC Contacts page will instead rely on core Contacts. ***Please also be reminded that third-party integrations installed by PSUs should be reviewed to ensure they are not pulling data from the NC Contacts page any longer — for example, many SchoolMessenger customers are currently pulling data from this custom page.*** PSUs will need to reach out to their vendors to initiate any changes to their data integration configurations.

PSUs requiring additional assistance with this data migration process should log a ticket with PowerSchool Support by calling the NC-specific support number **1-855-339-4790** or by visiting https://help.powerschool.com.



Reporting Reminder: Annual Military Student Identifier Collection

The military student identifier is a required annual collection of data on military-connected students. The data collection should be updated by providing a form (paper or electronic) to the parent once at the beginning of each school year. LEAs are required to enter and update the data from these forms into PowerSchool. NC DPI recommends completing these updates by **December 15, 2020**. A QRD is available for PowerSchool functionality on the military student identifier. An updated sample form is also available.

When reviewing this information please keep the following in mind.

IMPORTANT: The field options **must** be in place as described even if the form has been edited for local use. There must be room for six relationships included on the local form. The form must also describe these specific values:

- **Relationship:** Mother, Father, Stepfather, Stepmother, Guardian, Sibling, Other
- **Branches:** Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy
- **Status Options:** Active Duty, Activated Guard/Reserve, National Guard, Reserves, Retired Military, Disabled Veteran, Veteran, Federal

Civil Service, Deceased, Deceased – KIA, Foreign Military

- **Pay Grade (Optional):** Enlisted (“E 1” through “E 9” separately), Warrant Officer (“W 1” through “W 5” separately), Officer (“O 1” through “O 10” separately). E 1, E 2, E 3, E 4, E 5, E 6, E 7, E 8, E 9, W 1, W 2, W 3, W 4, W 5, O 1, O 2, O 3, O 4, O 5, O 6, O 7, O 8, O 9, and O 10 are the required value list names. Previously, some systems interpreted this too literally, so we’re providing the value list. Any dashes should be removed and replaced with the space.
- **Military Installation (Optional):** The facility where the service member fulfills their duty role in the military. [text field in PS] (e.g., Fort Bragg, NG Raleigh Armory, Knightdale Reserve Center etc.)
- **Unit or Squadron (NOT REQUIRED):** This field will be repurposed as a “Note” labelled text field in a future version of PowerSchool and will still be optional.



Home Base Webinars

2020-2021 School Year

Pre-Recorded State Reporting Webinars

https://youtu.be/wyH4sSdmn6g

- Principal Monthly Report (PMR)
- Grade Race Sex (GRS)
- Retention Promotion (RP)
- School Activity Report (SAR)
- PowerTeacher Attendance Tips for 2020-20201 and Beyond
- PowerSchool AIG Functionality Video Reference Guide



Schoolnet NCFE Updates

Many PSUs are beginning to schedule the NCFE assessments in Schoolnet. We're excited to offer these options in Schoolnet this year. A few updates since the initial release: the magnifier accommodation is being enabled on all NCFEs, and a rubric has been added to allow teachers to score one open response item on the English III

NCFE (this is the only open response across all NCFEs).

As always, please let us know how we can support your PSU as you consider these new options.

Schoolnet December Webinars

We hope to see you for the December Schoolnet webinar on Tuesday, Dec. 8. This month, we'll cover Advanced Assessment Creation. The webinar is offered at 10 a.m., 3 p.m. or 7 p.m. and will award 0.1 CEUs.

Visit the Webinars page on the Schoolnet Google Site to register.

Upcoming Canvas Professional Learning Courses: Starting Nov. 2020 - Change in Webinar Format

The Home Base Team is excited to announce a change in our upcoming webinar formats. Starting November 2nd, a new monthly self-paced training course will be available for Canvas. This course will be designed to be

completed in one hour and will be linked to NCEES for automatic CEU award upon completion of the course. This course will take the place of our currently offered monthly webinars to provide a more flexible and accessible format for all. If you have registered for a November or December webinar, you should have received an email when the first monthly course was made available on November 2.

To register for our Canvas webinars, please visit: bit.ly/nccanvaswebinars

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New Self-Paced Course on Curating Content in #GoOpenNC

We are so excited to try something new with our monthly webinars for #GoOpenNC. The webinar is now available on-demand in a mini Canvas course (you will need to login to NCEES via NCEdCloud to register).

The course is designed to be completed in one hour and NCEES will apply 0.1 CEU of Digital Learning Competency Credit to your transcript within 48

hours of completing the course. The course is available until **May 31, 2021**

NCEES Tuesday Webinars in Dec.

Click here for a full list of NCEES webinars. Don't forget to check out our NCEES YouTube Playlist!

