

The following is a transcript for the webinar **READY III: Home Base Power School Demonstrations and What's Coming This Fall**. It aired April 18, 2013:

JUNE ATKINSON: Good afternoon I am June Atkinson, the State Superintendent and welcome to our Home Base webinar today. We've been saying for some time that Home Base is coming and now it is nearly here. And as you will see today in Dr. Angela Quick's presentation and the demonstrations, the first major deliverables in Home Base will be in place for you in July and the self-paced early training opportunities are already available. There really is no project in my career that has brought me more satisfaction or excitement than Home Base. Finally, we will be able to provide teachers with technology tools that will support teaching and learning, data collection, assessment for students, professional development and collaboration with parents. Now I know having talked with many teachers in the state (and) that you will have questions and you are eager to see what Home Base will do for you, but one thing I want to make sure (everyone knows), there are portions of Home Base that are required for all of us to use. For example, PowerSchool is a replacement for NC WISE and there are other portions that your district will decide to use and they are optional, and we hope you will be so pleased with these optional components that you will decide that you want to use them. This webinar is designed to bring everyone up to speed, not to give deep details or a tutorial, and we want it to be useful for you. And in your mailboxes over the next two weeks in your snail mail mailboxes (at school) you will find a postcard inviting you to learn more about Home Base. Please take a look at it and dig right in and now Dr. Angela Quick will give us an overview about Home Base.

CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER DR. ANGELA QUICK: Good afternoon all and thank you Dr. Atkinson for introducing our webinar. We are very excited to talk with you about what we think is a terrific project in North Carolina that is created for and will be used by mainly teachers and so in order to get us started I think the first thing we want to talk about is ask the question why. So why is North

Carolina actually doing this work? Why are we creating integrated technology systems entitled Home Base? And it goes back to our core beliefs and core mission around our READY, remodeling program. First, we know that everything we do is tied back with students, making students or helping student achieve on anything that they choose to do so making sure that students have options and providing students with learning opportunities to increase their engagement and increase their work in schools and the second aspect is then our teachers. In order to take care of our students we also need to take care of teachers and make sure that teachers have the right tools and the right toolbox in which to do what we are asking them to do and so it is with that in mind that Home Base came into existence. Currently right now an average classroom teacher — and I taught biology for many years, and I remember that you would spend hours sometimes looking for instructional resources or you would spend lots of minutes filling out forms of student information, etc. — and so what Home Base is trying to do and what we will accomplish is take all of these different systems that we typically use, different resources that we typically use in a day's worth of work and enable the system to work for the teacher rather than the teacher having to sort and look for tools for learning. So we are calling Home Base the actual tools for teaching and learning and if you think of it as a toolbox that really does give you symbolism in what we are trying to accomplish.

So what is it? We definitely know that Home Base is our toolbox for online teaching and learning and what I am excited about personally is that all of these systems that build Home Base will be available through one portal and (you'll) be able to have one password rather than remembering passwords for numerous sites, numerous software systems, that are existing currently today. And so with that moving into what really it is, we will say that Home Base is actually two key parts. One, informational and this is where we are very familiar with the student information system currently in North Carolina, which is NC WISE and then the second part of Home Base will be instructional and it is in this integrated system where the informational system speaks and integrates with the instructional system and provide tools that

are aligned to our standard course of study in North Carolina — common core mathematics, English language arts and then our essential standards. But (I'm) just going to jump in a little bit deeper and talk about the informational part of Home Base, PowerSchool. Dr. Atkinson mentioned (it) will replace NC WISE and you should be hearing about that in your LEAs currently; training is underway and has been underway and most of you probably are familiar with an online resource called PowerSource, which is a terrific resource in learning at your own pace about the nuances between PowerSchool and what we eventually will have as a Home Base system.

So in the information area, notice that on the slide you will see that some of the things that are familiar to your daily work — Home Base will be used for attendance, scheduling, grading, transcripts. Note that there will be parent and student portals integrated into the system and all of that information will then be shared over to the second part of our system, which is our instructional system. And what's really neat about that is that the information entered in NC WISE, or in the informational side, will automatically populate to the instructional side so you can do instructional design and practices, assign and differentiate homework assignments or learning opportunities for students. And then in the assessment portion, that same information that was in the NC WISE would help with learner profiles around three tiers, our three tiers — formative, benchmark and summative assessment system — the data analysis and reporting having integrated dashboard and then educator effectiveness. Teachers will be able to look and actually get help and recommendations on what kind of professional and development would be beneficial to them and moving forward, student achievement based on actual student achievement data.

So a couple of scenarios, or actually two scenarios that I would like to point out on the slide is that if you think about a teacher being able to search for lesson plans, create classroom assessments, crunch data, change instruction and then communicate back to parents, if you just count those four different activities, search, create, crunch data and then communicate, those four different activities right now in most school

systems are within four separate systems, and what we are attempting to do is to make sure that those four individual systems integrate so that you can toggle between the different parts of it but not necessarily have to have a new password and remember a new password for each of those four systems. And the same similar situation with principals and all of this will be available in the Home Base system.

So with the information side we are giving you the basic functions or major functions, but I do want to point out that within student information, (there's) lots of conversations around data security and in privacy of data. I do want to point out that the student information is not something that will be readily accessible to any school employee, that we do have federal laws that make sure that all of student information, all student data, will have to be kept secure and so the student information and learner profile aspect of Home Base will be based on roles of the educator so it is very important to know that. And then NC WISE, currently moving to PowerSchool, will also have portals for parents to access, very similar to parents portals and commercial products now (available) in the state where they can check attendance and grades and also be able to gain student information on their students.

So the second part to the instructional aspect, I want to point out on the bottom part of the slide, the highlights — this is super important for us — the instructional design practice and resources, especially since North Carolina has not had an overwhelming amount of funds to develop and purchase professional development in content, we all know that the budget has been tight over the past three years and, so with this we are building a repository of shared content that North Carolina teachers have created lesson plans or other artifacts that can actually be shared with other North Carolina educators. And then there are tools within the system that teachers will then be able to (use to) provide feedback on the quality of the resource and through typical crowd sourcing techniques within software, we will be able to see which actual resources are widely accepted and which resources are resources that teachers recommend working with certain populations of students. So it is very important to think about the red toolbox (shown on the

slide) in that that we will not only be able to share information within regions but across the state. (For example,) hopefully a chemistry teacher in the western part of the state may have a lesson plan or a video segment that they would like to share with a chemistry teacher in another part of the state and this system will help with that. Also the collaboration tools that I mentioned about sharing and communicating information, I do not want us to underestimate the power of that. North Carolina is still very much a rural state and in some instances there is one high school or very few schools within a certain local education agency or district and so being able to communicate with other schools and share resources with other schools throughout the system will help in the design and instructional practice and also provide a collegial environment that may exist outside the LEA.

