

Home Base IIS Webinar for District Administrators 8-22-13

Dan Urbanski: Hello everyone and thank you for joining today, my name is in Dan Urbanski. We're going to get started in a couple moments here. But as we are, I wanted to just poll the audience. You've probably been on some of these Webinars before. If you could just push the raise your hand button on your little navigation menu for the go to Webinar and let me know if you can hear me. Lisa, Sheila, Todd, I'm seeing a lot of hands. Ok, great. Voice is on. Alright, today we are privileged to have a full house, if you will, we've got a lot of district folks in on the call with us today. My name again is Dan Urbanski I'll be the facilitator for the afternoon. I am an education consultant with the Home Base project here on the IIS, the Instructional Improvement System side of the house. Joined with me today also from DPI with the IIS project will be Ashley Secor. (Noise). Ted I think that your mic. Then also with us here today will be Ted Lindquist. I think we're having an audio issue, something in our building here. And then Ted Lindquist with Pearson will be going through the specific screen scores here and talking to us about some of the training that's going on. So with that, what I'd like to do is introduce our first presenter who will go through some of the screens that you will be seeing typically when you do log into the system, and that will be Ashley Secor. Ashley?

Ashley: Okay, as Dan mentioned, I'm also a consultant here at DPI I've been working on putting resources into the Instruction Improvement System for the most part, and doing some basic training on the Home Base system. So, some of you have seen more than others about the Home Base system and the different parts of it, but just to make sure we're all starting off on the same page, I want to give you a very basic overview. So, what is Home Base and what does it do? Home Base is an online tool for teaching and learning. Every user will have only one password to enter one time to access resources and tools. I was a teach in Lee County up until this past school year and I had a notepad with three pages of usernames and passwords for different systems and it's been DPI's goal to bring that down to one username and one password. Why Home Base? The obvious answer is that we all want to improve teacher effectiveness. Home Base will provide tools aligned to NC's Standard Course of Study that promotes efficiency. We're going to ensure daily parent access and provide lots of time saving tools for teachers and for students. Home Base is one technology platform, but there are two key functions, so just one login, but there are two main functions. The first one I believe all of you are already in a using is the Student Information System (SIS). There are more details about the product names coming up on the next slide. You hear a lot of product names; we want you to focus on Home Base as being one place. The Student Information System is one of the two key functions and the other one is the Instructional Improvement System, which we will be focusing on with you today.

This is a very busy slide, but it sort of puts together all of the product names you may have been hearing. Over on the far left you'll see the Student Information System, also known as Power School. This is directly where you're logging in, into the Power School System. It's the simpler better system that is replacing NCWISE. Then we've got the Instructional Improvement System again, where Ted will be focusing. Lots of pieces here, the big one right now it School Net, that's what you have access to right now. When you log into Power School, and you'll see a slide in a second that will show you, you'll have a School Net button. You and your teachers can begin using this immediately. The other part of the Instructional Improvement System, Open Class, is coming down the road. And Test Nav will be the place for your summative assessments and that's coming next school year, not this school year. The final piece on the far right is the Educator Effectiveness System, which teachers are using already. And that's replacing MCREL. So, all of these pieces together make up Home Base. The pieces that we are focusing on today are the Instructional Design Practice and Resources that are here in the IIS through school net.

For those of you who have not yet been in School Net, once you're into power school, down at the very bottom of your left navigation menu you see School Net, by clicking on that School Net button that will move you over into the Instructional Improvement System. So here's a picture of the Instructional Improvement System Landing Page, this is from a teacher point of view. And so once you're in the Instructional Improvement System it's very helpful to know how to use it, and there's a lot there. So that is where Ted is going to explore a bit with you. So throughout his presentation if you've got questions, just enter them into that question box at the bottom and we will stop when we feel like it's appropriate and try to get to... either Ted could answer them from the Pearson point of view or Dan and I will cover it if it's a North Carolina specific question. We'll make sure to try to get all of your questions answered. So we're going to switch over to Ted. If you have any general questions right now, while we're doing that switch, feel free to go ahead and enter them in.

Dan Urbanski: So we're going to pass the baton, if you will, over to Ted. And Ted, you should have that now. Ted, you're going to improvising as Jason today so I see. Correct?

