

Home Base Biweekly Update



March 22, 2013

THIS WEEK

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Superintendents Hear Latest on Home Base

NCDPI Chief Financial Officer/Chief Information Officer Philip Price gave superintendents an update regarding Home Base costs and implementation at the Superintendents Quarterly meeting on March 19. NCDPI is negotiating with Pearson and hopes to be able to offer all available features of Home Base to all local education agencies and public charter schools at no cost to them through the upcoming fiscal year (using Race to the Top funds). After that, costs for the non-required elements of Home Base will be shared with LEAs. Our goal is to keep the costs low and consistent, approximately \$4 per student, by using regularly occurring reversion funds to cover any gap between LEA contributions and the total price. NCDPI will continue to cover the cost of PowerSchool, educator evaluation and professional development and state online assessments.

The full presentation that Philip made is online at

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/superintendents/quarterly/2012-13/20130319>

Online Testing with Chromebooks and iPads

The NCDPI has heard from many districts and schools regarding Home Base and assessment technical requirements, particularly around Chromebook devices and iPads. In response, a one-page document entitled, Online Testing with Chromebooks and iPads has been released and is available online at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/homebase/updates/memos/online-testing.pdf>.

This document outlines the use of Chromebooks and iPads for the following:

- Online Benchmark and Classroom Assessment in Home Base for 2013-14 and beyond
- Statewide Summative Assessment Plan for 2013-2014 (End-of-Course and End-of-Grade)
- Statewide Summative Assessment Plan for 2014-2015 (End-of-Course and End-of-Grade)

MORE INFO: For additional technical requirements, please refer to the Home Base Minimum End-User Technical Requirements (Published March 2013) found here:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/homebase/getting-ready/tech-requirements.pdf>.

Educator Evaluation Webinar April 12

Another feature in the Home Base suite of technology tools for teachers and administrators will be quick, easy access to tools for implementing educator evaluation. NCDPI will host a webinar Friday, April 12, from 1-3 p.m. to discuss the 2013-14 NC Educator Evaluation process and implications related to transitioning to the Educator Evaluation component of Home Base.

The session will include:

- Overview of what to expect,
- Deployment of the new Evaluation System and related readiness steps (training, etc.),
- Expected implications for LEAs related to the change.

This webinar is geared to LEA Human Resources Directors and other LEA staff involved in the educator evaluation process. Register for the webinar at

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/222900897>.

Collaborative Conference for Student Achievement (CCSA)

NCDPI's 2013 Collaborative Conference for Student Achievement (CCSA) will be held March 25-27 at the Sheraton Greensboro at Four Seasons/Joseph Koury Convention Center.

Home Base will be featured in a Focus Group session March 25 from 1–4 p.m. in Auditorium 4. On March 26, there's an NC FALCON Showcase featuring students from High Point University and teachers from LEAs across the state in a 90-minute session from 2:30-4 p.m. in meeting room Guilford D.

MORE INFO: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/academicservices/conference/>

Visit Our Booth at Upcoming Conferences

Reminder: If you're attending the CCSA conference listed above, stop by our Home Base booth to say hello, pick up some info and meet some of the folks working on Home Base.

We'll likewise have a booth March 22-23 at the Raleigh Convention Center for the North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE) convention.

Also, look for the Home Base table June 1 at the North Carolina Parent-Teacher Association (NCPTA) Parent Education and Leadership Conference at Raleigh's McKimmon Center.

MORE INFO: Here are the links to find out more about these conferences:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/academicservices/conference/>

<http://www.ncae.org/news/ncae-convention/>

<http://ncpta.org/index.php/events/conferences/>

Next Home Base Teacher Webinar March 27

The Home Base team continues conducting monthly webinars; next on tap is a webinar for teachers March 27 from 3:30-5 p.m. Please remember to register as a group if you will be viewing with others in your schools or professional learning communities (PLCs).

MORE INFO: The link to register is <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/857220064>

Visit the Video Archives

The Home Base teacher and technical webinars are a great way to hear the latest on Home Base. They are now available for viewing online so you can access them easily on your own schedule.

MORE INFO: Find the webinar video archives on the Home Base website at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/homebase/presentations/>.

Home Base PowerSchool Project Updates

The second Home Base (PowerSchool) Project Update webinar held March 14 featured information on the conversion timeline, NC specific customizations and a demonstration of the Parent Portal in PowerSchool.

If you were unable to attend, you can access it and other updates here: http://www.ncwise.org/powerschool_updates.html

The NC Data Conversion Issue Tracker – a summary of all known issues and their statuses – is also located on this page.

Future webinars, each 1-3 p.m., are planned for March 28, April 11, May 9, May 23 and June 6. If you haven't already, you may register here, and you only need to register once for all webinars scheduled through June 6:

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/315714961>

MORE INFO: If you have any questions about the information shared in these webinars, please contact the Home Base Support Center at homebase.incidents@its.nc.gov.

Home Base PowerSchool Training Update

PowerSchool training for LEAs and charters is continuing statewide. As of March 22, Pearson and NCDPI staff have held 27 training events where 499 people have received three-day Instant Productivity Training (IPT) or five-day IPT Certification Training.

MORE INFO: Email your training questions to Wendy Hinson, wendy.hinson@dpi.nc.gov

HOME BASE BIWEEKLY UPDATE INFO

We encourage you to share this Update, and for past issues of Home Base Biweekly Updates, please visit <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/homebase/updates/>

*****LINKS:** PC users might need to press the CTRL button when clicking on a hyperlink in this document.