



March 1, 2019

Digital Teaching and Learning

DISTRICT SUPPORT



NC SIS Weekly Email Bulletin

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Microsoft Azure Migration and Maintenance Weekend

The Microsoft Azure migration is ready for cutover! This migration will improve the educational experience by increasing return times to educators and cultivating student learning. It will also further enable a high degree of scalability and security, and provide a platform to more rapidly foster innovations.

The migration from Rackspace to Microsoft Azure will begin during our scheduled maintenance weekend, Friday, March 8 at 5:00 p.m. and end by 5:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 12. The PowerSchool application (including PS Admin, the Parent Portal, Student Portal and Power Teacher) will be unavailable throughout the migration process. When the PowerSchool Group, LLC,

completes the migration and import of all NC data into the new Azure servers, the NCDPI PowerSchool team will begin their verification process that entails logging into each NC PowerSchool instance and confirming the following:

- Instance availability
- Students by count of active students
- Staff by count of active staff
- Student Data
- Historical Grades
- Schedule
- Transfer Info
- Quick Lookup Screen
- Years and Terms
- Reports
- State Dashboard
- NCDPI Reports Page
- SQL5 Reports Page

After NCDPI completes their review, coordinators will be contacted and encouraged to log in and further verify their data. A tracking document for issues will be available for recording any issues identified. The link for this document will be sent out prior to the start of next weekend's activities.

It is important to note that PowerSchool users will likely not have access to the system on Monday, March 11. To protect against the risk of bad data, the maintenance page will remain in place until the ODS is fully in-sync.

What Can I Expect?

Due to the loss of certain functionalities within PowerSchool and the ODS sync lag, the following systems may be impacted.

- Canvas
 - Any changes made in PowerSchool Friday, March 8 - Tuesday, March 12 that are used in Canvas will not appear in Canvas until Wednesday, March 13. Examples include: enrollment changes, student information, and student lists in PowerSchool synced courses. Canvas syncs will be restarted for districts on the evening of Tuesday, March 12. Please contact your Canvas CSM if you have additional questions.
- School Net
 - Any changes made in PowerSchool Friday, March 8 - Tuesday, March 12 that are used in Schoolnet will not appear in Schoolnet until Wednesday, March 13. Examples include: enrollment changes, student information, transfers, and attendance/tardy updates. Additionally, areas of reporting will not be updated during this period. Schoolnet overnight processes will be restarted on Tuesday, March 12. Teachers are recommended not to sync assessment scores from Schoolnet to PowerTeacher Pro from Friday, March 8 until the migration is complete on Tuesday, March 12.
- CFNC/eTranscripts
 - The CFNC Electronic Transcript System will be temporarily unavailable from 5 p.m. Friday, March 8 until 11:59 p.m. Monday, March 11 while NCDPI performs system maintenance.

Transcript requests may still be initiated but will remain in a "Requested" status until maintenance is complete.

- NCEdCloud IAM
 - Any changes that occur in PowerSchool as of Friday, March 8, 2019, will not be processed in the NCEdCloud IAM Service until all PowerSchool instances are back online and synced to the PowerSchool ODS.
- Unified Talent/NCEES
 - The TNL Person Import file that provisions staff into NCEES will not be processed on the evening of Friday, March 8. That file will be processed after maintenance weekend on Monday, Mar. 11. The TNL Person Import file will return to its regular NCDPI nightly processing schedule on the evening of March 11, pending the ODS is fully in-sync.
 - The Unified Talent/NCEES system will remain available for access to professional development and evaluations.
- Other local 3rd Party connections and data transfers
 - MealsPlus
 - SchoolMessenger
 - Blackboard
 - Others

Change in IP Address

The IP associated with the PowerSchool instances will change when they are migrated to Azure. A list of new IP addresses will be provided early next week for you to update the LDAP and SFTP settings.

How to Be Prepared for Monday

For standard operational purposes, we strongly encourage district and school administrators to save or print hard copies of the following to have on hand Monday:

- Transcripts
- Student schedules
- Emergency contact information
- Allergies/Medical logs
- Transportation records
- Attendance Rosters

Once the migration is complete and PowerSchool has been returned to service, users will be notified immediately. We ask for your patience and understanding throughout the migration process which will require additional downtime as opposed to our normal maintenance weekends. Please inform others within your district and schools so that they may prepare accordingly. We will provide more details, including areas that may experience impact, in the coming days.