The assessment piece of Home Base is really being created to help build out the idea of our three-tiered assessment system that we have been talking about for the past four years. It will have a rich bank of classroom performance and assessment items, benchmark assessment items, and then eventually we will deploy our state End-of-Course and the End-of-Grade tests through this particular portal and then the goal is to not only have all of the classroom data from the assessment system in the data dashboard or in the analysis system reporting section, but we will also have the benchmark information and state test information all integrated so that the teacher would not have to go to four or five different areas to locate all the data on the student, which will then create a learner profile for a student. So saving teachers time and saving teachers very much I guess the remembering of all of the locations of where things are, the stress of that can be daunting at times. And then the whole goal is for it to be easy access again, having one entrance portal with secure information based on what you do and teach and what your role is in the school.

And then the final part of the system, the educator effectiveness portal or educative effectiveness work, will definitely house our North Carolina educator evaluation system. We are not creating a new

evaluation system; this is just the technology that will house the educator evaluation system. The current online tool known as the McRel tool will be moving away and we will be hosting the educator evaluation rubric in the new Home Base integrated system. And then the second part of the role out of this project would be based on teachers' students, the students of teachers in classrooms their academic achievement, that teachers may be able to check and determine what kind of professional development would be best for those teachers based on how students perform. So, if there is a particular area of the Standard Course of Study that has been linked back to a particular topic then that may give the teacher information that that is something that they would want to choose for professional and development instead of just choosing big topic ideas like classroom management, etc. So it should be able to recommend and give highlights to teachers on what kind of professional development would be beneficial to the teacher for professional growth but also for the student and improving student achievement.

I do want to make you aware of some of the vendor names and the parts that comprise the Home Base system. We have talked a lot about PowerSchool and NC WISE so out in the field NC WISE will be going away and replaced with a better, more intuitive software package called PowerSchool and that should not be a shock to you at this point, and hopefully you can actually see if you have been in PowerSource or played around in some of the training, how it offers much more functionality than our current NC WISE system does.

And then the second part, the core part of the instructional improvement system, there are three titles that you are probably hearing about. One is Schoolnet, which is the instructional tools and assessment section, OpenClass, which is a collaborative suite of tools that I mentioned earlier where you can communicate, email, post documents, etc. for collaborative work, and then Test Nav will be where we have our assessment work and eventually where simulative assessment will be deployed through.

And then the final vendor product that you are probably hearing about is Truenorthlogic, and this is the vendor for the educator effectiveness area of Home Base. This is where the educator evaluation (is) and also this will be where they professional development content, videos and other content related to teachers improving their practice will be found.

So again the products that we are integrating to Home Base, I wanted to kind of go through a couple of things of what is required and what is not and then also timing of some of these. So, one of the first things that we have mentioned was PowerSchool, and again, you should be familiar with that, that is our student information system where we do attendance, grades, demographic information on students, and that is required for LEAs to use. It is our authoritative source for data.

And then the second component is the core instructional improvement system. This is Schoolnet and OpenClass and that coupled with PowerSchool will help reduce duplicative key entry of background demographic data of students, and then we also wanted to point out that in our instructional improvement system we will have content that either we have gained from working with LEAs across the state. I think we have about thirty-five (35) LEAs in the Resource Consortium, and each LEA in our North Carolina Resource Consortium is donating content to be shared across the state within the system so we have some content that has been offered to share, we have content that we have created here in the agency, all of our Summer Institute work, all of our online modules, etc. and we also have some content that we are purchasing that will be bound into the system. So a very, very robust system being able to search for content related specific to Standard Course of Study, specific standards and activities that you would want to do with your students.

And then a second required piece is the Test Nav module and that is where we will deploy our state assessments. We are moving to online assessment as most schools have already embraced and are under

way, but we want these to be fully capable of online assessment by 2014-2015 and then 2015-2016, and then the other required piece is the educator evaluation aspect of the Truthnorthlogic module.

All of this is possible based on our NC Cloud team, that is where the identity, user roles of who you are and what you have access to in the system is being leveraged. And so this entire work is being bolstered by the NC Cloud work and again having one portal, one ID, one password moving into the system with all of these components.

I do want to say that the required components and I really want to state this — there is lots of misinformation in the state — the required functionalities of Home Base, the items that you see on the screen now with an "R," the student information system, the Test Nav for summative assessment and the Truthnorthlogic, the educator evaluation aspect of the system, will be free moving forward. The items that we are working with other LEAs to bring in to collaborate and to share and content within the system that we are purchasing from vendors that may have lots of individual contracts out in the LEA or out in the Local Education Agency and districts, we are doing a cost-sharing model so that rather than 115 LEAs having independent licensing for instructional content, we at the state level may be able to enter into a state contract and save funding. So the core instructional improvement system and the content and then the auxiliary professional development are not required and we do believe that these optional tools will be so impressive that districts will be so excited to move forward and purchase and work with us on the core part of the instructional improvement system.

But again, districts will have access for the entire 2013-2014 to use all of the Home Base products for free so that you can test your toes in the water, so to speak, at your own speed and figure out which components make sense to you.

As we move forward with the design and the deployment of Home Base again, 2013-2014, districts will have opportunities to play and test the Home Base system without charge, free of cost for 2013-2014. We will be moving Home Base into the state in a very phased-in process beginning 2013-2014 year, and we are truly looking at 2013-2014 as a kick-off year because we know that different LEAs have different capacities because some have had benchmark systems or learner management systems in the past, and so different LEAs, different districts will be at different points of readiness along the way, and we know that it is going to take some time for districts to learn and apply all of the resources in Home Base in their daily work.

So during 2013-2014, again, districts will be able to use the content at their own discretion and then after 2013-2014, around March of 2014, we will then be taking kind of a survey or documentation for those districts that are interested in participating in the entire integrated system, all six aspects of it. We will move forward with a cost-sharing model so that every LEA in the state will have access to high-quality, aligned tools and assessments at four dollars per student.

