

Home Base – OpenClass Overview Webinar (11-13-13)

Mr. Urbanski: This webinar is on the OpenClass component, it isn't a general overview. Our agenda today, just to kind of give you an idea of where we will be headed, we're going to be talking a little bit about the software system itself. And we're going to try to frame it on how it fits, first of all, into the overall Home Base suite of programs, talk about some of the main features, talk about how it looks from a teacher perspective, how it looks from a student perspective. We're going to talk just briefly at the end about the roll-out initiative, how we're going to be communicating this to the various districts and having people sign up. And at the very end we're going to open it up for questions and answers. So I would encourage you to use the question box to type in your questions. However, most of the meeting is going to be centered toward showing the overview, and then we will be entertaining questions at the very end. So please don't feel neglected if we don't respond to questions until the very end of the session. Okay, as I mentioned at the very beginning of the call, my name is Dan Urbanski. I am an education consultant here with DPI in Raleigh. I am tasked with the Schoolnet and the OpenClass portions of Home Base. Also on the call today as a co-presenter, I do have Cynthia Crowds, Cynthia is the IIS coordinator for Home Base, and she will be guiding us and leading us also with the presentation of the Home Base OpenClass product.

Just jumping in, what we'd like to talk about is why is North Carolina doing this? Why Home Base? And the central focus of this, in our brief intro here, is our central focus READY, the READY initiative, is to improve the students' learning. And we have known that through studies and quizzing and our research that the best and surest way to improve student performance in the classroom is ensuring and enabling great teaching and that's how we're getting there and that's what Home Base is all about. One of the best things about Home Base is it's focused for the teachers to improve instruction for the classroom, and as we're going to be talking about in a few moments, the OpenClass component is the LMS version or the learning management component of Home Base that's really designed to help teachers connect and collaborate one-on-one, collectively, individually, and as a group with their students. Several of you that have been to some of the Webinars and the trainings, this screen may look very familiar. Home Base has been broken down to just give you a general idea, Home Base has been broken down into several components. The First is going to be SIS, or the Student Information System, if you were involved on the PowerSchool side, that it is the name of the software that's involved there, and this is where all the student information resides for the attendance, the grades, and things of that nature. The instructional component is made up of three sections. We have the Schoolnet instructional tool, that's where we've been talking about in other areas for the assessment piece, for teaching tools, resources, lesson plans, instructional units. OpenClass is the collaboration and Course Management tool, we'll be discussing that in more detail a little bit later in the Webinar. And the other key component is the TestNav, which is the summative assessment piece, and that will be rolling out next year, so we'll be focusing on that in other Webinars and other trainings. The last major component of Home Base is the Educator Effectiveness side, and we've partnered with the Truenorthlogic to put the Evaluation and the Professional Development piece together, and that's another component that we have referred

to as NESIS or the Educator Effectiveness side. The focus today is going to be on the OpenClass, the collaborative tool within Home Base. And really when we think about the collaboration, we're talking about a learning management system that enables the students and the teachers to collaborate and work on assignments or project assessments together. And what OpenClass allows us to do is to create, almost we start with a blank canvass that the teacher can develop an online classroom, an online area, that we're able to deliver multiple different types of resources; whether it's assignments being posted, homework being posted, deep threaded discussions; whether it's a place for students to come in and watch a video and then discuss or work on a project together with each other based on the content of said video. This is a tool that allows the teacher and the student to work collaboratively together. One of the areas we think of an example that, you can imagine what OpenClass might be used for, is imagine that the teacher has decided in their classroom that we're going to be discussing Dr. Martin Luther King's *Letter from Birmingham Jail*. And with this, the method of delivery is going to be that the students watch a video and then afterwards get together and discuss what was watched, maybe even discuss amongst themselves in small groups or the entire classroom, and then have encouragement and feedback and supporting nudging comments from their teacher on deeper learning areas. And so the tool of OpenClass really allows us, allows the teacher and the students to work in this type of environment. We'll be seeing an example of that later on in this Webinar.