Ted Lindquist: I am, yes. I'm hoping you can hear me now and you're going see me as Jason. Great. So you should see my screen. Good afternoon everybody, my name is not Jason, it is in fact Ted Lindquist and I'm speaking to you today from Unionville, Connecticut, which I think has the same weather that you do. It's very hot and steamy here right now today. I'm going to walk you through some of the main features of School Net. I'm going to stop every so often and actually pause and ask you if you have any questions and you can type them into the question area, and either I will answer it or Ashley or Dan or somebody else who's on the line. As so what you should actually see in front of you is the main screen of School Net that you will access by going into Home Base Power School, as Ashley just described, and clicking on the bottom left. What I want to do is go through this slowly just to navigate you to what you see in front of you and then we'll go into some of the other features. So there are three things on this screen that are really really important. The first is that over here on the right hand side you can see that there's some features for signing out of here and so forth and it tells you who you are here. And right now I'm in as the system operator, but if I were in as a teacher or as a district administrator or a school administrator, it would tell me what my role is and it would also tell me where I am. So for example, a teacher who logs in, will log in and it will say "Teacher at the John J. Kennedy Elementary School." What's important about that is that role based, meaning depending on the role that you have teacher, administrator, district administrator, you will see different elements appear on your screen. This being the landing page, the home page for everybody, it looks fairly similar, there are some things that will be a little bit different. One thing that I do what you to notice here is this... on the left hand side there's a home button and a Home Base button. Clicking on either of those, from where ever you are in the system will allow you to return to this page. So in fact, what I'm going to do is go randomly click on some pieces to get to some place so I can show you exactly what I mean by that, so I've come down into here and I'm in Curriculum Manager. And so I'm sort of lost in some ways, I don't know where I am. I can always click here on Home Base and that will bring me back to this Home Screen no matter where I am. Clicking on the home button will do the same. If we take a look at this section here on the left hand side you can see that we have a link here that will take you out to True North Logic. An it'll ask you to sign in, in there. Coming back here there's also some training opportunities in here, by clicking on this button I get some information on Home Base for North Carolina, and can begin to take a look at that, It opens in a separate window. Additionally I have some training for district administrators and leadership here, and I could log into a Power Source account, I could log in there and get to some videos. Dan, do your people have access to Power Source.

Dan Urbanski: Yeah, they should. If you haven't your old NC Wise coordinator, the new Power Source coordinator has information that teachers, school officials, staff, admin, district officials, staff, admin, all

of them will be able to contact that person to get a Power Source login. And I'm very glad that you pointed out those training opportunities, cause that link allows these folks delve right into, for instance, the DPI website, our schedule for future webinars. There folks, and you'll hear me say this again and again, check out our schedule, cause you can figure out when you can listen to these webinars live, when you can hear Ted give them to us. Good pause there Ted, Thank You.

Ted Lindquist: Okay, very good, so this is always going to be important to know. That 1 AM night when you can't go to sleep, and you go, "Tonight's the night I'm going to learn little more about this." It will be available to you. We're going to talk about the report banks that are going to be available to you in just a little bit. Moving into the center of this section, There's just a little Welcome message here. But again, by clicking on anything that's blue in School Net, it is a link and it will bring me and it will bring me to something that has been designed to ensure that School Net ties into the initiatives, policies and practices of North Carolina Public Schools. Scrolling Down here, what I have here is some basic information that is about this particular district, and we have 100% attendance as of today, nice. Additionally, some websites that are important too North Carolina educators are listed here as well. This home page allows district administrators to do some other pieces, which we'll look at in a moment. From the homepage, one of the things I can do, always, whatever I see in the upper right hand corner, find a student, I can look for a particular student. When teachers come in, they see their class roster. However, a district administrator or a school administrator doesn't have a class roster. But you make be designing something, or setting something up, and you might want to see what something will look like for a particular student. Or for some reason you have a parent meeting about a particular student. So you can come in a you can click, just by knowing the student's last name, and you will get to what is known as the student profile. And basically on the student profile is an overview of information, and this is uploaded daily. Is this going to be a daily upload, Dan, or is this going to be a live upload? From the districts.

Dan Urbanski: The information is pushed from School Net into Power School on a nightly basis.

Ted Lindquist: On a nightly basis. So this information, demographic information, home addresses, phone numbers and so forth will be as current as it is in Power School on any everyday basis. I'm not going to scroll down because this gives me some academic information here, in terms of the student. If I clicked over here on these tabs you would begin to see student results and we want to honor the privacy of students from this stand point. But by clicking on these there are various pieces of information you will be able to see in terms of student results. At any time on any one of these screens, when I click on it, I can also create a PDF. And if I do that, I can click here, and I can make selections about information that I want to have on that PDF. So if you think about the use of this as I go forward, for a meeting about a student, or about a conference with parents about a student, or I'm looking at a group of students that I need to bring as a sample to talk about how do we address kids in a particular band of performance. This would be a very good report to have at the table, on the school level, and in some cases on the district level as well. I'm going to come back to here. Dan, do you want to comment on any of this information, coming from the SIS at this stage?

Dan Urbanski: You're doing perfect. We're trying to focus more on the IIS side, so what you're touching on is perfect.