So in summary, the biggest piece of the presentation, remember the required tools will always be free of charge and it is only the tools that we are sharing across the LEAs, we create on our own and we also purchase, that will be four dollars per student moving forward in the Home Base in 2014-2015. But again, 2013-2014 is no risk and we are excited. We totally think that teachers will be so enthralled by the Home Base system that we will have all LEAs and a bunch of charter schools that want to participate come 2014-2015.

In providing you information around why we are moving, why are we doing it in this particular cost-sharing way, I think the most important aspect to this is that Home Base should be able to save teachers time but it also will save districts money. If you think about all of the different instructional tools LEAs

have operational in their districts currently and that every district has separate licensing agreements for that, if we aggregate all of the need into one place and then move forward with a cost-sharing model we should be able to save districts money. And then having the integrated system at the state level should also save space, time for hardware and also move forward with creating an integrated system, again with a vision of one sign-in, one portal.

So in closing we would like to go through the timeline quickly. July and August of 2013 you can see the components that will be available in July, so these are the aspects that are coming onboard. The second phase of professional tools will come in October 2013, collaborative suites, our Truenorthlogic, our educator evaluation and our content will be in the system, and then in March of 2014 we will add the professional development content. And in 2014 we will be deploying the Test Nav, the summative assessment or our End-of-Course, End-of -Grade assessments via online. And so this slide just shows the complete rollout section and a couple of things just to note, training and support, we mentioned the PowerSchool training that is currently under way, and I do want to put a plug in for what I mentioned earlier, PowerSource. No more do you have to wait for the face-to-face training, you can go online and start learning at your own pace or wherever you are with these products, and so please take note of the URL that we have listed there: <https://powersource.pearsonschools.com/home/main.action>.

And then the final batch of training around educator effectiveness will begin or will happen between June 20 and July 3. We will have technical webinars and then move forward with professional development tool training in February 2014.

So with that we are excited to show you a demonstration. Dan Gwaltney, who is working with Learning Systems here at the department, and Wendy Hinson also will be presenting you with a demo of some of the functionality of Home Base.

Home Bases Instructional Improvement System Overview and Demonstration

DAN GWALTNEY: Welcome. My name is Dan Gwaltney with Learning Systems and we are going to update you today on the instructional improvement portion of Home Base. To recall, Home Base is combination of the student information system and instructional improvement system, all being combined in one single technology platform that will allow for a single sign-on access.

Once you log in into Home Base you log in and see the landing page for whichever role is assigned to you on PowerSchool side. So I am currently logged in as a teacher and so what I am looking at is the portal for PowerTeacher. This is where as a teacher I come in and I do my attendance, I can take attendance over multiple days, I can schedule seating charts, administer meal counts, access student information and run reports. With one click I am going to tunnel directly into the instructional improvement side and from this screen I am seeing the classroom and the courses in which I have been scheduled to teach, I can run reports from here, I can access my visual lesson planner, I can do a materials search and build or schedule assessments. I also see the instruction that I have scheduled myself to teach that day or any assessments that I may have scheduled to be administered that day so I do not have to dive into the planner to look at it; it is going to present itself right here.

As I scroll further down, I will see associated resource links, these may be resources that are linked within Home Base but are not directly integrated, maybe like EVAAS or mCLASS until we can find how those can be integrated into the system or the NCDPI Wikispaces and websites for one click access. I can also see any announcements that have been made and any updated news about the development on the site.

I see my classroom assessment monitor which presents classroom performance data on the various different assessment types via the district benchmark, classroom tests or standardized tests like the EOC

or EOG. When I look at this information I can visually see just how my students are performing based on certain proficiency criteria. I can see who is advanced, who is proficient, who is performing at a basic level and even those that are performing below basic level so I can really see who may need additional support. These are dynamic fields so if I click on each of these areas the data is going to change and so I can see who needs support in various different subjects based on these scores.

I can run standard mastery reports that I can choose to select certain standards across multiple different assessment types to really get a breakdown of how well students are performing on a specific set of skills or toward a specific set of standards. When I click on the student's name here in blue — anything in blue in the system is active and I can do more with it — I am taken to a more detailed learner profile. A learner profile is pulling over the same demographic information that's on the PowerSchool side and the same scheduling and grading information that resides within the PowerSchool gradebook.

I can look at disciplinary incidents; I can look at program areas, maybe ECAIGLEP504 type of information from here. I can see what their current academic record, what courses they are currently enrolled in and any historical grades from the year, and I can also look at academic performance and really see not only what the last test was but also do a detailed item analysis for that student, see their proficiency score and what proficiency group they are in.

But when I look down here, the year-to-date weaknesses, this is the aggregated performance information identifying what standards a student has performed very strongly in and which standards students may need additional support with. When I do that I am really able to target instruction specific to that student or that group of students' needs. So I can click on any of these standards, and I am going to be presented with a standard summary page; and, so this the set of all the standards that are associated with the standard that the student is performing poorly in and it provides me with a list or a number of resources

specific, either standards or objectives. So I can look at curricular resources, instructional units, lesson plans, assessments and other instructional resources.

And I can look here, since this is a demo site not everything has a resource, but I can see here that I have two lesson plans associated with this standard so I can click on it, and I can view those lesson plans and I can schedule them to be taught to the whole class or if I have created a student group, I can really target specific resources to a set of students to meet their needs and target different resources to other students if appropriate.

When I click on a lesson it is going to take me and show us a template. I can recommend this resource, I can save it to my materials if it is something that I use and know is high quality, I can copy this lesson plan, make some additions and then make it my own. I can view related materials, maybe I want to find a different resource along the same standards of targeting the same skills. I can create a PDF and print this document off if I need to leave it for a substitute, or I can schedule that to a lesson plan.

And if you look this is what the template that is embedded in the system currently has. We are going to be able to customize this lesson plan to better match the needs of North Carolina and better have representation of our formative assessment processes as well as the rigors of the Common Core and Essential Standards.

But the important thing here is you see related resources and linked materials, maybe this is the worksheet associated with it, that I can then assign to a student and they complete on their own through their own Schoolnet portal. And I see the standards in which that resource is aligned to so once I scheduled it the system can keep track that I scheduled this standard to be instructed on and then can run the standards mastery report to see the effectiveness of the instruction compared to assessment.

I am going to go back and show you how not only can I find lessons like the one I just looked at through the material searches, but I can also schedule these lessons onto my visual planner and so from this planner I see exactly what I have scheduled myself to teach. And I can do searches for the prebuilt lessons and the resources that are included in the content repositories to schedule onto this, but I can also build my own resources and schedule them onto this planner that is dynamic and I can move around and copy so I do not have to do multiple searches; or, if a fire drill happens on one day and I end up moving that lesson to another day, I am able to keep better track of that.