Some of the main features will be, we've mentioned the collaboration among students, imagine a threaded discussion after we've watch a video or we've read a passage, students can post comments back and forth to each other in this environment. It's also a course management tool, think about assignment delivery, we use the terms common "flipped classroom." No longer are we really bound by these say, I'm going to use the school day, what if we flip the classroom and tonight for homework we're going to have the students go back and read a passage and watch a video and be prepared to discuss tomorrow what they've read or watched. This tool enables that. It also enable feedback to the students through the threaded discussion, the instructor or the teacher can come in and help guide the conversation and guide that student learning, by their comments being posted for instance in the threaded discussion. We have collection of student work. Student's can submit an assignment in their open class space, and teachers can upload that, say if it's been uploaded in a Microsoft Word document, the teacher can take that with the use of the comments and the track changes feature, they can provide feedback to a student on their work and then post it, submit it back to the student. One of the other items that also wonderful about this is that based on the teacher's needs, desires and wishes, we can set up differentiated learning for individual students or groups of students. So this is all able to be used within the OpenClass area. Now, some people have asked, well gosh, why hasn't this been turned on for us? Well, there are some configurations and some requirements that are needed at the district level and there are some that are needed at the DPI or the State level to be configured. So what we're doing is we're giving you the overview now so we can actually have people sign up and get configured to have this turned on. Once that's done, just like the other components within the Home Base suite of products, or suite of software, it will be the single sign-on capability. So students would access through their PowerSchool login, go to a

landing page, just like they see, for instance, Schoolnet at the time. There will be a link for them to access OpenClass. As well as with the teachers, there's the same single sign-on capability. And that's a powerful tool that we're looking to enable for our classrooms.

Now with that general overview, what I'd like to do now is formally introduce our next presenter. I'd mentioned Cynthia Crowdus earlier before, Cynthia welcome.

Ms. Crowdus: Hi everyone. Alright, well, as Dan said, my name is Cynthia Crowdus. I'm the IIS Project Coordinator, that's the Instructional Improvement System Project Coordinator, so I've been working primarily with the Schoolnet and the OpenClass piece of Home Base. But I also work with the other teams, with the TNL and PowerSchool as well. And today what we're going to show you is kind of a high level overview of the types of things you can do in OpenClass. So I've logged in as myself, and that's the screen that you're looking at now. I'm going to walk you through a course that I've created. Or maybe a couple of them, we'll just look at screen shots. I'll show you the different types of things you can do as a teacher, and then I'm going to log out and then log back in as a student so that you can see the types of things that students will see. As we move along, I encourage you to stop me with any questions that you have, if there's something that I've covered that you would like to see again, or if there's something that I haven't covered that you might want to hear about, just let me know. We can pause at any point and talk about any specifics as we go along.

So I'm going to walk you through sort of what it looks like. If you look at the very top right of the screen where you see the little hand moving, You'll see your icon and it'll have your name on it, and if you click on the drop down, you'll have different things that you can do for set up. You can view your profile, that's exactly what it sounds like. I'm not going to show you that today. You can set settings, such as email information, address information, upload a profile picture and things like that. There's a new functionality that's been included where you can get some statistics on you. I'm going to click on that and let you see. So in this Learner Intelligence Area, you can quickly click on any of these boxes and see these types of things. You can look at your thread questions and answers, you can look at recommendations, you can look at your activity sort of chart where you are or where your students are as users. You can also, I'd like to highlight two other of these little buttons here, that you see me hovering over. One is help and the other is Community Forum, these are really, really useful links. And we'll talk a little bit later about how districts will get access to OpenClass, but once you do have access to OpenClass, of course you can refer back to Webinars that will be on our website, or you can attend future Webinars, ask questions of the Support Center, there's all sorts of people you can contact to get information you need. But, if you were look to just get information on your own, you can look at that help center which opens up a knowledge base. And you can see here there's an administrator's guide, all sorts of information about you use OpenClass. I would encourage you to look at that when you do have access to the site. There is also a Community Forum, and this is a forum for users by users, and so you can get lots of really great information on that site as well. So those are just some of the highlights, and moving along this top navigation bar, you'll see here my campus is called Home Base. You would have the name of your campus there. And if I click on the dashboard, I'm going to see on the left hand side of the screen all of the class