Please click on the following titles to register:

- **MOY for Principals** - Tuesday, Dec. 1, 4-5 p.m.
    - Participants will gain a better understanding of the middle of the year process for administrators.
- **MOY Teachers/Support Staff** - Tuesday, Dec. 8, 4-5 p.m.
    - Participants will gain a better understandi

ng of the middle of the year process for teachers/support staff.

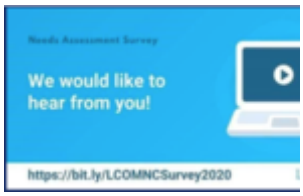
- **Admin Reporting in NCEES** - Tuesday, Dec. 15, 4-5 p.m.
    - Administrators learn how to create a local library of NCEES Ad-Hoc reports to support your PSU evaluation and professional development reporting needs. (This is for NCEES District Admins: It is informational for Superintendents and Principals.)

Learning.com

Upcoming Webinars for the Month of November

Digital Citizenship Skills for the Empowered Technology User

- Click here for more information and registration links: **http://bit.ly/NCLearningDigitalSafety2020**
- You may qualify for .1 CEU (equals 1 hour of credit) for participating in the LIVE session of each webinar. You will need to follow your public school unit's approval process to earn credit.



Please take a few minutes to complete the **Learning.com Needs Assessment Survey (bit.ly/LCOMNCSurvey2020)** that is designed for district-level administrators/coordinators. This survey will be open until **5 p.m. EST** on **Monday, Nov. 30**.

Your valuable feedback will drive professional learning, additional resources, and communication methods for North Carolina Learning.com users for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.



NCWiseOwl EBSCO Webinars 2020-2021

PSUs, please share this message with your teachers.

Want to love and utilize **NCWiseOwl** even more? Attend the upcoming webinars available from our database vendors!

Britannica School: REGISTRATION and RECORDINGS

- **Britannica School for Remote Learning**
- **Britannica School for Parents**

- **Britannica Basics for Elementary Educators**
- **Britannica Basics for Secondary Educators**
- **Sharing Britannica Content on Google Platforms**
- **Preparing Digital Content Sets for Instruction**
- **Britannica Tools to Support Reluctant Readers**
- **Britannica School - STEAM in Focus**
- **Britannica School - Arts & Humanities in Focus**
- **Britannica Tools to Support English Language Learners**

EBSCO:

REGISTRATION and RECORDINGS

- **EBSCO Reference Center Exploration**
- **EBSCO Online Classroom Tools and Integration Tips**
- **EBSCO Accessibility and Usability Features within EBSCO Resources**
- **EBSCO Working with EBSCO eBooks**

Please visit the NCWiseOwl **Toolkit** professional learning section for detailed descriptions and registration links. www.ncwiseowl.org

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Imagine Math

Imagine Math is one of the six key components that make up Home Base. This instructional resource tool focuses on Math for grades 3-8, Math 1 and NC Math 2. A recent study found that students using Imagine Math are three times more likely to be proficient.

Imagine Math Performance Tasks provide activities that engage and empower students. These include learning in designing, planning, evaluating, and communicating with an emphasis on the STEM concept. The motivational programs allow students to create an avatar and participate in contests to challenge themselves.

Imagine Math has on-demand tutoring by certified bi-lingual math teachers that are staffed during evenings, Monday - Thursday until 9:30 p.m., Friday until 6:00 p.m. and on weekends, Saturdays - 9:00 - 1:00 p.m. and Sunday - 5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Imagine Math also has a parent portal to assist with child progress monitoring.

NCDPI has awarded a “convenience contract” available to all NC public schools to leverage economies-of-scale pricing as well as state-compliant security and architecture terms for the Imagine Math solution.
Presently, there are 28 slots available. There is an upcoming webinar scheduled on November 23rd that will provide more in-depth information on Imagine Math. If you are interested in either a slot or the webinar, please contact carmella.fair@dpi.nc.gov.



DID YOU KNOW?

Follow us on Facebook and begin receiving

"Did You Know" tips featuring each Home Base product.

These messages will include upcoming changes, tips and even hidden treasures within each product to make your job easier. If you are not following us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, click on the links below and begin today! Make sure you share this information with other staff within your school.

Instagram: @nchomebase
Facebook: @nchomebase
Twitter: @nchomebase





NCDPI Technology Support Center

NCDPI's Technology Support Center continues to meet your support needs for:

- Schoolnet
- NCEES/Unified Talent
- IAM/SSO (NCEdCloud)
- Staff & Student UID (eScholar)

Support availability:

Web **(NEW URL)**: https://ncgov.servicenowservices.com/sp_dpi - 24/7

Phone: **919-716-1840,** Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. (excluding state holidays)

Technical support for **SIS** needs is handled directly by PowerSchool support using chat, phone, or by opening a case ticket.

Remember to visit the NC SIS website for additional information including webinars and training documentation. Follow us on twitter @NCHomeBase.

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