When I build my own lesson, I am going to have to title it and I am going to have to select subject and grade levels. And this is going to be helpful when I go to aligned standards because the system works best when you align specific standards to your resources and what it is going to show me, it is going to present itself to 9th-grade English standards since that is what I indicated the focus of my lesson was. But, if I have a combined class, I have multiple grade levels in a class, I can select multiple grade levels for the standards. I can also select different subject areas if I am building an interdisciplinary unit and align them as necessary. I can then go in and fill out the template that the state will be populating.

We have a number of different stakeholder groups and user groups that have looked at what these fields should be for the statewide template for lesson plans. If you find, however, that is not effective for your districts, you can always upload premade lesson plans in the template that you choose to use directly here and it is just like attaching an email file. I can also attach a URL link here, maybe I am using a resource in PDFs and the lesson plan is right there and I think it's great. I don't want to have to type in all the fields of the lesson plan, I can just link directly to it, and the only things that I need to do is give it a title and align it to standards.

When I am done, I will view the resource and I will see that what I have created looks exactly like what

the resource is that I searched for earlier in the system looked like. I didn't fill out all the fields so you don't have everything but you have the abilities of embedding video, embedding images, embedding HP mail and really having a lot of flexibility within the template so that you can create as dynamic a lesson as you feel is appropriate.

I can then schedule my lesson plan to be taught but to show the integration between assessment and instruction, I can build an express test and what this is going to do is it is going to identify the same standards that were on my standards alignment, and it is going to show me a set of items that we have for each standard. Now again, this is a demo environment so there are not resources for every standard, but you get the idea that this is something that I am just going to quickly do, not a high stakes assessment. I just want to measure the effectiveness of my instruction so I can get a clear picture of how my students are performing and understanding the content that I taught that day.

From here I can view the assessments, I can edit the text, I can edit the items, the answer choices, I can add answer choices, I can turn the question into a constructed response, I can add items if I wish, I can remove items completely if it is not aligned with what exactly I want it to measure. I can download the tests in a Word or PDF form and download pre-coded answer sheets that I can scan into the system if I do not have the capabilities of administering the assessment online, and I can preview that test and what it looks like online, which also represents how the benchmarking tool, the district benchmarking tool will work.

Now once I have administered that test I can schedule it, and scheduling it allows me to open up a testing window so maybe I only teach a student once a week or they are on an A/B schedule, I can create that testing window and it will default a week. I can verify that or I can shorten it, when the score is due; it gives me an opportunity to grade any constructed response items or keep the window and test available if

there are students that need to make it up. I can choose to prevent the students from accessing the test results until the end of the test date, but most importantly teachers can click on one button and share those test results with the PowerTeacher gradebook, meaning a teacher does not have to go in and manually enter the grades in the PowerTeacher gradebook on these assessments, it will do it automatically if it is an objective multiple-choice-type assessment. If it is a blended type of assessment where there is multiple choice and constructed responses then the multiple choices will be scored and you will go in later and score the constructed response and then the scores will populate to the gradebook. But the key here is that teachers can focus less on that administrative data entry and focus ore on seeing how to improve student performance.

It can open these windows in a secure browser or just open it in the system depending upon the level of stakes associated with the assessment, I can import test time, I can put a time on it, I can scramble the questions, scramble the answer choices and only assign it to particular groups of students. So if I build student groups and I am targeting, everybody is going to take the same assessment but I want to give a couple of additional assessment items to some students, maybe to see if my remediations have worked, I can assign that test to that set of students. And then they will take the test and once it is done I will then be able to view the academic information right here on my dashboard and again see what students need additional support and in what areas.

That is a real brief overview of the basic functionality of the instructional and assessment portions of Home Base. We have monthly webinars that you can sign up for to get even more information about Home Base. Feel free to visit our website — <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/homebase> — and we look forward to making and helping Home Base become a success in your district.

Home Base Student Information System Overview and Demonstration

WENDY HINSON: My name is Wendy Hinson and I am with the DPI training team for the Home Base student information system project. The student information system for Home Base is PowerSchool, and today we will take a look at the PowerTeacher and the parent portal.

When we first log into PowerTeacher we land on our current class's page; this is our start screen. In PowerTeacher you'll notice we have the PowerTeacher logo in the upper left-hand corner, and we can use this to return back to this screen anytime we are in PowerTeacher on another screen. I would also like to point out in the upper right hand corner we do have help, and the help is specific to the individual pages that you happen to be on at the time. Along the left-hand side of the screen you will see navigation. You can see that we are already on our start page.

If we move down the navigation you will see that we have a daily bulletin; if we click on the daily bulletin we will be able to see items that the office has entered into the daily bulletin for teachers to be able to see. If we move down to the staff directory, we can get additional information about other staff members at our school such as email addresses and phone numbers. If we move down to personalize, this screen allows us to personalize our PowerTeacher experience. We can change our password, and we can change a few other settings to make this specific instance individual to us.

We will launch the gradebook in just a few moments. There is also a reports area where teachers can click to go print some reports for their classes, and there are also recommendations where they can click on to see any recommendations that they have entered for their students. If we take a look in the center of the screen under our current classes, you can see that we do have currently three classes listed. If we move over, we have three areas where we can take attendance. We can take single-day attendance with a single chair, in the center we can do multi-day attendance, and with the chair and the grid we can do attendance

based on a class layout.

If we move over to the knife and fork, this area allows us to enter in any breakfast and/or lunch counts that may be needed by our cafeteria if you are utilizing that functionality. If we click on the backpack that will take us to student demographic data for students within that particular class, and we will look at that in just moment. And we also have a printer and the printer will allow the teacher to print reports specific for that class.

If we come back and click the backpack, we can see that we have the student names listed down the left-hand side of the screen; these are the students that are in this particular class. If I would like to see information on anyone of the students, I can click the student's name and their information will be displayed. I am looking currently at the student's schedule. but I can very easily change screens using the drop-down selection on the right-hand side of the screen, and I can move throughout various screens of information for my individual students.

I click PowerTeacher it takes me back to the start screen. Let's launch the gradebook. Once the PowerTeacher grade book has launched, there are several areas of information that we can see. If we look along the left-hand side of the screen, we can see our current classes; we can also change and see just Semester One or just Semester Two classes under the classes area. If we move down we can see our student groups, we can see active students, any students that have dropped from our class or any special groups that we have set up, and we can add student groups and we can add students to our individual student groups.