that I teach, and because this is my training site, I teach an awful lot of classes. But you would see all of your classes listed here on, again, the left side, and in the middle the activity from those classes, that might be postings that your kids have made, maybe postings that you've made to your kids, it may be pieces of threaded discussions, just all sorts of activity that you could follow. You could limit that by course if you want to see just the activity that's within a course or you can show all activity as I'm doing here, to see all of my students, just sort of what they're up to. If you click on that middle button where before I went to my dashboard, you'll see here that you also have all of your courses listed. So you can choose any one of your courses and I'll do that in just a moment and show you what a particular course looks like as well. But it's the same courses that you'll see listed on the left. You can also access at any screen that you're on, you can always go back to your user dashboard or any of your courses. And on the top right here, you're going to see other icons, these icons, the first one is a notification and that'll show you any, and I don't have any at the moment, but it would show you for example if you had an assignment that was due or, if you're a student, if you have an assignment that was due. Or let's say I've submitted an assignment and my teacher has graded it and giving it back to me, I would see a notification saying that my document has been returned, something like that. And if you're a teacher you might see that you have some assignments that need to be graded, things like that. The other three icons that you see here are related to your Google drive, so that's my Gmail account, my Google calendar and my Google documents. And you'll notice as we move along here, there are some features of OpenClass that are tied to Google. Now you don't in any way need to use this calendar or these documents for anything like this, but when we get to a space called Collaboration, it's really a useful connection to have a Google doc available that the kids can have an interactive space where they can sort of work on a project at the same time together. So that's kind of what we have here on the top of the bar, and then again, I have all of my courses here. So what I'm going to do is I'm going to click on one, and I'll choose for example, my PD leads. And I'm going to go to a couple of classes, so just as an example. So you'll see here, when you go in as a teacher and you've created a new course. You're going to get sort of a shell of a course, meaning that you're going to have these tabs available here, and there won't necessarily be something in those tabs, it's for you as a teacher to go in and fill that space. And so you'll see here that I have not filled out my syllabus, so that's where when I created this course, it populated that tab. And I've left this here just so I could talk about how you create these spaces. But you could also removed it, let's say I don't want a syllabus at all for this class for some reason, or any of the other tabs. You could remove or modify any of the tabs. And then you can build out your courses either by functionality as I've done here, or you might in the next example I show, you might build it out by units. Let's say I'm an American Lit teacher. I'm covering certain units of a text, or anything like this. You might build it out by units and have the functionality sort of embedded within those units. I've created an example of a drop down, so you can see here, we have our main navigation bar, and you can also have your sub-parts. So these are all the resources that I would like for my professional development leads in this course to have access to. So if I click on Home Base website, I've embedded our Home Base website in here. And you'll see that you can, if this is something that you've had for your kids, you could send them to this website. They actually don't have to leave OpenClass right, they're right here.

They can, and I'll give you an example, they can click around right in their class, and not have to leave. So if you have some sites that you visit or you want your kids to visit, you can put it right into your class, I've done the same thing with those pieces I've just showed you a minute ago, the Community Forum and the knowledge base, I've pointed out in OpenClass. So you can see you can embed all sorts of things there. In the same way you could embed a website, you could embed video, if you wanted to have video to show right within the shell of your class. You could also upload a PowerPoint so that you could actually click through that PowerPoint, again within the class, without having it be a separate document or application that the kids have to go to. You can have your assignments, and I don't have any scheduled for this class, but if I had things scheduled I would click on Calendar. And it's not a calendar view parse, but it is a calendar of all of your upcoming items that are due or that you need to keep track of.

Okay, so this next piece is about Collaborations, and this is a space where you can group students together, either in small groups or as an entire class, however you see fit. But what you can do, and let me open this up. So this was a test collaboration that we did for this particular course that we had. So I have the entire class here signed up to collaborate on this document. So you can see I've shared it with all sorts of people and some people have accepted it and are modifying the document, some not so. And you'll see this link here that says Collaboration, that's actually the name of a Google doc that I created. And so if you click on that, it takes you... I've logged in under a separate account a minute ago. Okay... (20:40 -21:18) Okay, so here's the document that we have collaborated on, as you can see there's lots of really wonderful input on this document. But you'll see it opens up right into a document where, let's say you've got some kids grouped together and you want them to talk about Chapter 1 of a text that they're reading. You could open up a document in your Google drive, you could ask a couple of questions, and you could have all the kids sitting around and sort of talking to each other about those questions in that virtual space where they could each type and sort of be responsible for their own piece of that conversation in that Collaborative Doc. It may be their homework assignment. You may want to group certain kids together to work on their homework together. So they're all at their own houses, but they can log in and all work at the same time on these documents. So I think this is a really powerful piece of OpenClass. And you can create as many documents as you would like. And then, I meant to show you this too... So let's say I've just created a group, it's this larger group. You can see here that I can add a document, so if I've grouped a certain number of kids together to work on sort of a longer project. Maybe it's a month long project. They could work on numerous documents together, be that a video, an excel sheet or something they're creating, a word document, or anything like this.

