

June 19, 2020



# Digital Teaching and Learning

DISTRICT SUPPORT



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## NC SIS Weekly Email Bulletin

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## Home Base Opt-in Process Extended - June 30, 2020



The NCDPI Home Base team is extending the Home Base Opt-in Process through June 30, 2020. If your PSU has not opted into Home Base, please inform your district's finance officer or charter principal/director that the deadline is June 30. Those PSUs that have not opted into Home Base by July 1, 2020, will lose their access to Schoolnet and their local NCEES Professional Development 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](mailto:yolanda.wilson@dpi.nc.gov).

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## End of Year Video Reference Guide & Q&A Webinar



The NCDPI Home Base team has created a [PowerSchool End of Year Video Reference Guide](#) to assist PSUs through the 2019-2020 EOY process. This video covers the entire PowerSchool end-of-year process from start to finish. As a reminder, the [PowerSchool User Guide for End-of-Year Processing](#) has also been updated for this school year. If you have any questions, please email [home\\_base@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:home_base@dpi.nc.gov).

On Wednesday, June 24, at 11:00 a.m., the Home Base team will host a one-hour Q&A webinar for PowerSchool Coordinators who have questions about the EOY process. To join the PowerSchool EOY Q&A webinar, follow the steps below at the scheduled date and time:

1. Go to <https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/k2/j.php?MTID=t8357b47921277972145fe475a81fa602>
2. Enter your name and email address
3. Enter the session password: pseoy1920
4. Click "Join Now"
5. Follow the instructions that appear on your screen



## Schools Added Into PowerSchool

NCDPI has discovered that several public school units (PSUs) are missing program schools that are required to be in all instances. DPI staff will be adding the following schools back over the next few days.

- CECAS
- LEP
- Migrant
- DPI FTE
- Homeless

PSUs missing any of these schools do not need to take any action at this time. However, once DPI has added the missing schools to all instances, PSU admins may wish to change the settings to exclude these schools from state reporting. Instructions on how to exclude schools from state reporting can be found [here](#). The document is also attached for your convenience.

- [PS\\_QRD\\_Assigning\\_Collections\\_to\\_Schools.pdf](#)
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## Reminder: Grading Rules for 2019-20 School Year

The current 2019-2020 school year is in effect until **June 30, 2020**. Therefore, the grading rules associated with 2019-2020 school year still apply until **June 30, 2020**. Any grade that a student receives in summer school will follow the State Board of Education grading policy for COVID-19.



## Clarifying Statement for -9(XG)

The Home Base Team has received an updated definition of the -9(XG) grade level by the Exceptional Children Division (ECD). The Extra Grade (XG) should be used for any child that meets the following criteria:

- Has a disability that requires special education and related services.
- Has completed the 12th grade, but still has not met graduation requirements or reached the age of 22.
  - Note: This category is typically used for students who are following the Extended Content Standards and participating on the Alternate Assessment or following the Occupational Course of study. These students often remain in high school beyond four years. However, the Extra Grade(XG) should be utilized for any student with an IEP who meets the above criteria.

Please ensure that any student who is given a next year grade level of -9 in PowerSchool meets this definition. Questions pertaining to -9(XG) may be addressed to [home\\_base@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:home_base@dpi.nc.gov).

## PowerSchool Scheduling for Tracked Attendance Due to COVID-19

The Home Base team has considered multiple options for PowerSchool scheduling in the case of staggered or tracked attendance (A/B Day attendance or morning/afternoon attendance) due to class size limits that may be imposed by NCDHHS in reference to COVID-19 during the 2020-2021 school year. However, at this time, it is recommended to schedule in PowerSchool as if everything were normal. This will reduce the workload on data managers while still allowing schools to track in-person and remote attendance each day.



As always, please email [home\\_base@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:home_base@dpi.nc.gov) with any questions or concerns, or [submit a ticket to PowerSchool](#) for any technical issues. Thank you!



## 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.](#)

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## CommonLit

[CommonLit](#) is a non-profit technology organization dedicated to ensuring that all students, especially students in Title I schools, graduate with the reading, writing, communication, and problem-solving skills they need to be successful in college and beyond. The site provides free reading activities and digital tools for parents and guardians to assist with at-home learning. Once a parent or guardian creates a free account, they can choose a lesson and guide the child in enhancing their learning and comprehension skills. They can also track the child's progress with the tools provided on the site. Like most sites, the lessons are for ages k-12 and each lesson has a print/digital option for a blended instructional approach. In 2021-2022, CommonLit will release a full-year curriculum for grades 6-10 in English Language Arts.

Reading is Fundamental and CommonLit comes to the aid of parents/guardians to help them teach their child(ren) to become proficient in this area. During these past few months at-home learning has become relevant for so many parents/guardians. In the comfort of the home, the parent/guardian can help their child(ren) learn to enjoy reading and realize how reading can take them on adventures and broaden their imagination in a positive way. By clicking the Library tag they can browse the site for copious books of various genres, grade level, literacy devices (e.g., ethos, juxtaposition, paradox, etc.), text set, theme and Spanish texts.

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

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## 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](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.

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

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