Moving down we have categories. Categories can be set up individually by teacher, and they can set up the categories that are specific to that individual class. Categories are used when they are entering in

assignment information.

On the score sheet tab we can see that we have our students' information listed, we can see what the assignments are, notice we have a quarter listed and we can go between the various reporting terms. We can see the assignments that have been added for the individual reporting terms as well as the grades that have been added for those assignments. If we click on the assignments tab, again we can see the assignments that have been entered or we can enter in a new assignment by clicking the plus. When we click the plus, the new assignments have opened; we must give our assignment a name, an abbreviation and we will enter it into a category. We also specify whether we are using points, percentages or letter grades. If we are using points, how many are possible and extra points with a maximum. We have the due date and the weight. We also have an indicator to include this in the final grade and under the description we would enter the descriptions of the assignment here.

We can also enter in links to web resources that would be helpful for the student in preparation for the test, and the students and the parents both would be able to see any of the URLs or the links that were entered as well as the description of the assignment when they log into either the student or the parent portal.

We are going to click on publish. We can tell when to publish this assignment and when we go to standards, if there are any standards that are aligned with this particular assignment, we can put a checkmark next to those. And then when we click "save," we have now entered that new assignment; there is it, if we can go back to the score sheet we can see it. If we click on the student info tab, we can see some student basic demographic information such as their name, a preferred name if it has been entered in, their student number, as well birthdate, gender, grade levels, phone numbers, etc.

We can go to grade setup and we can see the reporting terms, when they start and end, we can also look at calculations within the reporting terms that is at the bottom of the screen. If we go to class content, we can enter in a description of the class as well as entering in additional links for resources out on the web. Again, this information would be viewable by both the parents and the students when they logged into their specific portals, and on the reports tab we have access to several reports for our classes that we can print.

If you will notice over on the right we do have a chair that says attendance, if we have not done our attendance for our class or need to do attendance for another class we would click on our class and we could click on the attendance icon, and it would take us back to where we could enter the attendance. If we look at the notifications we can take a look and see what type of notifications are there for us so we could see birthdays, we would be able to see if any students have been added or dropped, and then we could also see where it says log-in, we would be able to tell if any PowerTeacher administrators had logged in and taken a look at our gradebook. Please be aware that anyone that logs in as a PowerTeacher administrator has access to view your gradebook but they cannot change anything within your gradebook.

So that is a brief overview of the PowerTeacher and the PowerTeacher gradebook. Let's go take a look at the parent portal.

Parent Portal

When we first log into the parent portal, the first thing that we see are a student's grades and attendance. Parents can see very easily two weeks' worth of attendance, and they can also see their student's classes as well as their grades for each reporting term and each class. They can also see absence and tardy information for each class as well as totaled information, and their students simple GPA is reported on this screen as well. Any of the information that is displayed in blue, such as a teacher's name or the

grades or attendance figures are all hyperlinked that we can drill down into to get additional information. As a parent, if I wanted to see the assignments for the Semester One open study, I could click that and displayed for me will be the class details, any teacher comments and a description if one has been entered as well as any assignments that have been entered, their due dates, categories, the assignment itself and the score.

If I click PowerTeacher it does take me back to the main start screen. If you will notice, parents also have help available to them and it is page specific. If we click on the standards tab on our main start screen, if we had any standards that were associated with any classes and assignments in this training database, that information would be displayed here for parents.

Parents can move down the navigation menu on the left-hand side of the screen. and they can click on grade history to get a view of all of their student's grades for the current year and they are broken down by reporting term. They can move down and go to attendance history and they have a year's worth of attendance, so the entire current year would be displayed for them. If we move down to the email notifications, parents can request to receive certain types of information by email simply by checking and unchecking the appropriate boxes. They can also specify how often they would like to receive the emails and they enter in their email address. This screen is not available in the student portal to students, but the rest of the screens within the portal for the parents are the same screens that are available for the students.

If we clicked on school bulletin, we would be able to see any information that had been entered in by the office for parents and students such as parent/teacher conferences were coming up or there was a parent/teacher association meeting and so forth. If we click on class registration, this is an area that can be turned on and off as appropriate by the school so when the school was working on registration for the next school year, they can turn this area on, and the student and their parent can select the classes that

they would like for the next year. Please remember that this information is not automatically assigned to the student when they submit it; someone such as a counselor at the school does have to review the information and the classes that have been selected and approve that information.

If we click on the balance, then if your school is utilizing fees, the parent or the student would be able to keep up with any of the fee transactions for their student.

If the parent needs school information they can click school information and it gives them the name, address and phone number of their school.

If they click my calendars, this is an area that will allow the parents to subscribe to homework calendars or school calendar events. This area is not anything that is required for parents to do because they can receive all of this information simply by looking at the grades and attendance and the school bulletins, but if they would like to subscribe to class assignments for individual classes or class assignments with scores and final grades, they are able to do so. Again, if I click PowerSchool in the upper left it does take me back to the main start screen.

Parents also have a notifications icon so they can see any notifications that were to pop up, and they can print reports as well so they can print the page and they can do that for any of the pages they can click to print the page. And that is a brief overview of our parent portal for PowerSchool. Thank you.

WENDY HINSON: This is Wendy Hinson with the training team and we also have a demonstration of the PowerSchool Administrator that we did not have time to show you today but it will be posted out on the website and available for you to take a look at. I do not know exactly where it will be but it will be out there for you to find.

Questions

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Okay, thank you very much everyone and we are now going to go to our question-and-answer portion. As we get ready to receive those questions from you guys out in the field, just a reminder that this webinar is being recorded and will be posted eventually so that you can show it again to maybe some of your folks that did not get to see it today. Okay, here we go.

(MICHAEL READS INCOMING QUESTIONS LIVE DURING THE WEBINAR:)

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Understanding that there are two parts to the training on June 25th, 26th and 27th, educator evaluation and instructional tools, if we are a mid-sized this system, allotted seven slots, are we allowed to send seven to the training and seven to the instruction piece?

CYNTHIA CROWDUS: Okay, hi, this is Cynthia Crowdus, I am the IIS project coordinator, and the answer to that is that you have seven slots or seats rather in each of those sessions so you would be able to send seven people to the EE training as well as seven people to the instructional training. If however you want to send the same person to both trainings that would be doable as well, that would just be a decision that you make on your end. Think of it in terms of seats. you have seven seats in each of those sessions and you can distribute your folks however suits your needs for those training sessions.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Okay. "Will students and parents be able to access their transcripts through the student/parent portals?"