Okay, there also is, actually let me pause, I've been sort of talking at you a lot. Let me pause and get any sort of question that you might have and then I'll go through the rest of these tabs.

Mr. Urbanski: Great, so go ahead and type your questions into the questions box. We do have one Cynthia. Adam, thank you for the question, it says, is there a way to get access to the demo version so we can begin playing with the features in an effort to guide staff, development and help staff in a more meaningful way.

Ms. Crowdus: Well we don't currently have an OpenClass training site. That said, I mean, you can access OpenClass, but it wouldn't be a part of the Home Base... I'm sort of thinking about this as I'm answering your question. Probably the best way that I would say to do it is, if you're interested, to contact someone in your district who can sign you up for OpenClass. And folks will be provisional, and you will actually have OpenClass as a part of your Home Base solution.

(Feedback 24:10)

Sorry about, that was Steve Lauren who works with Pearson and I'm going to un-mute him in a second and let him address the same question. But where I was going with that is you will have OpenClass as part of your Home Base solution if your district chooses to do that. OpenClass though is available not as a part of the Home Base solution more broadly. So if it's something you wanted to look at, there might be a way you can do that. And actually here is where I would have turned it over to Steve, so it's a good thing he unmuted himself to sort of think about the logistics behind that. So Steve, if you want to take it away from here.

Mr. Lauren: Yeah, so Adam there's actually two ways that you could activate OpenClass today, one is if you're a Google Apps district, you could have your Google Apps administrator go into the Google Apps marketplace and just turn it on for your campus. The second way is to navigate to OpenClass.com and request that we set up a campus for your district, and there's just a couple pieces of information we need from you to do so. And if you do that, you know, I would suggest just sending me an email just to make sure you go to the top of the cue, which would be steve.lauren@pearson.com. And then to Cynthia's point, to pull it into the Home Base solution that DPI is providing, there's the opportunity to request getting into one of our future waves of customers that we actually integrate into PowerSchool. But when you first turn it on you will not be, as a standalone campus, you will not be integrated into Home Base. So you will have to navigate there from the Google Apps More pull down or from the OpenClass sign in screen. So hopefully that helps a little bit on what you can do in the interim on what you could do to pilot as you suggested.

Ms. Crowdus: That's perfect, thank you Steve. Okay, so the next question is, are there courses developed for teachers, or do we have to create these from scratch? And I'm going to sort of take the same format. I'm going to answer it and then I'll open it up to Steve if he has anything else to add to it. So a couple of things on this, when you, again as a part of the Home Base solution, there are some things that happen as a part of the entire suite of instructional tools, and one of those things is that the student roster and course information will come from PowerSchool. So as a teacher, once you're set up in your district for OpenClass, you would click on that OpenClass link from PowerSchool, and then when you get into your OpenClass space, as a teacher, your courses are already there in terms of the shell of the course, right. So you're going to have, as I noted, some of your basic tabs, for instance a place for your syllabus, a place for collaboration, all of these types of things. All of your students will be there as well. So that piece of the course development, in terms of the shell, the actual course and the students will be there and will not have to be created from scratch. In terms of content in the course, you would actually create that content. If you have courses that are already created you could cut

and paste some of those things. You could upload documents that you already have. If you are using another LMS such as Moodle, and correct me if I'm wrong Steve, Angel and Blackboard, there's actually an import feature where we could from those specific LMS's. That's correct right Steve?

