

Home Base Biweekly Update



June 19, 2014

NEW THIS WEEK

- Home Base Opt-In Continuing with Numbers Growing Daily
- Important End-of-Year Reminders
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- From the Field: Home Base Training a Success for Region 4 Charter Schools
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IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

- New on the Web: Reporting System Performance Issues for Schoolnet
- Home Base Part of 2014 Summer Institutes' Line-Up

NEW THIS WEEK

Home Base Opt-In Continuing with Numbers Growing Daily

It's been exciting to watch the online "opt-in" map of the state turn green as more and more local school districts and charter schools give the "green light" to opting in for Home Base for 2014-15.

As of this writing, there are already 58 LEAs and 15 charter schools that have officially opted in, meaning all their teachers, staff and students will be benefiting from the full suite of technology tools in Home Base for 2014-15 — that's 435,784 students so far.

The list of opt-in districts and charter schools, along with their average daily membership (ADM) count and the running total and percentage, continues to be part of our Weekly Project Status report updated online each Tuesday. Access it here:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/homebase/status/opt-in/>.

MORE INFO: The opt-in deadline is July 15, but there's no need to wait. The opt-in form and details are online now on the Home Base landing page:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/homebase/>. Or, access them directly at:

<http://forms.ncpublicschools.gov/home-base/home-base-opt-in>

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/homebase/home/opt-in.pdf>

Important End-of-Year Reminders

The End-of-Year (EOY) process closes out the current school year and transfers all students to the grade level and school that each will be attending during the upcoming year. It uses the Next_School field to determine which school a student will attend, and the Sched_NextYearGrade field to determine the grade level where a student will be enrolled.

Please do NOT transition students to their next school, but assign students their Next_School and Sched_NextYearGrade. Students will be transitioned to their next school during the EOY process. If students are moved to the Graduated School early, they will not show up on the Graduation Data Verification reporting. For reference, please see to the Post EOY Checklist located on the NC SIS website at http://www.nc-sis.org/Documents/end_of_year/Post_EOY_Checklist.pdf.

Also, it is imperative that all validation errors are resolved prior to running the EOY process. EOY will not run with invalid data. So please, validate your data prior to EOY.

For EOY documentation, visit our EOY page located at <http://www.nc-sis.org/eoy.html>.

From the Field: New Videos Online Show Home Base, RttT impact

There is great teaching and learning going on all across North Carolina. To help showcase how local school districts are using Home Base and how Race to the Top (RttT) funding has supported school improvements and elevated instruction, the NCDPI Communications team is compiling a series of short video clips from the field on new Home Base and READY playlists on the NC Department of Public Instruction's YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/user/ncpublicschools>).

So grab a snack, sit back and check out what some of your colleagues are up to with Home Base and RttT:

- Buncombe County Schools - Instructional Coaches Marta Garcia and Millie Stubbs share how a healthy infusion of Professional Development supported by RttT has been replicated for 1,800 teachers across their district. View their discussion here: <http://bit.ly/1iHnNfo>.
- Greene County Schools - Carrie Ann Miller is a STEM teacher who ignites excitement among her students interested in careers in science, math and/or engineering, thanks to RttT support. View her clip here: <http://bit.ly/1iHnEsh>.
- Brunswick County Schools - First-year social studies teacher Quan Stewart is using Schoolnet data to more quickly locate resources and then customize his instructional practices. Hear from him here: <http://bit.ly/1oHusxU>.
- Brunswick County Schools - Could you build a birdhouse by reading instructional text at the age of 5? Stephanie Boehmer's kindergarten class can. Boehmer shows that the new standards foster creativity in the classroom via various methods. See it at <http://bit.ly/1piNfMa>.

MORE INFO: Keep checking back as more videos will be posted in coming weeks. Please forward links and tweet if you see something you like. And, if you have a good news stories "From the Field" to share for this publication, please contact Kathy Newbern in the NCDPI Communications office, kathy.newbern@dpi.nc.gov.

Summer Schoolnet Capacity Building Trainings Scheduled

The NCDPI will be hosting a series of summer trainings for districts/charter schools, organized by regions, to benefit Schoolnet users in the 2014-15 school year. There are two levels of training; one is basic for those who are training new users, and the other offers a more in-depth exposure to the system's features.

Schoolnet I sessions will support the local leadership/training team with an introduction to Schoolnet, with a focus on item/assessment creation, instructional materials and reporting at the student and classroom level with a brief overview of school and district reporting.

Schoolnet II sessions will focus on advanced topics within Schoolnet, which will be helpful to users who have implemented Schoolnet within their district and are familiar with assessment, and instructional material creation, as well as basic reporting functionality of Schoolnet.