WENDY HINSON: This is Wendy Hinson again and no, currently the transcript is not available within the student or the parent portals, but it is in PowerSchool so of course they can request a copy of a transcript and get that; but no it is not available within the parent or student portal.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Has a specific LMS been identified?

DAN GWALTNEY: This is Dan Gwaltney. The LMS component of Home Base is the OpenClass product, particularly targeted for collaboration and submission of work, should that be something that is utilized.

DR. ANGELA QUICK: And this is Angela. I would like to say that it is the full integration of all of the

bits and parts of the system that will give you the LMS functionality. So it is important to note that teasing out just what is the LMS is something that is not feasible. It is the full functionality between the student information system, the collaborative tools within OpenClass, Test Nav and Schoolnet and educator effectiveness that gives you the functionality that what we know now as an LMS.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Will NC Ed still exist or will there truly be one portal?

DR. ANGELA QUICK: Currently we are still in deliberations around that. The goal will be that Home Base will become our portal for all work, and we probably will have both existing until we have a full transition over to one Home Base integrated system.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Will EVAAS populate the data in Schoolnet or somewhere else in the system?

DAN GWALTNEY: EVAAS — the data that is going to populate the Schoolnet on the dashboard that you saw me demonstrate — that data is the classroom benchmark and summative assessment data associated with whatever type of assessments are delivered. We are looking at, however, incorporating EVAAS more fully and directly within the system, but that is not something that will be available July 1. It is something that you will be able to directly link to from the Home Base landing page.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Okay, there is a question about whether or not there is a cost estimate at this time for the project.

DR. ANGELA QUICK: Are you referring to— this is a question back to the participant — please let us know if you are talking about for the entire system or are you referring, I'm reading another question, "please clarify that the four dollars will be for the optional product and not four dollars for each optional product." So I would like to answer the second question about the optional product. The four dollars is for the optional portion of Home Base that we discussed today with the extra content. As Home Base exists in year three and four and five, depending upon what content we purchase to place into the system then we will look at this cost-sharing model again as far as cost is expected. But for now, everything we have presented today on the timeline for you in 2014-2015 will be four dollars per student.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: There is the request for an explanation of Truenorthlogic PD.

DR. ANGELA QUICK: Currently the educator evaluation portion of Home Base will have professional development specifically on content that is important for teachers and their learning. So very similar to being able to go onto a variety of websites to look for when professional development is being offered on classroom management and where that professional development is being offered, this system would have a repository of video, short snippets, interactivity, around the variety of class professional and development topics, more specifically around content in which teachers teach.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: We have several questions regarding our URL. We are going to have some more information after our Q-and-A section about some resources where you can visit. Our main Home Base page is, of course, <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/homebase> but we will be displaying some of the URL information in a minute.

DR. ANGELA QUICK: And I also see on the questions, this is Angela, the request about the last three slides. I was going very quickly, I had been given a time signal, so I apologize for that, but yes the slides will be available for all of you, and Michael will share the URL and just know that you can go back and use these and study these as your own leisure.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Will K-2 report cards be done through PowerSchool as well? Will these teachers be using grades/numerics?

WENDY HIINSON: The functionality within PowerSchool does allow for the teachers to do a standards-based report card, which is something we have not been able to do previously within the NC WISE system. So the K-2 teachers can do their report cards within the system, and they can do either a standards-based report card or they can do a regular, graded report card like is typical for the upper grades; so whichever they would choose to do they can do. I do not know that it is mandated at this point that they have to do the K-2 report cards out of PowerSchool; I think at least next year I think they can still do the handwritten ones if they would like, but they do have the capability now with PowerSchool to do those standards-based report cards directly from the system.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: We have a request to show the slide with the timeline as you can see it is now being displayed for anyone who had an interest in that.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Will mCLASS feed into Home Base?

DAN GWALTNEY: It is definitely on the roadmap that the mCLASS data will feed into Home Base; however, that is not going to be ready by July. It is however a top priority to make sure that those results and that data will be something that teachers can use within the Home Base instructional pieces. The answer kind of extends to the same response I gave about EVAAS — though that integration will not exist in July, you will be able to directly link out to that site and just login but at least be able to find that from the Home Base dashboard.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: There is a question about year-round schools, starting the teacher evaluation instrument in the first part of July, and will Truenorthlogic be ready for that?

DR. ANGELA QUICK: That is the plan as of now. You should have received for year-round schools training dates. Based on information I'm viewing currently, training for year-round schools is June 20 and 21 in Raleigh, and the goal is to have the teacher portion of the evaluation instrument ready in July.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Are the data from the gradebooks or the assessments from the tool?

DR. ANGELA QUICK: Both the data from the gradebook and from the assessments will be integrated into the data dashboard within the Home Base tools, so if I have not answered that question for you, please respond, type back in and I will try it again.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Will PEPs be written from Home Base?

DAN GWALTNEY: PEPs will not be written through Home Base; however, you can access much of the data that you would need in order to populate whatever form your district chooses to utilize for PEPs.

DR. ANGELA QUICK: And in the future if that is something that we as a state want to look at for consistency to have a template similar to the template we provide for PEPs currently, then certainly we could add that to the system if that is the direction in what teachers and LEAs want.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Does the system compile the benchmark and formative data or just the

formative data?

DR. ANGELA QUICK: It will compile both, both the formative classroom assessments and then also district or LEA specific benchmark assessments and then eventually even data from our state assessments.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Will K-2 assessments be added to the system, and will students' PEP information be a link on the system? I think we have answered that. Okay let's see...

DR. ANGELA QUICK: Talk about the IEP aspect on it.

DAN GWALTNEY: So one question is about what amount of information around a student's IEP will be available through Home Base and the specifics are still being ironed out but we are working on integrating the CECAS data bases with PowerSchool so that the disability and accommodations data would be presented through the programs tab on the instructional piece of Home Base so that teachers can see at least what the disability category is and appropriate accommodation information.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: If I take a lesson plan from the repository and make enhancements and make it my own can I share it with other teachers in my school and/or district?

DAN GWALTNEY: Yes that is one the great benefits of Home Base is you not only have a repository of already built, embedded lessons but you will also have a tremendous amount of other resources that you can use to take and copy a lesson and add some resources or take it away making sure that it matches the needs of your particular students or drawing on all of the content that is available in the system to build a lesson plan from scratch that you can share out with other folks in your school or up to your district, maybe your district uses teacher-created curriculum across the board or even all the way up to the state so that teachers across the state using Home Base can have access to that great resource that you created.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: When will the test bank for benchmark assessments be available for formative assessments?