Mr. Lauren: Yeah, so just a couple things to build on that, so yes we have those import capabilities from those different systems it is important to note that you'd really want to look at the documentation on that in the Help area, because there are specific versions of those platforms that we support. And also know that any time you import an entire course from one LMS to another LMS, there's a good possibility that something will get broken and that you will have some cleanup to do. And then the second part is, we have a capability called the OpenClass exchange, which you would learn about in training or by going to the Help area, where we actually do have some open educational resource courses. There aren't a whole lot of them in there, but there is a slew of resources like Con videos, Ted Ed videos, etc. that could easily be incorporated into your courses as well. So there are full courses built out in some subject areas. And there are resources, single resources, like a video or whatever across subjects areas and grade levels, so that's another area that will be important to look at as you build out your courses.

Ms. Crowds: Okay we've got a couple more questions we're going to address and then we'll pop back over to the course and I'll show you some of the other functionality. Okay, so the next question is how soon will it be available for districts to use within Home Base? We'll talk a little more about this at the end. But to say, my short answer to that is, we're working with districts that have expressed interest now, and Dan will talk a little bit more about that specifically at the end of the Webinar. The next question is, so, OpenClass is a component that the schools can opt-out of? So, it's a piece of the opt-in component, so certainly districts do not have to use OpenClass. If there's another LMS that districts are using and that they want to stay with, then that's certainly something that's at the district's discretion. However, OpenClass is offered as a piece of the Home Base solution as a part of that optional instructional piece. And so we talked a little bit about how OpenClass on its own is a product that is available. So what we mean about an opt-in piece to the instructional suite of tools is, one of the things that I had talked about earlier, which is that push of roster information from PowerSchool into OpenClass. In addition there's that single sign on piece, where once you've signed into Home Base, you can click over and not have to log in or log out again. It's all a part of the suite of tools. And then there's future integration functionality that will be coming along the way but for now those are the two pieces that are in play. And then one more question and then we'll pop back over to the course, and I'm actually going to turn this one over to you Steve. So this is about Google accounts and students, so the question is, if I'm understanding correctly, students will need Google accounts to collaborate on documents?

Mr. Lauren: Yeah, so excellent question. To use the collaboration capability as Cynthia showed you it is directly tied to Google Docs. So yes, that collaboration capability is dependent on Google Apps

within your district. You do not however need to be a Google Apps district to leverage things like the stream or the kind of Facebook-ish kind of collaboration area. Both the course homepage and the dashboard homepage, you do not need to be a Google Apps district to leverage things like chat, as well as the discussion threads, etc. So the only capability that's directly linked to Google Apps, or capabilities I should say, is that collaborations capability, as well as having the Gmail Calendar and drive icons across the top in the tool bar.

Ms. Crowds: Okay, perfect. Thank you. Okay, so some of those features that Steve just talked about, we're just about to look at. So, one of the other things that you can do in Open Class is you can post discussion topics for your students to have threaded discussions. So you can see for example here we've got some of our topics, updates, documents for sort of these types of discussions. And you can see here we've got a response and you can respond to other people's responses. And I'm actually going to... I'm going to show you another course, where that's a little more built out. (Silence 33:40) Okay, so we're in Chapter 1 and this is sort of what I had talked about before, that if you wanted to arrange by unit or chapter, not the way that I had the other class built, that's absolutely possible. So in this case, we have our main navigation called Chapter 1 and all these things that are related to Chapter 1. So in here you can see we've got all sorts of topics under Chapter 1. So I'm just going to click on one of them, or three of them. Okay people really liked Favorite Movies, so we've got Favorite Movies and then all sorts of people's responses to that as well. So it works in the way that you would imagine a threaded discussion would work, all of that functionality that you're probably familiar with, is available here. This is an example of a PowerPoint, I had mentioned before that you could upload your PowerPoint and have it embedded in the shell of the course and not have to send out a document that you would use or have to have your students download.