Ted Lindquist: Okay terrific, okay so basically, is the home base for everything, help information will be here. We'll talk about if I wanted to add some resources. So for example, on a personal level I could say I want to have something, let's say I know a district, I'm going to use Farmington Public Schools. Let's say they have something that I know I could use. Well, I'm going to type that URL in. But maybe I find

something that is a very good resource for myself, that I want to go back to later on, about common core standards, best practice in assessment, I could begin to add those here for myself also and make clickable links for myself. So beyond the resources that are being provided for everyone, there's a way to keep track of your own resources right here on your own page as well. So, we're going to come up here and take a look at this blue bar now, so this blue bar is really the heart of School Net in terms of the way you access other pieces of information that aren't on here. So there are three places to go, as you can see, School and District Data, the Classroom section, and the Assessment Admin system. I'm going to come here and take a look at this. I'm going to click down here on the dash board. When I click on the dashboard, I could come in. Now right now you see I'm in Cumberland County Schools. I'm a district person. And what I'd like to do is come down and I'd like to look at one school. And depending on the information in the report and the data that is here, I could come here, I could click on Benchmark Tests, I could click on Report Bank. That would now be specific to this context. I could also, if I have the correct rights, remember this is role based, come in and look at a particular teacher here as well. And so I could find some information there as well. So again, because this is role based, if I'm a district person I may have access to the ability to switch from district, to school, down to the teacher level. I can begin to look at some information. I can also look here and see, ah-ha, this teacher teaches these particular subjects, these sections. I can see here that if there were benchmark tests in, I could also look at the Benchmark Tests for those teachers. Another piece that's important here is that I could come down and look at Benchmark Tests again, we have none that were administered here, but as the system grows that would be an important piece to know about there. I'm going to move over to the second tab, cause this is a tab that is really going to be important as you go forward. I'm sorry I'm going to go back just for one moment, back to the preformatted reports for you. By clicking here on preformatted reports, I can take a look again. I'm on the district level. I don't want a standardized test performance, but I want a demographic overview. What I want to do here is simply take a look. I'm going to look at elementary schools, and in fact I'm just going to look at one school right now. But again, my role as a district person, this may be the kind of thing that I would begin to take a look at. And I'm going to go and I'm going to make this a graph. I'm going to look at the current enrollment. I'm going to run this report. And I immediately will get a wide variety of demographic information that again is coming over from my SIS. And I can take a look over here. And any time I see a finger, of course, I know that I can get some other information. And I can drill down there. And so I can get a student list here, based on clicking on that part of the pie. Coming down, in this case, I have gender. Gender by grade level, some ethnicity graphs, all based on your SIS. So this may be something of value to people on the district level as well. I have the ability and will show you this in a later webinar, how to create some custom reports and I certainly have the ability to create and save my own reports. And we'll save that for another time. But the big thinking here for you is to recognize that there are reports that are available, that are easily customizable and savable for you. Marching over to the right, to the Classrooms section, there's student performance. I'm just going to move beyond that right now because we are not going to look at student information. But I do want to show you this piece here which, people spent a lot of time on this. So I'm going to come over to instructional materials. And you'll notice that I get a very simple search screen here that I can begin to take a look at. So, I'm going to go from the big picture, and I'm going to narrow this down as we talk this afternoon. So the first thing I'm going to do is I'm just going to click on the search button. When I do, I get 6,411 different kinds of materials that have been created here. There materials are curricular units, instructional plans, 3,490 lesson plans, assessments and resources. So just like anything, we want to teach people how to become good searchers here. And you can see that I can scroll down and there are all kinds of ways that I can narrow this down and so forth. What I'm going to do is that I'm going to come back up to the top and I'm going to come back to instructional materials and we're going to narrow this down a little bit. So the first thing I'm going to do is I'm going to be here and I'm going to choose English Language Arts. I'm also going to choose in this case, the third grade. So I do that and I'm going to click on

search. And so you can see now that what exists here is a lesson plan, some resources, there's one assessment here and some other material. We're going to continue to take a look. Some of these, I can take these and I can look at them. So if I just wanted to look at this, I can click here. And that should open up, and I can get some information about this particular lesson plan that is in here. It tells me what the content is. In this case the content is located on an external website. I could click there and get that. Additionally it tells me what the standards are that align. And you all recognize these as common core standards. And so it's all aligned for teachers here. And if you scroll down you can see there is a lot of information that is connected to this. If I come back to this back to this previous page I can go through and we can march through some of these others. I can also take this lesson plan and I can save it to my personal materials. And so I'm going to take something here, this one here, and I'm going to actually save this, and we're going to come back to that in a little bit. So possibly as a teacher I've taken that, or as a district person I've saved that, and I'm going to use this as an example later on for something. I want to come back here and I want to come back to instructional materials. And I want to show you two other things here. The first is, I've been looking for materials, but I could also look for standards. So I'm looking for standards in English Language Arts Grade three. When I do that, what I see here is a different look at what's available. So, it looks like this is a standard that cuts across grades, but notice over here on the right it also tells me, for example, that I have one lesson plan here, but I have sixteen lesson plans for this particular standard. I have some resources here. I have an instructional unit. By clicking on any of these blue numbers, again anything that's blue in School net is clickable. I can go here and I will get the same kind of list you just saw. And I can go through and I can view there or I can just save them. We're going to talk about scheduling in a moment. We're going to come back up here...