DAN GWALTNEY: So we have a lot of items that are currently being uploaded into Home Base for district benchmark use but also classroom use and we have some ClassScape items, about 11,000 or so

ClassScape items that are being targeted for just those classroom formative uses and the balance of about 11,000 to 12,000 for district benchmark uses. We also have the NWEA item bank for social studies and science that very similarly can be used for both benchmarking purposes and also classroom formative uses. And then districts are also sharing some assessments that they have indicated they want to share as benchmarks and keep them secure or maybe they are creating additional items for classroom uses, it is really all across the board. And all those are slated to be available once Home Base goes live in July.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Does Home Base do progress monitoring?

DR. ANGELA QUICK: Progress monitoring can be, yeah, the answer to that is actually yes and no. Actual progress monitoring will be dependent upon what schools use for progress monitoring so if it is Reading 3D or some other particular tool as Dan mentioned earlier, we can integrate or perhaps have access to that data in the future, but initially we will not; and so that is something that we are looking at as a state, are most prolific and then we can place it on the roadmap for years to come.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Will PowerSchool house student discipline information?

WENDY HINSON: Yes there is an incident discipline module within PowerSchool that we will be utilizing to manage incident data, so that data will be there and be accessible by the people with the power administrator user roles — that would give them access to that area.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Is this compatible with mCLASS and when might that happen?

DR. ANGELA QUICK: We have already answered that (on the roadmap). That is progress monitoring. Well I think they are asking because on the demo site.

DAN GWALTNEY: Yes so on the site that we demonstrated, that was a demo site that was put together by the vendor and those links that were on the resource URLs are links to other Pearson products. If you are using something like Success Maker or AIMS you can work directly with the vendor to integrate that data within Home Base. That is however something that you will need to work individually at the district with the vendor in order to accomplish.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Will library systems like Destiny be able to link to Home Base?

We will have to get back to you on that one.

Again a question about sign-up for registration, all that information will be on our Home Base website again that URL will be up later in this meeting: (It is: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/homebase/>).

DR. ANGELA QUICK: And the deadline for registration is May 24 so please make sure that you get the information and work with your colleagues to determine who will attend which sessions.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Will there be a test bank that can be developed into classroom assessments to take the place of district assessments?

DAN GWALTNEY: We kind of talked about that before, there will be a separate item bank for classroom use as well as for districts to generate their benchmark assessments. On either side regardless, district test administrators can also create their own items, enter them into the system and combine banks of district-created materials or teacher-created materials if it is a classroom assessment with the item banks associated with their roles.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: How soon will demos be available for people to log into to practice?

CYNTHIA CROWDUS: At this time the demonstrations that we are able to share with you all are guided demonstrations from our team. We do not have a demonstration site that is open to everyone to log in and play. That said, we do offer multiple webinars per month where we go through the demonstration of the system, so I would encourage you to sign up, especially for the teacher webinar that we offer, there are PowerSchool webinars that are offered as well monthly, and you can find all of that information on the website and again that will be at the end of the session today.

DR. ANGELA QUICK: And this is Angela, I would say that in the time being, please check out the PowerSource site. That is the site that has a lot of information, it is in my opinion, just as good as playing with the actual product and Mastery in Minutes is a little tutorial that gives you insight into the new world so on the PowerPoint and at the end the URL for PowerSource is listed so I would suggest use that in place of a live demo site for the time being.

WENDY HINSON: There is also within PowerSource an area called labs where the user can get a user

ID to login and play in a PowerSchool instance just to get the feel of it and it is within the PowerSource website. You cannot do everything but it does give you a hands-on feel for the system.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Within PowerScheduler, is it a smart scheduler that can clarify whether students have completed prerequisites?

DR. ANGELA QUICK (clarifies the question): Is it a smart scheduler that knows if students have done...

WENDY HINSON: The way that the scheduling works is, we have not had the full training yet because we are going through training right before the LEAs, but the system works similar to the way the scheduling Master Timetable Builder did within NC WISE. You do have to code the courses as to what is a prerequisite for that course and the system will look at what you have set up as a prerequisite and then look to see if the student has taken it or not, but I am not sure as this time if those are hard stops or soft stops. I know in NC WISE they were soft stops, you could override them; but I do not know at this time in PowerScheduler if those are hard stops.

DR. ANGELA QUICK: And we will make that part of our frequently asked question list to get that to you. I want to answer the question around Test Nav: Is Test Nav going to be our state assessment to replace EOGs? Test Nav is the deployment system or the technology in which we will deploy our own live EOGs and EOCs. So rather than using NC Education sites for deployment of online assessments we will be using the Test Nav tools, which will be integrated into the entire Home Base suite.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Will there be materials created to assist in the training of parents?

WENDY HINSON: We will have some sort of documentation for your parents however as you saw in the demonstration parents are pretty much limited. They have a few navigational screens that they can go to and they can print so there is not a lot that they can do, not a whole lot of training really involved for them and what you did not see was the single sign-on for parents because that is not available yet, but once that is available, the schools will not have to maintain and manage user IDs and passwords for parents and students, they will be able to generate an access code for the students and the parents that they

will then use to go to the site to set up their own account with security questions in the event that they forget a password and all of those types of things. So we will have some things for you to give to your parents, but again there is not a whole lot of training really that will be necessary for your parents other than to give them the site and show them how to log in.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Two more questions about the parent portal: first, can the teachers see which parents have logged in, and can the parents communicate with the teacher via the parent portals through email directly?

WENDY HINSON: Teachers, I do not think, can see which parents have logged in, but on the administrator side, PowerSchool administrators can take a look and see which parents and students have logged in and when. But I do not believe the teachers can see that. I am not sure if there is a link to email a teacher directly from within the PowerSchool parent portal. Again, I would have to look at that but I am not sure about that one.

(Updated answer since this broadcast: Teachers can see the number of times a parent logs in, and can see the duration of time both parents and students have been logged in.)

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Okay, can administrators view teacher's lesson plans and calendars?

WENDY HINSON: Yes, administrators can log in, anyone with the PowerTeacher administrator role, can log in and look at a teacher's gradebook. Within PowerSchool they can look at the PowerTeacher gradebook and assignments and grades; they cannot make any changes to that person's gradebook but they can view it, and Dan I am not sure about on your side.