Okay, I'm going to show you one more example and then I'm going to log out as me and I'm going to log in as a student and show you what the kids see. Here's another functionality called, or that is for assessments. And you could do types of, sort of quick assessments to see where your kids are doing in your course. This is not the same as Schoolnet, Schoolnet has a really robust assessment component where you would probably do your primary classroom and benchmark type assessments. But in this space it's more sort of teacher-student interactive. It's more a course or class space where you're really engaging with your students. A less formal sort of place for testing, you might find this to be a useful piece. And I've created an example test, and so you can preview it and you can see here the different types of questions that are available. You can set your points. You can make it multiple-choice, true false, in this case you can have several different answers, there's a drag and drop functionality, and then you can also have, and then there's fill in the blank. And you can also have the functionality where, if you so choose, this particular assessment did not go well, since I skipped most of them and I want to retake, think about those questions and retake the test. You can set it so that your kids can retake the same quiz until they feel that they've mastered the topic. So I think this is a really nice function of this particular piece of the system. So you could take it again, your other scores are deleted. You could really, again to follow this literature course that we're in or that we were in, if a kid read a chapter and you have all sorts of questions about the chapter, what the main

themes are, character traits, anything that you're sort of wanting the kids to get out of that chapter. You could create an assessment, have the kids go through it, see that they really didn't get all of what you needed for them to get out of that chapter, and then they could just sort of reread the text and then go back through. And it's a test without consequences if you wanted to use it as sort of a formative assessment capacity. You also have this email functionality where you can email people who are in your class. You collect them all, you can add them over here, and this sends it to the email that is associated with their account. So whatever the email is in PowerSchool, so if you're a teacher it's your school teacher email account, if you're a student it's whatever student account that you have in PowerSchool. So if I were to send an email to my class, all my kids would get an email from me but I don't have to log out and go to my outlook and you know, have a contact group with all my kids. You could just shoot an email straight from here. And then one last thing while I'm on the teacher part, you can upload documents and you can download documents. So there's a place where you can document share and that may be where you want to just share handouts or images or a PowerPoint, or you know, anything that you might want to share with your kids that you want them to be able to download. Or conversely if you want them to create something and then share it with the whole class, this is a space where it's not submitting an assignment, so much as it is sharing a document with another folks who are in the class. Okay, and Steve I'm going to un-mute you as I log out and then log back in as a student to see if you have anything else you'd like to add, and then Dan as well, if you have anything that you'd like to add sort of about the main functionality of OpenClass.

Mr. Urbanski: Well I was just looking at the questions, and Ben posed a really good question, so I'll address that. Basically his question was, if we are a Google Apps district and already have OpenClass set up, and now we want to pull OpenClass into the Home Base environment, are we going to have to recreate classes and whatnot? So the short answer is, we had a, up on the knowledge base, a preparing for PowerSchool tech-note for lack of a better word, to ensure that we wouldn't duplicate users and courses when you manually imported users. So it would be worth taking a look at that document. And then we will work with the districts that fall into that category and try and mitigate any of those challenges of duplicating users or courses. And then lastly, for active courses this semester, the way the integration will work, you can selectively determine which sections you want to synch over to OpenClass. And from my perspective, it wouldn't make sense to start synching a course that is active mid-semester. So, with those teachers that are really active in the system, I will leave them alone until semester 2, and then start synching them from PowerSchool. So hopefully that helps clarify that question.

Ms. Crowdus: Okay, great. Thank you. Okay, so I have logged out as the teacher and I have logged back in as a student. So you can see if I click back on this bar where before you saw all the courses that I taught as a teacher, you can see now that I'm enrolled in two classes. So I'm going to click on one of my classes. And you'll see my view as a student. So I've got my announcements. If I were the teacher I could set announcements for the kids to see. We'll see here that I do have one. I need to do something with Chapter 1 here, so I'm going to click open that. And it says, "Be sure to check for new discussions and quizzes every night." Okay, so I know to do that, I can

either mark it as unread, maybe I just want to have it still showing every time I log in so I don't forget about it. I can do that or I can just close out of it and then have no unread announcements. You can click back and forth if you need to reference an announcement that was up earlier. If I had some upcoming assignments, here is where you would see your upcoming assignments for the next seven days. So if it's a quiz that's coming up or if it's a... With the students and teacher, it's largely the same. The teacher just has the option to modify the courses, to add content, and to manage the site. It's a little bit different, but it's largely the same.

So we just have about twelve minutes left, I'd just like to open it up for more questions. So I'm going to take some more of your questions, and then we do have some final remarks to make. Dan's going to talk to you a little bit about the roll out of OpenClass before we sign off. Let me open up the questions and see. Okay, so the next question, Steve I'm going to punt this one to you again so I'm going to un-mute you. Can you talk a little bit about the kind of access principals have to the classes for observation purposes, to use student and teacher consultation, resources being used etc.