Ashley: Hey Ted, if you don't mind I'm going to jump in real quick here while you're on resources.

Ted Lindquist: Okay, excellent.

Ashley: I just want to let everyone know that we've had a team of people over at the center for Urban Affairs at NC State University, as well as here at DPI, who have been for over a year been going through and finding these instructional resources that you see. Right now there are approximately 7,000 resources in the system. Every single one of them, there's a rubric we're using, which is also available on the DPI website. Every resource, the rubric has been applied to it. We've made sure it is quality and that it is aligned to your standards, so everything in the system right now is an external like that is aligned to standards. We've tapped into probably all of the resources your teachers use, if there's a website they go to for free educational materials, we've tapped into those materials and they are in school net right now. Also there's more coming. We're talking about doing a monthly or quarterly refresh of content. We've got about 2,000 more we're ready to import right now. So everything in there you can trust, and be sure that it is aligned to your standards, unlike a Google search.

Ted Lindquist: So that's a great comment here, that nothing get on here unless it's been vetted along the way with a rubric. Is that correct Ashley?

Ashley: That is correct. And we've done some training at summer institute this year in North Carolina on the rubric. And we've put the rubric on the Home Base website, hoping that teachers as they contribute, because teachers will have an opportunity to contribute their lesson plans and push them up to the district level. The school level, the district level, and eventually the state level. And we hope everybody will be using that rubric so that we can ensure quality and alignments with these resources.

Ted Lindquist: That's just great. Let's just pause for a moment and just see if anybody has questions about that process of getting materials from districts or getting them written and then getting them in here. So let's just take a moment, and if you have a question about that, now would be a good time to type that into the question box, and one of us will respond to that for the good of everybody.

Dan Urbanski: Great. Thanks ted. I do want to point out that the decisions to push up or resources from the teacher to the school, from the school to the district and then ultimately, well, to the district. That is a local decision. So, how they set that up, each individual district will be working on this there. And then Ashley had mentioned that once the district decides to push it up to the state, there is a process that we've filled out here, and we're fine tuning that as we start moving forward, and we certainly have not yet received any of the resources at our level yet from the individual schools or the districts. But we will publicize that as soon as that starts to get fine tuned, as we fully kick that portion off. So really the decisions for pushing things up, as always will be and remain a local decision, however the local districts want to handle those. And actually, just to follow up on that, as I was just kind of sitting here, my little man on the top of my shoulder said, yes, everything that is being pushed up we do hope that everything is aligned and following the rubric because that is ultimately what the state will be using when they get pushed up to the state level. We will be using the state level rubric as our guide for our resources. SO if everybody is aligned from the individual teacher through the state, we will then going back and assuring that there is high quality content being put into the system for all to use.

Ted Lindquist: Very good. Thanks Dan.

Dan Urbanski: I don't see any questions coming through at this time so why don't you just go ahead and move onto the next section.

Ted Lindquist: Excellent. Okay very good. So what I'm going to do is I'm going to come back to Instructional Materials. And I want to show you two things. The first is again, we've looked at how to search for materials, to narrow down in a variety of ways. I've also showed you how to save materials so that they're something that I'm interested in. So I'm going to come over here to my materials, and remember this is role based, so I'm going to see materials that I've saved. So I think this is the last resource that I just saved here, and it is a resource. So actually what I'm going to do is I'm going to make a copy of that resource in my own instance here. And once I make that copy, I can now go in and I can edit that. And so for example, I may want to edit that because I'm at a school level where I want to differentiate a little bit. So I want to make this all together now for a different group of readers for example, all together now for a different topical piece. So I can come in here and you can see that I have four areas in which I can change this. And so what I'm going to do is I'm going to put in today's date, which I think is the 22nd, and I'm going to put today's date in just so I have something different. I'd I'm going to say, you know what, I'm actually going to use this for my third grade class today, or I'm going to be creating this for third grade teachers. I'm the curriculum person in the district and I'm doing this. And this was, as you can see, authored by somebody else, but vetted by the state. I'm going to come over and I'm going to save and continue, and that will move me to the next tab. I can add to or edit the standards here and realign those. I'm not going to do that but you can see that that is possible. I'm going to continue. And here is where I can take a look and I can enter a link to other content on a different

website. I can upload content from another file. I can use a district template and we'll be talking about that in a moment, for the district template as well. So here, this is the URL that was put in, and so if this is a lesson or a resource that is based on a particular URL, that can be put in also. That then becomes a clickable link along the way. I can come over here and I can add these optional pieces. These are really nice to have because they help you search on something. So if you look at the Blooms Taxonomy. If I know that this is on level one, and that's where I'm beginning with my learners, then I could make sure this is checked so that as somebody searches for something, they're not looking for something that's higher up on Bloom's Taxonomy. They could do a search on any one of these attributes that you see here as well. And so now what I've done is I'm going to save this and I'm going to take a look and I'm going to see what this looks like. And so this is the copy that I just made here for myself. So I can use this, I can also decide... Dan, do you want to comment on the Submit to District Bank button at this point?