New Grade Levels for Next Year

New grade levels for the next school year should not be added in PowerSchool until the EDDIE feed has been suspended for EOY processing preparation. EDDIE, the authoritative source for school information, does not have the capacity to flag changes as future and thus, must be kept in sync with each current school's status. The EDDIE feed into PowerSchool is usually suspended within the month of April. Prior to suspension, a communication will be sent alerting users when this will take place. Before returning the EDDIE feed to service (after EOY) changes made in PowerSchool will also need to be made in EDDIE to prevent an overwrite of changes in PowerSchool.



New MFEL Identification in PowerSchool

NCDPI ESL/Title III is pleased to announce enhanced functionality regarding identification of MFELs in the PowerSchool environments.

For Current EL status students, a purple EL icon/symbol exists and in the past when these students exited EL status, the purple EL icon/symbol disappeared. Now, when a student exits EL status, a new purple icon/symbol is created and will follow the student for the four years of their MFEL status. The enhanced icon/symbol will have either **M1**, **M2**, **M3**, or **M4** to coincide with the subsequent required monitoring year of the student's MFEL status. This should be seen in PowerSchool sometime in the next few days. If you don't see it for your MFEL students by March 5, please contact either [Marshall Foster](#) or [Susan Walz](#) at that time.

CCES Keynote Speaker Announced

Colin O'Brady - Overcoming Obstacles, Unlocking Potential, Dreaming Big, Setting Goals, and Never Giving Up

Colin O'Brady is a professional endurance athlete who has achieved four world records. He grew up exploring the mountains of the Pacific Northwest and cultivated a passion for adventure in the outdoors. His success, swimming in Oregon, led him to Yale University. After years as a professional triathlete, he returned to his first love - the mountains.



- In 2016 Colin conquered the speed records for the Explorers Grand Slam and Seven Summits, a global mountaineering challenge to climb the tallest mountain on every continent including Mt. Everest and ski to the North and South Poles.
- In 2018 Colin shattered the speed record for the 50 High Points Challenge when he summited the highest point in each of the 50 states in just 21 days.
- On December 26, 2018, he became the first person to cross the landmass of Antarctica solo, unaided by kites or resupplies. He accomplished the feat in 54 days, covering more than 930 miles

along the way, including more than 77 miles in the final 32-hour window where he went without sleep. Throughout the nearly two-month journey, O'Brady never took a full day off.

Colin uses his athletic pursuits to fuel his charitable work. His non-profit, Beyond 7/2, works to inspire others to lead active, healthy lives and pursue their biggest dreams. As one of America's most experienced endurance athletes and a savvy entrepreneur, O'Brady embodies what it means to overcome obstacles, unlock potential, dream big, set goals, and never give up. Featured on 60 Minutes, HBO Real Sports, Good Morning America, New York Times, CBS Sunday Morning, PBS, CNN, Business Insider, The Washington Post, Huffington Post, Men's Journal, Outside Magazine, People.com, and TODAY among many other national media outlets, Colin is a sought after public speaker with a reputation that inspires.

Interested in Attending? Conference slots are still available.
Register [here](#). Questions???? Email us at cces@dpi.nc.gov



PowerSchool Coordinators Monthly Update

The next PowerSchool Coordinators Monthly Update will be held Thursday, March 7 from 3-4 p.m. Please register at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7003116505364241923>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information on how to join the webinar.

ECATS Newsletter

Stay informed of the latest ECATS happenings! See the Feb. 2019 Edition:

- [ECATS Newsletter 2019-02.pdf](#)



FREE
Webinars



NCEES Training Webinars!

Please click here to review the full list: [http://bit.ly/18-19NCEES Webinar Series](http://bit.ly/18-19NCEES_Webinar_Series)

Evaluators of Principals! Don't miss out on this 4-part [Webinar Series](#) exploring the Principal evaluation process and rubric. To view Part 1 and Part 2, click on the titles below:

- **Part 1: "[Understanding the Foundation of the Standards and the Evaluation Process for Principals](#)"**
- **Part 2: "[School Executive Standards 1-3](#)"**

Register now for these upcoming sessions:

- **Part 3: [School Executive Standards 4-7](#) Tuesday, March 5, 2019**
- **Part 4: [Feedback Conversations](#) Tuesday, March 26, 2019**

Principals, did you miss "[Addressing Misconceptions Using the NC Evaluation Process for Teachers](#)"? Click the title to view this very informative session presented by Kimberly Simmons, NCDPI Educator.

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