Digital Teaching and Learning

DISTRICT SUPPORT

HOME BASE

NC SIS Weekly Email Bulletin

In this issue:

1. End of Year Updates: 2019-2020 PowerSchool EOY Guide Now Available!
2. ECATS: Statement Clarification for Transfer Student Record
3. Blank Calendar Types
4. COVID-19 Grading Process Webinar
5.. Newly Designated PowerSchool Technical Contacts Training
6. Opt-in to Home Base Now!
7. 2020-2021 Home Base Meet-Up Planning Survey
8. AIG Spring Headcount Collection
9. Friday Roundup Resource Featuring "Fun Brain and Fun Brain, Jr."

END OF YEAR **HOME BASE** **2020 2019**

End of Year Updates

The 2019-20 EOY Process for the Home Base Suite of Applications will begin Tuesday, June 30, 2020. Home Base will be taken offline on Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. EOY processing and archiving of data will begin 8:00 a.m. on Thursday morning, July 2, 2020.

2019-2020 PowerSchool EOY Guide Now Available!

The Home Base team has updated the PowerSchool End-of-Year User Guide for the 2020-2021 school year. Notable updates for this school year include:

- A new grade level of -9 (XG) is now available for students who have reached the 12th grade and will return next year to continue receiving services. This is referred to as the Extra Grade level, or XG, on state reports. In PowerSchool, XG is represented as -9.
    o There will be more documentation released next week about -9 (XG).

- The section with directions for charter schools has been updated with steps to ensure no student records remain in the DPI FTE School. In the past, it was common practice for charter schools whose terminal year was lower than 12th grade to move students into the DPI FTE School at EOY, then transfer them out. Due to ECATS, charters now need to move those student records out of the DPI FTE School and back into the charter school before transferring them out. No student records, whether active or inactive, can remain in the DPI FTE School.

The updated EOY user guide is a Google Doc that can be downloaded or printed as desired. Please be sure to review this guide in its entirety to ensure your PSU is ready for EOY. Home Base will go down for EOY at 5:00 p.m. on June 30, 2020. PSUs will begin local PowerSchool EOY processing at 8:00 a.m. on July 2, 2020. The guide can be found by clicking here or by visiting the NC SIS Resources page on the NCDPI website. As always, please direct any questions to home_base@dpi.nc.gov or to PowerSchool Support.

PowerSchool (EOY Contact Updates)

Please be reminded of the following and take the time to review your contact information to ensure the required fields are accurately completed.

- An **alternate phone number** is required on the EOY Contacts' screen for both, the **Primary** and **Secondary** contacts (the alternate number should not be the same as the primary phone number).
- If there is a phone extension, it should be entered at the end of the **Title** field (e.g., Title: PowerSchool Coordinator x4567).
- The EOY Contacts' screen must have a **Primary Contact** and a **Secondary Contact** (Primary and Secondary cannot be the same person).
- The **"Last School Ending Date (mm/dd/yyyy)"** field on the EOY Contacts' screen must be filled out and the page submitted even if your contacts have not changed from the previous year.
- The **"Login (User Admin Name)"** fields on the EOY Contacts' screen should match the **"Admin Username"** on the user's Admin Access and Roles tab of the Security Settings' screen.

Questions concerning EOY may be addressed to home_base@dpi.nc.gov.

ECATS: Statement Clarification for Transfer Student Record

The *ECATS Loading Historical Assessments* message sent last week was regarding the transfer student record process in PowerSchool. During most of the 2019-20 school year, the transfer student record process in PowerSchool was intermittently producing errors when PSUs attempted to transfer records, resulting in a transfer failure. This issue has been fixed; however, some PSUs may still have records that need transferring. **Therefore, please ensure <u>records</u> for any students who transferred into your PSU from another PSU during the 2019-20 school year are transferred into your PSU by June 22.**

Blank Calendar Types

Earlier this week, the Remote Learning Calendar Membership types were pushed into NC PowerSchool instances for PSUs to use for the 2020-2021 school year calendar. NCDPI is still investigating what caused the calendar type of in-session value to adjust. We will give further guidance on the in-session calendar type once our investigation is complete.

COVID-19 Grading Process Q & A Webinar

The DTL team hosted a webinar on Thursday to address outstanding questions and concerns around the COVID-19 grading process. The recording for the webinar will be posted early next week. The Questions & Answers document is available. We encourage you to review these resources to ensure that your district is grading properly, per the North Carolina State Board of Education policy.

Newly Designated PowerSchool Technical Contacts Training

The Home Base team is planning a PowerSchool IPT Certification and Training session for PowerSchool coordinators who were designated

as PowerSchool technical contacts (TCs) for their PSUs on or after 12/31/2019. Please complete this Google Form to request certification testing and/or training.