Dan Urbanski: Yes, so if this is at the district level, doing that will submit it to the district person that's been designated to receive those to go through the vetting process.

Ted Lindquist: Excellent, excellent. So the vetting process it built into the creation of materials. I'm going to come back to here and I'm going to come down to instructional materials one more time. And notice here I also have the ability to create a lesson plan here. So what I want to do is, I'm going to come here, and I'm going to create a lesson plan here. And so I'm going to, it's a five-step process, again this takes you right through the steps, as we just saw when we edited, but we have an additional step here. So what I'm going to do is I'm actually going to create a lesson, and I'm going to call this The Pearl. It's an introduction to The Pearl, the novel by John Steinbeck, and I'm going to do English Language Arts. And I'm going to say this is really for eighth graders. And I'm going to talk about this introduction, that students will examine good and evil in their lives, in the world around them, in preparation for the novel study.

Dan Urbanski: So we used to have an excuse for Jason, because he's from Canada. Is that "aroned"?

(Laughter)

Dan Urbanski: Okay I get it now.

Ted Lindquist: Yes. No, this is just how we talk in Connecticut, okay, just so you know. And I can say this is just one day, if I'm an eighth grade teacher, I know that means it's just one period, but I may want to say it's 45 minutes, if that's how long my periods are. It put's my name in automatically. And in this case, I don't have to put a publisher in and so forth. But what I'm going to do is I'm going to save and continue and I'm going to on to the next section here. It's connected automatically to the standards, the subjects and the standards are automatically connected, so I can come right down to the grade eight English and Language Arts standards. I can come right down to the reading standards. And I know this is not informational text, but a piece of literature. And I'm going to choose, in this case, for right now, I'm just going to choose all of the ones under craft instructor. I'm going to save and continue and move onto the next section. So in this case, what I want to do is to use the district template. And in this case the district template gives me these buttons that I want to take a look at. And I'm just going to type something sort

of quickly, “students will examine the use of language throughout the novel, period.” So that’s that, and they will be motivated by that. I can go through each one of these and continue. I could also enter a URL. If I have content from another file, I could use that. Dan, do you want to comment on the district template at all?

Dan Urbanski: Yeah, perfect. Thanks you so much. Now for everyone out there listening, this is not a rule change that all of a sudden we are mandating on high, that the district must, that this is your district template. Simply, the Pearson system, if I can poke fun at you just a little bit Ted, the Pearson system has the word district hard coated into the description title there. This is the state template. If you choose to follow this you may. This again is a local decision that the districts, the schools, and the individual teachers can decide, if they choose to use this. The other option of course would be a file, this where some districts are saying, we have our resources at another location, for instance, a lesson plan is in another location, they can URL link directly to that or they can just upload a file. Say it’s a teacher or it’s somebody that has something stored as a PDF on their computer. They can choose that. Or, as you’re going to go through Ted, it could be what we are calling the state template. It just has the word district in there.

Ashley: To add onto that quickly, if you look at the headings there, NC Falcon and Formative Assessments are a huge push in North Carolina. There was a lot of discussion over what those headings should be. The formative assessment process was used a lot in determining what those headings are. So, if you and your district have been using formative assessment, this template should be easy for you and your teachers to use, and we’re looking to get some training documents out and some more information about what would be the appropriate thing to place in each of those categories.

Ted Lindquist: Great. And you saw how easy it was for me to put information in, this is just a web editor that most people are probably familiar with, with a variety of tools, bolding, italics, and so forth. I’m going to save and continue to go onto the next tab. And you can see here now I can decide whether I want to have some related materials here. So for example, what is the source of those? Is it an assessment? Is it a resource that I’m going to use? So for example, in this case, I’m going to come here and I’m going to say I have a link to website information. So I could go here and say it is not an assessment but rather a resource, and then go from there. And I could search for that and I could take a look at that. And in this case I’m just going to reset the form. I’m not going to add anything on this button. Again I’m going to save and continue this and I’m going to come over here to the last one. Let’s see here, why did that not let me go? In this case I can search in My Materials which would be local. Now I’m going to go there and I’m going to hope. There we go. So now I am, again I can come here, and I can say that this is going to be a unit in this particular lesson that I’m going to be taking a look at some understanding. And I’m actually going to be doing some applying in this also. And I could again go through. This makes the lesson plan much more searchable along the way. I’m going to save this because I’m in the last tab. And now I’m going to view this material, and once I do, I can view this and I can connect this to the district bank for vetting and approval along the way. Does that make sense Dan, in terms of where we are right now, maybe a break for some questions?

