



July 19, 2019

# Digital Teaching and Learning

DISTRICT SUPPORT



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## NC SIS Weekly Email Bulletin

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## Home Base Maintenance Weekend

Home Base maintenance will begin today, July 19, 2019 at 5 p.m. Only the PowerSchool application will undergo maintenance. **The Schoolnet upgrade to version 21.0 has been pushed back to the July 26<sup>th</sup> weekend.**

PowerSchool maintenance will include:

- A resolution to the error messages received when viewing the SAR Data Collection.
- A correction to Attendance on the PMR when students transfer.

PowerSchool will be brought down today at 5 p.m. and returned to service no later than Monday, July 22 at 6 a.m. We have asked PowerSchool to take the curtain down as soon as maintenance is complete so that users will not have to wait on our approval. Please be sure to notify your entire staff once you receive the completion message. DPI has been contacted frequently by teachers saying they are not made

aware when the system becomes available. Please help us with this communication.

Questions or comments pertaining to this maintenance activity may be addressed to [home\\_base@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:home_base@dpi.nc.gov). Stay apprised of all Home Base planned maintenance periods by visiting our [2019-20 Home Base Maintenance Schedule](#).

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## Clarification of FTP to SFTP Change in the PowerSchool Upgrade



Below is a statement taken from the [PowerSchool 19.4.2.0 release notes](#) that should answer any questions pertaining to the use of FTP vs. SFTP for AutoCom/AutoSend. In the release notes the following is stated:

### File Transfer via FTP for AutoCom/AutoSend

*"In the upcoming 2019 Back to School release, transfer of files via FTP for autocomm will no longer be allowed. A warning message appears in versions 19.4.2.0 notifying users that this change is forthcoming. Administrators still using FTP should begin planning their transition to Secure FTP (SFTP)."*

### FTP No Longer Supported

SFTP will be used for AutoComm and AutoSend; however, FTP will not. This is a functionality change that has taken place in PowerSchool which will allow data to and from PowerSchool to be transferred securely.

The spreadsheet identifying [enhancements/resolved issues/removed features](#) in each version upgrade through 19.4.2.0 has been provided. Questions pertaining to this change may be addressed by submitting a ticket through [ServiceNow](#).



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## Graduation Data Verification Report - Update

**All LEAs must run the GDV Report, even if you did not make corrections/edits. See message below.**

The final window for the 2018–19 Graduation Data Verification Report began **Tuesday, July 16 and is set to end Friday, July 26**. This report is purposed for facilitating corrections to data and adding students that graduated after June 28, 2019 and on or before July 15, 2019. LEAs/schools may make adjustments and corrections up until COB (5:00 p.m.), July 26. **This correction window is the only opportunity to make adjustments.**

All mid-year and summer graduates were transferred to the "Graduated Students School" (School 999999) during the PowerSchool EOY process. Therefore, all data

changes/corrections should be made in the "Graduated Students School" in PowerSchool. For assistance with making changes/corrections, the Early Graduates and Summer Graduations Quick Reference documents are available by accessing the [NC SIS website's Student Information page](#).

**PLEASE NOTE:** This data is used in the calculation of the Cohort Graduation Rate (CGR) for Accountability Services and students who graduate by July 15 will count in the school's graduation rate. If you do not re-run the report, NCDPI will not receive the changes and, as a result, this could negatively impact the school's rate.

Those with questions related to edits/corrections, please call the NCDPI Support Center at (919) 807-4357 or submit a ticket through [ServiceNow](#).

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## Teacher In-Field Out-of-Field Postponed

The Teacher In-Field Out-of-Field report deadline set for July 19 has been extended. A new date is being determined and will be communicated once confirmed.



## Remember to Register for the Next Home Base Meet-Ups!

The first round of Home Base Meet-Ups for the 2019-20 school year is scheduled for Monday, August 5 through Thursday, August 8. These collaborative sessions are great opportunities for networking and sharing ideas.

**Note: Canvas will be offered on Wednesday, August 7 only. There will be a streaming option available for those who want to join virtually.**

For complete registration details, please link to the [August 2019-20 HBMU Invite](#). Click on the following bi.tly to register: [http://bit.ly/HBMU\\_Aug2019REG](http://bit.ly/HBMU_Aug2019REG).

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## Upcoming Training Event

### PowerSchool New User 3-Day Training

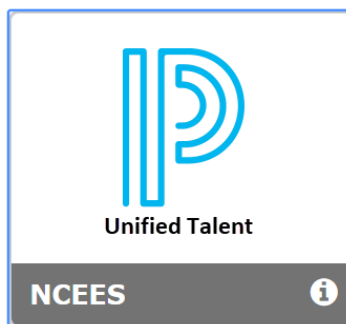
This three day workshop is designed to be an introduction to PowerSchool SIS for administrative users. The workshop covers basic navigation of the PowerSchool start page, functions of the main menu, how to search for students/staff/contacts, managing attendance, managing staff security, and more. Attendees must be an employee of the school and not a management company. This workshop will be limited to 30 attendees so that maximum interaction is possible.