More details and registration links will be forthcoming, but for now you can save the dates shown here:

- Regions 1 and 5: Schoolnet I and II, July 21-24,
- Region 2: Schoolnet I, July 21-24,
- Regions 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8: Schoolnet I, July 28-31,
- Schoolnet II sessions are Aug. 4-5 for the east, hosted by Region 4; Aug. 6-7 for the west, hosted by Region 7.

MORE INFO: Cynthia Martin at cynthia.martin@dpi.nc.gov or Yvette Stewart at yvette.stewart@dpi.nc.gov.

From the Field: Home Base Training a Success for Region 4 Charter Schools

The Home Base Overview/Training for Charter Schools in Region 4, held June 16, was a big success with 20 attendees and all but two charter schools in the region represented. NCDPI team members participating in this session included Dan Urbanski, Tad Piner, Rosalyn Galloway, Donna Albaugh and Martha Anderson. The same session will be offered for Region 3 on June 20 at East Wake Academy High School.

James Coon, Regional Lead for the two regions, reports: "I believe that all of the charters' representatives who attended the session were greatly appreciative of our efforts. It was obvious that they were highly interested and engaged in this Home Base topic, as they stayed well beyond the 4:30 ending time, to ask questions and seek more support. Just as one illustrative example, I received the following email message from Andrea Olinger of the Paul R. Brown Leadership Academy: '... Thank you so much for yesterday. It was great hearing of the things included in the opt-in because our school hadn't considered taking advantage of it until yesterday.' "

Coon notes that this charter school has now opted in. "This comment," he says, "was reflective of many other charter school representatives who asked that we provide them with specific directions on how to opt in and who then asked for additional training on PowerSchool, Schoolnet and TNL."

Region 4 charter school representatives have requested follow-up Home Base training sessions bimonthly starting in August/September to discuss successes, needs and challenges as well as next steps. The request notes they are ready to team with Region 3 charters for joint sessions.

Upcoming Training Webinars and Workshops

- PowerSchool Training Workshop for New Charter Schools for 2014-15

This workshop is for new charter schools coming on board for the 2014-15 school year. Attendees must be an employee of the school and not a management company.

This is a four-day workshop to walk new users through the process of setting up their school for the new year. This session will include, but is not limited to:

- Logging into PowerSchool,
- Navigating the system,
- Enrolling students,
- Withdrawing students,
- Adding teachers/staff,
- Creating the master schedule, and
- Scheduling students and teachers to classes.

Remaining dates are:

- Tuesday, July 29 – Friday, Aug. 1, and
- Tuesday, Aug. 5 – Friday, Aug. 8.

Registration link: <http://www.timetosignup.com/powerschooltraining/folder/1823>

- Nurses Module in PowerSchool Webinar

This webinar will include demonstrations on how to enter immunizations, health screens, incident screening, medication and office visit information as well as instructions on how to generate reports.

Date and Time: Tuesday, Aug. 19, 9 a.m.–noon.

Registration link: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/381216368>.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

New on the Web: Reporting System Performance Issues for Schoolnet

A new document has been posted on the Home Base website Resources page that outlines the steps for submitting a Home Base Support Center ticket specifically related to the system performance of Schoolnet. This document will help your ticket contain the details required to determine and resolve performance-based issues. Access it here: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/homebase/resources/support-center/> by clicking on “Reporting System Performance Issues for Schoolnet.”

While on the Resources page, you’ll notice a new look for the list of “leads” for school districts and charter schools for each component within Home Base. If you need to change your listing or notice an error, please email Kathy Newbern at kathy.newbern@dpi.nc.gov. We know change happens, and we’d like to keep this list as current as possible as these contacts reach out on

your behalf to the HBSC and are recognized users for logging Remedy tickets.

Home Base Part of 2014 Summer Institutes' Line-Up

Home Base resources for classroom instruction will be among the topics at 2014 Summer Institutes, which are planned in all eight regions across the state next month. Regions 1, 2, 5 and 7 will experience the myriad of professional development simultaneously on July 7-8, while Regions 3, 4, 6 and 8 will participate simultaneously during July 9-10.

This year's theme is "Sustaining Success: Building on Achievement." Each institute will feature sessions created and presented by LEAs and charters. These "Implementation Innovation" sessions include authentic practices from the field that have proven to be successful in moving the district or charter forward in building local leadership capacity.

The overarching goal of SI 2014 is to connect educators across the state with meaningful professional development around best practices. Implementation topics, in addition to Home Base, include curriculum content, instructional practices for student differentiation, and local professional development planning time for the year.

MORE INFO: SI launches the yearly professional development calendar in partnership with our eight Regional Service Alliances (RESAs). Contact Cynthia Martin, Educator Effectiveness PD lead, at Cynthia.Martin@dpi.nc.gov should you have questions. And read more at <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/profdev/summerinstitutes/2014/>.

HOME BASE WEEKLY UPDATE INFO

We encourage you to share this Update, and for past issues of Home Base Weekly and Biweekly Updates, please visit <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/homebase/updates/biweekly/?year=2014>.

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