Dan Urbanski: Yeah, if anybody does have a question related to this, again what Ted's does is demonstrate the ease of creating a lesson plan. It does get fairly easy, you can probably do this as quick as Ted does after you practice once or twice, knowing where your tools are. But if you have any questions related to that, enter those into the question box at this time. And we'll be happy to answer them. And we'll give everybody a minute or two to see if anybody has any questions, and otherwise we'll just move on.

Ted Lindquist: Okay. While you're doing that I'm going to just come and take a look here, because I think I'm just going to have to log out and go to somebody else here, because I don't think this login is hooked up. So, while I'm doing that, just let me log out and just let me come back in here. I'll be somebody a little different. Great, so now let's talk about, you can see here that in this case that I am a teacher at Cape Fear High School. And I'm going to come in here as an assessment, and I'm going to create an assessment. So I just want to talk to you a little bit about the different kinds of assessments, obviously, that can be created, and Dan will talk about process and so forth, and actually about process in a little bit. If I want to come here and I'm looking for items that I want to add to a test, one of things I want to show you here is right now there are a lot of items that have been created already here. So you can see that in the various subject areas, these are the number of items that have been created. And again I can come right here and I can click and I can immediately view my results, and I will get a list of a variety of items that are already here. I get the question. I can preview the question as well. So I can take a look and see. Let's go to this one. So this tells me this is a multiple choice question, "Which context *best* matches the recursive equation $NEXT = NOW + 5$?" One of the things you should know about this assessment system is it does have a variety of online tools that I can use if the question requires that. It has a compass built in that I can, I'm sorry a protractor that comes in that I can manipulate the protractor. Much like what we know with common core testing. This is a compass, and I can trash that. It's a very easy piece to take a look at the various questions. As I go through the questions I can select various questions that I want to put into my assessment. And then I can begin to build an assessment there. Additionally I can look for a test that's already been created in the same way. So for example, in this case, I can see there's a test that has already been created called North Carolina demo, and I can take a look at what that test looks like. On the left hand side on the district level, on the school level, on the teacher level, I can administer this test in a variety of ways. So the assessment can be administered either in paper format and be scanned in, and I'm going to ask Dan and I'm going to ask you to talk about that in a moment, or can be taken online by students. Dan, do you want to comment on the test items, and how that bank got built, and what the plans are for the use of that?

Ashley: This is Ashley, and I'm going to... The biggest thing that the people on the call I think are going to be interested in is the items that are in there. All of your ClassScape items are in there. We could continue to use ClassScape for the year, but everybody that is using ClassScape to create benchmark assessments, all of those over 22,000 items are in School Net right now, the exact same items. About half of them have been reserved at the district level for benchmark use, the other half, and it's not an exact split but a pretty close split, the other half are available for teacher use. Teachers, when they use classroom assessments cannot see all of those items. So anything in ClassScape is currently in School Net. There is also another set of items from an item bank called NWEA, from Pearson, that has Science

and Social Studies items. So there are, I don't have the exact number so I don't want to say it wrong, I know the 22,000 for ClassScape, but there are thousands and thousands of items in there, and you will be able to add and create your own items as well. If you, as far as benchmarking, you could continue to give benchmarks in ClassScape or you could recreate your benchmarks in School Net using those items. Or use the year to make the transition from one system to the other.

Ted Lindquist: And if I come here and I click on Passages, and you can see that I've got 300 passages here also. And I could take a look at what some of those passages are. And I could again do a preview of this, but this does get to the issue of our move towards making sure students understand nonfiction. And again I could go through and there are questions that are associated with this passage along the way. And so those are available for you as well. Ashley or Dan, is there anything else we want to show in terms of the assessment piece here?

Dan Urbanski: I would point out that this is looking at the test bank, and the teacher, the person who I'm going to say would be at the teacher level in the school, will be the person readily looking at this saying to themselves, I want to be able to pull from the test bank or I want to create an express test or to create something of their own nature. I just want to point out that they do have the ability to create their own assessments, at the teacher level as well. For benchmarking, we're looking at these items here. And again, they can be added. You can see on the screen there that you have, if you move your mouse down just a little bit, there is an area that they can create a new item and add it too that, and it would be in their own district bank.