Mr. Lauren: Yeah, so we have a capability through the admin role, which a principal would be set up as, where you can actually launch into a teacher's course. You don't have visibility to everything. For instance, I don't think you have visibility to the grades of the students, but you do have visibility to how the course is structured, the activity I believe on the course wall, as well as, you know, you could drill down into any of the discussion threads and whatnot. So that's how you would be able to observe and see what's happening with the classroom as it pertains to the online activities, or the blended activities in OpenClass.

Ms. Crowds: Okay so I have questions that are coming from Tammy Gram, and they're sort of related, so I'm going to read them both at once. Hold on, let me mute one line. Okay so the questions are, what types of reports can we run from OpenClass? How do I know if they're really working? And a related question is an example. If I embed a PowerPoint or a website how will I know if the kids completed the work. So I'll let Steve answer the report piece. But in terms of, well I'll answer it generally and then he'll probably have more to add. So there are analytics in that first little piece that I showed you, if you follow my cursor in that learner intelligence. You can track activity and participation. And you can see me sort of scrolling here. Well, it's thinking, but there is a place where you can get some statistics on the activity that's happening in your classroom, so I would say that, just in terms of if a kid has looked at a PowerPoint. But for other pieces of OpenClass you can see because it's pretty transparent. And what I mean by that is, if you have a threaded discussion, that is a threaded discussion that all students and you can see. So you can monitor that, see when your kids are answering a specific topic or addressing a specific topic that you posted. If you have asked for an assignment to be submitted to you, you'll get that assignment with a time stamp on it. If you had asked them to work in that collaborative space you can see, well, you could see the outcome of the collaboration, not necessarily who did what, but you would see the sort of results as that product was being formed. So that's some of the ways that you could monitor the kids activity, and Steve might have some more to add to that.

Mr. Lauren: Yeah, so Tammy, there's a couple other places that make sense. We've got a feature that's called Gradebook, which is a little bit confusing, not the PowerSchool gradebook. But it's a way for a teacher to capture some scores on some type of online activities. It's a way for us to capture a score in terms of auto graded formative assessments that Cynthia showed you as well. And then underneath that there's an area called performance that allows you to see if the kid has actually, to your point, actually accessed that particular content item. So anything that's marked as grade-able will show up in this performance area, and it will show you if the kid's logged on and accessed that item. So those are probably the best ways for the teachers to keep tabs on making sure the kid's not only logged into the system, but also accessed those particular assignments or homework projects.

Ms. Crowds: Okay, great. Thank you. So the next question is, am I correct to think that parents can also see the content of these course pages? And actually no, not at this time. There isn't parent access to OpenClass. There's teacher access, administrator access, and student access. That said, it may be that a teacher wants to share the student access with a parent. It may be that the parent just gets the kid's access and that way you would see exactly the same thing as the kids see in the course. But there isn't parent access at this point.

Mr. Lauren: Yeah and that's something, this is Steve, that is something that is on our roadmap. We don't have a definitive date. Tentatively we would like to have it in place by back-to-school 2014. But we'll have more specifics on whether we're going to be able to hit that timeline in the coming months.

Ms. Crowds: Okay, and we have time for one more, because we do need to move on for the final bit of the, sort of, informational rollout piece of OpenClass. So the last question is, I'm not sure what this last question is.

Mr. Urbanski: From Michelle? Liz was saying, will training for teachers who teach VI, I believe that's visually impaired. Michelle is that correct, visually impaired students be offered?

Ms. Crowds: Oh, okay, sorry, I didn't understand the VI. I was reading it as six and I was confused. I'm not sure, I don't really have any answer to that.

Mr. Lauren: So this is Steve. So a couple things there, so one, what I've seen some schools or districts do is for instance upload the audio of a passage. So this student could listen to the passage versus having to read it. And we also do support some of the assistive technologies. And I'm not an expert in this area by any stretch. But support challenge compliant devices, so I believe that would help as well.

Ms. Crowds: Okay, well I'm going to turn it back over to Dan now, give me just a moment. And you're back on air again.