DAN GWALTNEY: The instructional side an administrator will have access to look at the teacher's assessment results and also the lesson planner that they are utilizing.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Will the information shown on the demo be part of what will continue to be free to districts or will it be part of the four-dollar-per student fee?

MIKE MARTIN: So the easiest way to think about that is that the things that were demonstrated by Wendy are things that are required and free as part of PowerSchool and the things that were demo'ed by

Dan are sort of the instructional stuff and that is where districts would have the opportunity to cost share four dollars. So that is kind of the way to think about that: Wendy's demo free, Dan's demo is the four dollars.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Will existing exceptional children's data populate into PowerSchool?

WENDY HINSON: I am not sure if a final decision has been made on what is going to be, as far as the exception children data and where it is coming from to go into PowerSchool, so we will have to get back to you on that. There will be exceptional children data in PowerSchool but I am not sure if it will come over from CECAS or if it will come over from NC WISE.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Will a specialist/instructional specialist have access to student information as well as the classroom teachers?

DR. ANGELA QUICK: User roles and user access will be determined by LEA policies so similar access to information that currently is in NC WISE could possibly be a route to look at for gaining access into Home Base but again that would be based on local units' policy.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: What professional development will be available this summer on Home Base?

DR. ANGELA QUICK: We have two areas of professional and development. One, the Summer Institute this summer will have a Home Base component to it to get people ready for the new tool and to be able to use it, and then as we discussed earlier starting in June and through July 2nd there will be face-to-face training sites for trainers out of each LEA around the instructional aspect of Home Base that aligns with PowerSchool, our student information systems.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Can we export data out of Home Base into other products?

DAN GWALTNEY: So out of PowerSchool I think there is a lot of robustness about exporting of data.

WENDY HINSON: Absolutely.

DAN GWALTNEY: On the instructional side that is something that would really be an integration question between the Pearson vendor that is supplying the Schoolnet products and what other system you

are trying to integrate that data with.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: For staff members not currently evaluated using the current teacher evaluation instrument, will the educator evaluation link allow us to use an alternate evaluation tool or template?

DR. ANGELA QUICK: To my knowledge, this is Angela, I will check but the answer to that is no. Our educator effectiveness module in Home Base will have our State Board-endorsed rubric that we have validated over I guess the past two to three years and that has been widely used in the state for the last two years.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Can assessment data be collected and put in the system one time and the system will enter (it), and who would report what reports are needed to be sent out — profile cards, reports cards, etc.?

DR. ANGELA QUICK (clarifying the question): Just asking, let's say, enter data one time, will they be able to use that same data for future reports? And the answer is yes. The idea of this system is for teachers not to have to reenter standardized demographic data around students' performance over and over and over again for the numerous times we do reports.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: After students have registered for classes in Home Base, how will that data automatically be populated to PowerSchool?

WENDY HINSON: In the parent portal and the student portal there is an area for registration. That area can be turned on and off by the school when they are working on class registrations for the coming year so that area is not always accessible. When a parent or student selects classes for the following year, that information is then entered into the system and a notification goes to whomever is set up to receive those notifications, usually a counselor at the school. And then the counselor or whoever that person is would need to look at the requests and approve or disapprove based on the student and their needs, and then that information would be listed as the students course request for the next year to help you in building your master schedule for the coming year.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Will Home Base have a module to keep up with CEUs?

DAN GWALTNEY: Yes, the professional development module that is optional, it not only has the ability to recommend for teachers and administrators to be able to access professional development but also to be able to keep track with what professional developments are being offered and if there are completions for CEUs.

MICHAEL YARBROUGH: Okay we are going to close out question time now. We have a little bit more information (to present). We will gather the questions that you have entered, we will provide answers to them later, we will develop a FAQ, we do appreciate your questions but we need to go through a little bit more information for you before 5:00 pm.

CYNTHIA CROWDUS: So the Home Base team has created a document for LEAs and charter schools that lays out the minimum technical requirements that are necessary for the Home Base applications to work in your districts and charter schools. You can find that document at the link that you see at the bottom of this slide, and that takes you to our Home Base website. And I would like to note that this is a document that is updated as we get new information or if there are questions, which bring up new requirements that we would like to provide to the field so if you have seen it once, do keep checking back to see if there are any updates to that document.

We have noted several times in the course of this webinar that information is available to you at the Home Base website and these links are provided on this slide. The Home Base website is at npublicschools.org/homebase and on that website you can find information like the frequently asked questions, about the student information system, about the instructional improvement system and just generally about Home Base as a complete and total system. You can find status updates and timelines. You can find resources such as presentations, links to archives, videos, such as this one that is being recorded and at some point will be achieved when we have that prepared, and all sorts of good resources for you, so do check back to this website. We update it almost on a daily basis so it is great for current

and up-to-date information for you all. There is a biweekly newsletter that goes out and I would recommend to all of you if you do not already receive it, to sign up for it, and you can send an email to home_base_ready@dpi.nc.gov and we will sign you up for the newsletters that go out every two weeks and you can always refer to those updates on the website at the link that you see there.

(Update since this broadcast: Please go to

<https://sites.google.com/site/homebasebiweeklyupdate/subscribe-to-eneewsletter> and fill out the brief subscription form.)

And finally, if you all have questions such as the ones that you were asking during the course of this webinar there is an account where you can send your questions, and support personnel will provide the answers to them. If it is a frequently asked question, those answers are ready to be sent out, and if it is a question that needs to be forwarded onto a staff member, it is forwarded as well so it is a really great way to get answers to your questions and that is homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov.

WENDY HINSON: And I have to say one more thing real quick about PowerSource. I do want you to be aware that the Distance Learning and the Mastery in Minutes in PowerSource are free. There is no charge for those; those are being paid for by the state. But there are two areas if you click on that you will have to pay for, and that is if you click on the training calendar. There are lots of face-to-face trainings and even some instructor-led trainings that are online that are listed there, and then there is another area called instructor-led training and those trainings are not free. Your school system will be invoiced, you will be expected to provide a purchase order and payment for those two. So just be aware of that. Pearson is trying to monitor that and make us aware whenever someone from North Carolina does register for any of those trainings, but some might slip by so if you could make sure to let your people know that the Distance Learning and Mastery in Minutes are free (but) the other areas for instructor-led training are not free.

DR. ANGELA QUICK: We would like to thank you for attending our Home Base READY webinar today. We are excited about this new project within the state, and we hope that you see the incredible functions for classroom teachers and school administrators by viewing our webinar. Please let us know and send us email information or questions if we can provide any more information for you in the future. Thank you and have a good afternoon.