Ted Lindquist: So as Dan said, here I am, I've come down to Create and I can create an item or a passage. And I'm in as a teacher here. I could create a quick express test, and let's say I'm going to do this by standards or I'm going to go in here and I could create it manually. So again, I'm a teacher in the classroom and I want to check and see if my students are grasping something, so I'm just going to call this Algebra, and I'm going to call this September. And it's for my classroom, I'm not going to use it any place else, I'm just going to use it in my classroom. And this is going to be a total score. And we have videos of this and so forth, and I'm just going to say obviously that this is Mathematics. And I'm going to say that this is for the 9th grade students in my class. And I want these aligned to common core standards. Do I want students to be able to use manipulatives and so forth? And I'm going to click on selecting the standards that I want. And so when I do that I can come in here and I can, oops, I think we only have Language Arts in here for 9th grade. So, forget that I said this. This was in Algebra 1, and I'm going to come here and I'm going to click on this standard, my apologies. And I'm going to add those to the test, so what I've done is, I have actually no items available there. But I could go in and I could click on those. And I would be able to select the items and put them into my test. And I could build the test once I've done that. And a teacher would then be able to administer this test.

Dan Urbanski: And I think the reason it might have gotten hung up in there is that originally you were looking for a passage. It also might be the demo site that you're in.

Ted Lindquist: Okay

Dan Urbanski: One of the really neat things about express test is that if I just want to a pre or a post, much like what Ted's saying. I can go and pull five questions, get just get this thing out there relatively quickly. Yes I want this, here we go, and it can be pushed out electronically. It can be pushed out pen and paper. There are other options for that, clickers.

Ted Lindquist: And we'll have small webinars. I can say that this takes about half an hour for a group a teacher to learn how to do this. It's really pretty straightforward. Great, so just taking a look at the time here, I know we said 4:30, so I want to pause here and see if there are any other comments that Dan or Ashley wish to add or see if there are any questions about either product or process that anybody in the audience has.

Ashley: While we're waiting for questions to come in I just want to mention, we've had a lot of questions lately about benchmark creation at the district level. And I mentioned that those ClassScape items are in there. There is some documentation from DPI on the process for creating benchmarks that is being worked on and should be out any day now, possibly tomorrow, just waiting for approval. At the end of this I will pull up and show you the Home Base web site if you're not aware of where it is. And be looking for your Home Base bi-weekly newsletters and those things for those updates, because we are putting out documents.

Ted Lindquist: Very good. Anybody have any... is there a question there? Let's see...

Ashley: How will districts access ClassScape items? Those items are in with the rest of the items right now. We may need to get some more information to you. I know that all 22,000 of those items are in there. I'm not sure how they are identified as ClassScape items, but I know that they are somehow. And that there is an item number that matches the item number in ClassScape. If you had an assessment already created in ClassScape, there's a way to export that and you can see your item numbers and then you can recreate that same assessment in School Net. Not sure if that, if that doesn't answer your question, be sure to ask a clarifying one. But they're just in there under assessment admin. When you go to create a test, those items are in that bank. Well if anyone else has a question, feel free to put it in there, whether it's a product question Ted can answer or it's a North Carolina question we can answer. Let us know.

Dan Urbanski: And when we finish things off and wrap things up I will be showing some additional resources that will detail a little bit about what some of the upcoming webinars are. This is one of a series that will be handled throughout the fall months here as we continue on, so note that this is an overview and that we will be going more in depth for the district admins with topics that are more pertinent. This is just a kick starter to get you going, so I'll be reviewing that as we prepare to leave the meeting.

Ted Lindquist: Dan, I think another question came in that sounds like a North Carolina question.

Ashley: It did. If we previously had benchmarks created in ClassScape will we have access to the benchmarks? Okay, if your benchmark right now is in ClassScape, you have access for this school year to that benchmark in ClassScape. So your decision will be whether you want your teachers to continue to

use ClassScape this year, to take those benchmark tests and do those assessments. You are still able to do that and you are still able to use that system. You also have the option to recreate them in School Net and have teachers use them in School Net. And be able to use that reporting function and have it link to their grade book and all those things. So it's sort of a district decision or school decision, even how you want that to be done. It's been my suggestion, I mean I obviously don't take the time to recreate those benchmarks in School Net, so this school year would be a good time, because ClassScape will be going away after this year is my understanding, so this would be the time to, you can use the school year to export those benchmarks and recreate them.

Ted Lindquist: Let me just mention also here Ashley, because you just brought this up, but here I am as a teacher, and you can see here that right now I don't have any data here. But for those classroom tests that are created here, once I click on this tab and I would see the data here also. Right now I don't have any sections or classes in here, but my classroom test data would appear here on a student by student basis as well as an aggregate of my class.

Ashley: Right, so the benefit of doing it in School Net would definitely be to be able to see that data, printable, to be able to see that data at the school level. And district administrators would be able to see that data for all their schools if they gave those benchmarks to everybody. So they'd be able to see that right in the system as opposed to if they did it in ClassScape and had to look at their data that way. And we've got, where do students go to access their benchmarks created in School Net? This may be something Ted can help us more with, but I believe once it's assigned to students, when students log in they see things that are assigned to them, correct?