Mr. Urbanski: Okay, thank you. And I get to show my screen here. And the last couple of moments we wanted to discuss, there's some questions that came up throughout the presentation. How are we going to have access to this? What's the plan for the rollout? And the way we've set this up, unlike other components within the Home Base suite, where once we have it set up, everybody has access, we're going to be rolling this out in waves to districts that are interested in trying out this tool and have shown interest that they want to use this. The reason being is that there are some configuration requirements that are needed on our end here with our partner Pearson, which you've heard from Steve. By the way, thank you so very much for being part of this, Steve, we appreciate your efforts. But there are some items that need to be configured from the DPI/Pearson level, as well as some items that need to be set up at the individual district at the LEA level. So in doing so, what we've done is we've set up groups of trainings to happen. And right now what we're doing with this webinar, is to share it with the people on the phone, primarily the people here that are the teachers and the principals. We've asked that if this is something that is of interest to you, speak to your leadership, speak to your district superintendents. We've sent out messages to them and we'll continue to do so that lets them know what is required to sign up. And based on that interest, they are contacting DPI directly. We are having them set up for future configurations as well as set up for future trainings. And so throughout the rest of this fall and the winter months, we'll be holding additional, we'll be taking care of some of the requirements for setting up folks as they show their interest. So if there's something here that you say to yourself, that we're really excited about this and it seems like a wonderful tool that we can use in our classrooms to help with our students, please share that interest with your superintendents and have them contact us directly. If the superintendent, they've been sent information in a couple of formats, so they should be familiar with this and it's also been mentioned to them in their regular newsletters. So that's more about how this is going to be done. Going forward we will also be having an additional webinar just like this, so if you yourself want to go through it again, you're free to do that. We'll be looking up a, I'll confirm this when I get to the next slide, the December 13th is the time tasked for our next webinar overview, and maybe you have somebody that could not attend today. So I have two solutions for that, one would be to invite them to this webinar, as well as today, this session has been recorded, so we're going to go ahead and post that up on the Home Base website so it can be viewed for later viewing with yourselves. Say if you want to go back and review some of the areas, so we'll be doing that. Now, I did mention, let me jump over to a different screen here real quick, I did mention where we could go for that additional training. So what I'm showing on the screen right now is just a general training information page within our Home Base website. And if you were to click on the Training Schedule, and then you see how we have this broken up between the Schoolnet, the Educator Effectiveness, and the OpenClass areas. Within the Schoolnet, ah, today's the 13th, it's December 12th that's the next date for the introduction. So that again will be going through, this audience is intended for the same groups, all are welcome. It's primarily for the teachers and administrators to go through. But please share that with your colleagues so we can do this going forward, so they're invited to join us going forward. Now, one last area before we wind up, because we're approaching our promised time here. We're always

interested in finding out what you think. And what I've got on that board now is something that you've seen probably in the past. We're looking for your feedback. So if you could please, this is my one question, or my one challenge to you, is if you could take a moment after this webinar is completed, and go ahead and take the survey, it just takes a few couple moments. And this is really how we grow as a team, because we know that our job is to support and serve you in the classrooms and this is our area, our way of finding out how we can do better for you. So I'm going to take this item and I'm going to paste that into the chat box for you so you can click on that link and take it afterwards. And I'll leave that up as we finish here today. With that I'd like to thank you for your interest in this webinar, and this information. Hopefully we've met your needs by showing you the basics of the system. Again, once a district has indicated that they want to sign up and have the system configured and turned on, we will not only configure and make it work and work with the rosters to be set up. We will also provide training for those people. So again, if there's an interest there, share that interest with your district leadership at the superintendent level, and we'll get you signed up in our next wave. Without any further adieu, I would like to thank our committee, little panel here today. We have Steve Lauren with Pearson learning, again thank you very much Steve for your time and efforts, it's very much appreciated. Cynthia Crowds, I think you did a wonderful job going through the system today, showing for that. Thank you for your time in doing that. And for those of you on the phone, thank you for your time. We know it's valuable and we appreciate you gave the last sixty minutes to us so we could show you something exiting. With that ladies and gentlemen we'll end this webinar. And I do encourage you to not only take the survey, but go ahead and check out the website for the training dates and sign up for a webinar near you. Thanks everybody! Bye-bye now!