**Dates:** August 12, 13, 14, 2019

**Where:** NCDPI Bldg, Room 150 N, 301 N. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, NC

**Registration Link:** <http://bit.ly/PSNewUserRegister2019>

Please visit the [NC SIS Calendar](#) and [Home Base Calendar](#) frequently for upcoming trainings and webinars.



## NCEES Happenings!

### New NCEES 2019-2020 Webinars Posted

NCDPI is offering new webinars for the 2019-2020 School Year. Please mark your calendars and share with your NCEES users.

To view the listing of new webinars posted to the NCEES Google site click this link: <http://bit.ly/ncees-support> and navigate to WEBINARS 2019-2020.

**Note:** *LEA or Charter should be opted into Home Base to use a local PD Office.*

## Online Professional Development Sources

NCDPI often receives inquiries on how staff that are not in the NCEES system can access PD opportunities within the NCEES catalog. The online professional modules offered by NCDPI are in Home Base/NCEES. Access to online PD in the Home Base system is managed through an active employee ID Number, so only current employees of North Carolina Public School Districts or Charter Schools can access Home Base.

There is no mechanism for others to access and hence use the educator resources housed in the Home Base system. Here are a few sites that may help staff search for PD outside of NCEES. The first source is free of cost....others may have a charge associated.

**NOTE:** *Not all of these listings are endorsed by NCDPI - check and vet any searches to find what best meets credit needs. Follow your local professional development policy on approval processes. Some districts require prior approval before participating in credit earning PD.*

- DPI Open access modules. Open Access Modules are located on NC Education PD (<https://center.ncsu.edu/ncpd/>)
- ASCD <http://www.ascd.org/professional-development/pd-online.aspx>

- ACHIEVE THE CORE <http://www.achievethecore.org/steal-these-tools/professional-development-modules>
- BloomBoard <http://my.bloomboard.com/>
- Capella University <https://www.capella.edu/online-degrees/education-professional-development/>
- EdWeb.net <http://home.edweb.net/>
- LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/premium/plan/learning/>
- NCSU Friday Institute <https://place.fi.ncsu.edu/local/catalog/catalog.php>
- Professional Development Institute <https://www.webteaching.com/ncteacher.html>
- Teacher CEU Toolbox <http://www.teacherceutoolbox.com/>
- TEACHME PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT <http://www.teachmeceus.com/>
- Virtual Education Software, inc. <http://www.virtualeduc.com/courses.php>

## Staff Access to NCEES Statement

The NCDPI contract with the vendor of the NC Educator Effectiveness System (NCEES) has a specified number of users.

For this reason, access to the Evaluation and Professional Learning module within Home Base is limited mainly to current certified employees of North Carolina Public School Districts and Charter Schools.

Identity Access Management (IAM) helps maintain the threshold of our license agreement. User accounts in the Home Base NCEES PD System are verified, through IAM, using an active employee ID number and a payroll code. These codes allow the system to guide the assignment of rubrics to appropriate roles in the evaluation module and to collect/maintain credit transcript information from the PD system.

There are many licensed educators in NC with interest in using the NCEES PD system. Unfortunately granting access to them (retired teachers, long-term subs, etc.) would exceed the quota of users within our license agreement. For this reason, there is no mechanism for them to access the educator resources housed in the Home Base/NCEES PD system.

Your district may have recent retirees, long-term subs, or other contracted roles to whom this applies. If you receive access requests from such individuals, please advise them of this limitation.

Please review this document, [NCEES DATA v6](#), for a listing of which certified staff according to paycode/role would provision into NCEES access. There is one classified salary object code 153 (from the Chart of Accounts) that for the role of NCEES Administrative Specialist provisions classified staff into NCEES. Per NCDPI School Business that is the only classified code to access NCEES at this time.

## New NCEES Vendor – PowerSchool

As many of you know, the NCDPI contract for NCEES was with the *Public Consulting Group, Inc. (PCG)*. Originally PCG was subcontracting with a company called *TrueNorthLogic, LLC (TNL)*, which is the company who developed and supported the system. After a series of mergers and acquisitions the original TNL company, became *Performance Matters, LLC*, then *PeopleAdmin, Inc.* which was eventually acquired by *PowerSchool Group, LLC* in August of 2018. The product is now branded as PowerSchool Unified Talent - Professional Learning & Perform Enterprise.

As a result of acquisition of the NCEES solution by PowerSchool, NCDPI has moved the support of NCEES directly to PowerSchool by adding it to the main PowerSchool contract. This became effective

7/1/2019, after the expiration of the PCG contract on 6/30/2019. This eliminates the 'middle man' and it also resulted in about 30% savings for the state.

This is a contractual change and has absolutely no impact on the usage, implementation or support for the system.

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

NC SIS  
NC Department of Public Instruction  
Education Building, 7th Floor North  
301 North Wilmington Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601

919-807-3190 Office  
919-807-3290 Fax  
Email: [ncsis@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:ncsis@dpi.nc.gov)