Ted Lindquist: That's right. So if I were a student, I would see right here if a teacher had assigned a test for me to take, I would see a note here right away that says, 'you have this test to take.' The teacher can determine whether it's going to be a timed test, at what time is the student going to be able to take the test. So for example, I assign the test to my students on a Monday night. But I don't really want my students to be able to take that until Tuesday, third period, at 10am. So students get a code that they would have to put in. I control when they can take the test, what time they can take it so they can't take it before hand and so forth. And there are many other controls that I can use in creating the test. I can determine whether I want to block out the internet, so they can't go out to the internet while they're taking the test online, whether the grade is going to be returned to them right away, whether I'm going to wait. So there are a number of features that I can control along the way with the test. I can also create a test online here and I can create scan sheets, and then I can scan them in if that's available too.

Dan Urbanski: I'd like to add if I could, an example, Ted you mentioned, will the students be able to see their results right away? In many cases, yes, it's really a teacher driven, or whoever's going to be administering the test, an example where we might not want the students to see the example right away. So if we have for example an open response question where it requires the student to write in or type in a response that's not going to be automatically graded. So if you have a math test, it's five questions, it's all multiple choice, then the person administering or creating that test might say yes, I want the students to see the results. However if we had an open response question and there were only say three questions on this quick assessment, two multiple choice and then one open response, If they

saw the score right away there would be a zero marked or there would be no score associated with the open response. And now the student get all depressed saying, wow I only have a 66%, oh how awful I thought I did good on this. So that would be an example of where somebody might want to say okay no let's not see this until a later date when the teacher or the administrator who's actually pushing out the information and actually scoring, grading or marking those assessments. Okay.

Ashley: Well while we are, I don't see any more questions in the box right now, and we've got a few minutes. And I wanted to make sure that I direct you to, people have asked me questions especially about ClassScape and benchmarks. All up to date information on Home Base, if you want to learn about trainings, frequently asked questions, much more... www.ncpublicschools.org/homebase, there's a lot of good information on there, as there's training documents and materials available they will be published there. Also be looking for your bi-weekly newsletters. We're going to get as much information to you as we possibly can and then we're going to do our best to solicit feedback back from you. If there are questions that you cannot answer at the district admin level, there's a contact for you, and there's an email address there. So first you would contact your school or district Home Base IIS point person, but if that happens to be you and you cannot get an answer to the question, then that contact is hombase.incidents@its.nc.gov, and we will make sure there are support personnel who are able to provide answers for you and get you some resolution.

Dan Urbanski: Excellent. At this point I'd like to put a plug in for our next session so you can mark your calendars. We do have listed as the next for the district level, will be, let's see where are we at here, I'm looking at my notes, I have Thursday October 10th, district admins will be creating classroom assessments. That will be, we do have some towards the end for school admins. These are all up on the DPI web seminar training schedule.

Ashley: And I have pulled up the DPI website right here, on your screen. On the left if you go to Training Information there are all kinds of good stuff that should be there. We've got a training schedule. And there's a link here to the Home Base IIS training webinars that Dan was talking about.

Dan Urbanski: There you go. Click on those links and register. Go from there.

Ashley: And there separated by the teacher webinars, the school admin webinars, and the district admin webinars. So please encourage your teachers to log on. We have a max of 1,000 registrants per webinar.

Dan Urbanski: I misspoke, it's September 5th, let's scroll down a little bit. I mentioned it was in October, so the next district webinar we have, the benchmarks will be the main topic there. It will be Thursday September 5th. Great. Okay, so if we have any final remaining questions, we're going to hang out here for the next several minutes, if anybody wants to type those in right now. Otherwise we want to thank you for your support and thank you for your attendance in this. We know you are very busy people, and an hour out of the day right around school start time for those of you who have things going on on Monday, we want to thank you for your attention to this. And all the resource that have been mentioned, the power point screens, I have been recording this event, and what I'll make sure is that the power point as well as any other recording of the webinar be sent to whoever attended this event today, I'll be emailing links to all that for you. So again if you have any questions, feel free to type them

in the comment box, we'll hangout for a few minutes. Otherwise, thank you for your attention and we'll see you next time!

Ashley: And thanks to Ted from Pearson for helping us out and for the overview.

Ted Lindquist: My pleasure, thank you. Dan you may want to check your chat box also and see if there's anybody who posted something in there instead of in the question box.

Dan Urbanski: Thank you. I haven't seen anything recently, let's see what we have. Nope, that's been clear in the last couple minutes as well. Alright, thank you everybody.

Ted Lindquist: Dan, Ashley, are you still there?

Dan Urbanski: Yeah, we're still here, we're just going to hang out like we mentioned.

Ted Lindquist: Great. I just sent you a note in the chat box. I don't know if you saw that. Okay great.

Dan Urbanski: We're going to go ahead and end the verbal part of the webinar and if anybody is still on the line, feel free you can go ahead and type a question in the box, otherwise we'll see you next time.

Ted Lindquist: Okay, Ashley did you see that?

Ashley: Yes, I just wanted to make sure everybody was off the phone before I answered.