Opt-in to Home Base Now!

Coordinators and data managers, please remind your finance officers and charter school directors that the Home Base Opt-in Process is open until June 15, 2020. Any PSU that does not opt into Home Base for the 2020-2021 school year will lose access to Schoolnet and the NCEES PD Office Component.

Detailed information can be viewed by visiting our NCDPI Home Base Opt-in page and the Home Base Pricing Memo from Dr. Beverly Emory. Questions concerning this process may be addressed to Yolanda Wilson, yolanda.wilson@dpi.nc.gov.

2020-2021 Home Base Meet-Up Planning Survey

The Home Base Team would like your feedback on the dates and format for the 2020-2021 Home Base Meet-Ups. Please take a few minutes to complete this brief survey so that we may plan according to your needs and guidelines pertaining to COVID-19.

AIG Spring Headcount Collection

Please be reminded that the AIG Spring Headcount submission window was moved to June 1 - June 15, 2020 for this year due to the COVID-19 impact on schools and districts. It is imperative to note that with this late window so close to many end of year processes, we will not have any flexibility to extend the deadline or re-open district instances to fix data. With this later window, we will need all data approved at both the school and LEA level no later than June 15, 2020.
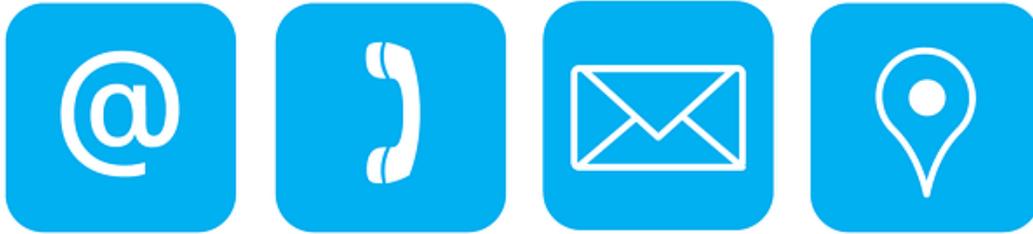
Fun Brain and Fun Brain, Jr.

Funbrain (www.funbrain.com) was created for kids in grades Pre-K through 8. The site has a variety of games, books, comics, and videos that develop skills in math, reading, problem-solving and literacy. At the bottom of the page you can browse by grade (pre-k to 8th). After choosing the grade, you can browse by games, books or videos.

Funbrain, Jr. (www.funbrainjr.com) is for ages 2-6 years old; this section has games, stories, printables and apps for little ones when they are on the go. The Kindergarten Readiness app is available in Spanish as well. This app prepares the 2-6 year old for early math, early literacy and cognitive development. The Funbrain Jr. app houses games for the 2-6 year old that covers letter and number recognition, sequencing, letter sounds and fine motor skills. The MeBook app lets you store your child's favorite books with tap and play narration that the child can follow along. Lastly, the Epic app is an ebook library for ages up to 12 yrs.

Funbrain has its own section of books that allow you to read a book in its entirety. There are also books by other authors that are featured in the book section and these books provide you with a short sample of that book. Under "Book Info" you can purchase this book. The game section has instructions on how to play and win the game and guidance on how to use your keyboard as controls for playing the game.

Several of the videos are part of a series which gives the child an opportunity to view more selections of the animated characters that they enjoy the most. There are DIY videos and education videos. In addition to the other videos offered, there is a section of videos from the kid's magazine called "Highlights". These videos cover a variety of topics that a kid would enjoy. One video series from Highlights is called "Did You Know" which has awesome science themed fun facts about the world around us. "Ask Highlight Kids" is a video series that addresses topics close to kids answered by kids. Playground and Math Zone – Are two additional features that are found on the Funbrain website. Playground is a combination of on-line books and games for PreK – K. Math Zone has math games for ages K-8. All games on the website provide the instructions on how to play and win the game, and how to use the keypad as your game controls.

Please check PSU policies and consider HIPPA, FERPA, and COPPA laws with regards to student privacy BEFORE implementing any **free resources**.

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: https://ncgov.service-now.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, Call, or opening a Case ticket.

Reminder! Phone Number for NCDPI Technology Support Center has Changed to 919-716-1840

Last year, NCDPI's Technology Support Center changed its phone number to **919-716-1840.** Calls to the old number have been forwarded, but the phone company's forwarding service **will be ending soon**. To ensure we continue to meet your support needs without issue, please make sure you are calling us at our new support center number.

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

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