

Home Base/RttT Biweekly Update



January 8, 2015

NEW THIS WEEK

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- **Mark Your Calendar! 2015 Home Base Symposium Registration**
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- **Coming in July 2015! Logging into Home Base with the IAM Service**
- **Next Home Base Maintenance Weekend is Feb 6-8**

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

- **High Quality Online PD Modules: Available Now!**
- **Coming in March! 5th Annual Collaborative Conference for Student Achievement (CCSA)**

NEW THIS WEEK

New! Teacher Spotlight on Home Base

The NC Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) is collaborating with teachers across the state to share ways our state's teachers are using Home Base's Instructional Improvement system, Schoolnet, in their daily instructional practices. You will have the opportunity to read stories and watch videos about instructional strategies that work for teachers, learn from teachers in the field about cool tips and resources they're using in their classrooms and how Schoolnet has helped them in their day-to-day work. If you're a classroom teacher with an innovative Schoolnet instructional strategy to share with your colleagues across the state, we would love to feature your experience in our Teacher Spotlight series. To ask about us featuring your video, please send an email to Cynthia Crowdus at Cynthia.Crowdus@dpi.nc.gov.

Meet our first teacher of the series: James Frye, a sophomore English teacher at Newton-Conover High

School as well as an Instructional Technology Facilitator for Newton-Conover City Schools.

James: "I'd like to share with you how you can use Schoolnet's assessments to assess students' progress by individual standard and then take the data you get by those individual standards and use it to fuel a Standards-Based Grading classroom. This is an excellent way to use the software and track student mastery, moving from a traditional grading system to a mastery grading system in your classroom. I will also be talking about how Schoolnet really should be used with a purpose -- as an Instructional Improvement System, not merely as a catalyst for increased and purposeless repeated assessments."

To see James' video, please visit <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/homebase/> and view his video from the Toolbox.

Mark Your Calendar! 2015 Home Base Symposium Registration

Register now for the 2015 Home Base Symposium scheduled for Feb 23 – 25 at the Sheraton/Koury Convention Center in Greensboro, NC. Online registration is available at <http://bit.ly/1tNS4i5>. Please make every effort to register online and print your registration form from the site for sending along with your check to the NCDPI Cash Collections, 6336 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-6336. If you experience any problems while registering, please contact Yolanda Wilson at yolanda.wilson@dpi.nc.gov.

Register now and save. The fee for timely registrations postmarked by Jan 31 is \$115. Fees for late registrations postmarked on or after Feb 1 and onsite registrations are \$250. Please note that we can only accept checks – credit cards and cash are not accepted.

A block of rooms for symposium guests have been reserved at the Sheraton Hotel. Reservations must be booked by Jan 22 to capitalize on the group rate of \$154.46 (taxes included). You can call the Sheraton at (336) 292-9161 and ask them to add you to the symposium block. Or you can locate hotel forms at <http://bit.ly/1tNS4i5> and send to the Sheraton Greensboro Hotel at Four Seasons, 3121 High Point Rd., Greensboro, NC 27407 or fax to 336-323-4876.

Benchmarking Soon? Let Us Know When

The NCDPI and Pearson teams are continuing to improve and monitor Schoolnet, especially during peak usage times like when many districts administer their benchmark tests. In order for us to have the most up-to-date information in one place and to be able to anticipate peak testing time, we ask that you fill out a quick and simple form at <http://goo.gl/MB5oax> to let us know about your plans for benchmarking.

Some of the improvements to Schoolnet include optimizations intended to distribute and balance the load on the system. In addition to optimizations, Pearson has also created a separate database instance to serve the assessment administration activities and a separate read-only database instance to serve some of the reporting activities. This change will off-load a great deal of the load from the core database, which in turn, will result in less database locking and contention errors when the system is under load.

We look forward to hearing from you about your benchmark plans.

Seize the Data: Empowering Teachers to Create and Use Assessment and Measurement

This 18-week online course is taught by a North Carolina Center for Advancement in Teaching (NCCAT) Data Literacy Specialist (a trained NC classroom teacher), and includes weekly assignments that are classroom-embedded and designed to help teachers reflect on the importance of data and how they collect, analyze and use it in their instruction. Teachers will gain a basic understanding of data literacy principles and be able to reflect on and improve existing classroom assessment practices and classroom data collection. They should expect to spend 2-3 hours per week on course-related work. The course will earn 40 hours of credit equal to 4 CEUs.

The course is available at no cost to North Carolina educators. Participants are expected to meet all weekly deadlines in order to receive their CEUs. Partial credit will not be given. Registration is limited to 35 participants per section.

Registration is now underway.
 Course Start Date: Jan 12, 2015
 To register:

- > Log in to the NCEES system using your usual PowerSchool log in or the alternate log in at <http://bit.ly/1zX2bmU>
- > Click the Professional Development tab.
- > You can search for the course and populate it.
- > Click on the course title then click on the section
- > Click on the register button.

Contact Mandy Taylor mandy.taylor@dpi.nc.gov if you have any questions.

Home Base Weekly Webinar Series

The NCDPI invites you to take advantage of the weekly Home Base Webinar Series which invites system users to discuss timely topics. Webinars are designed to assist users with PowerSchool, Educator Evaluation/PD System and Schoolnet/OpenClass on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. These webinars are always free and offer attendees the opportunity to learn about best practices, tips for success, and new aspects of the system. Participants are also given a chance to ask questions and connect with experts. Upcoming topics include:

- Mid-Year Graduates in PowerSchool
- North Carolina Educator Evaluation System
- What does Quality Online PD look like?
- Creating Classroom Assessments
- KPI's and Pre-Formatted Reports

For a full list of upcoming topics, webinar start times, and registration links, please visit <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/calendar/> and click *Webinars* on the left navigation bar. The calendar is being updated daily with new training sessions so check back often.

Specific upcoming webinars on Schoolnet, OpenClass and PowerSchool/PowerTeacher are also listed below:

Weekly Webinars on Schoolnet and OpenClass for January

The Schoolnet and OpenClass webinar series continues on Thursday throughout the school year and features weekly sessions on each of the components within Schoolnet (Classrooms, Assessment Admin, and School and District Data) and on OpenClass. Webinar details are posted on the Home Base website at, at <http://bit.ly/1KpINZ2> and <http://bit.ly/1Dq1RU1>.

January webinars are listed below:

Date	Time	Topic	Description	Registration
1/15/2015	3:30-4:30	Assessment Admin Component – District Benchmark Creation/ ClassScape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benchmark Creation, Naming Conventions • Working Collaboratively on Benchmark Assessments • Scheduling Assessments • Best Practices 	Webinar Registration

			discussed by LEA panel.	
1/22/2015	3:30-4:30	School and District Data Component – Custom Reports and Publishing	Creating Student Sets/Creating Custom Reports /Analysis Spread sheets/Saving and Publishing Reports Scenarios and use cases discussed by report experts.	Webinar Registration
1/29/2015	3:30-4:30	OpenClass – Admin Tools	OpenClass admins will learn how to create and copy master courses, share courses with teachers and make them available to educators statewide. Included is a presentation on the PIF adapter tool that admins/data managers use to sync courses and rosters.	Webinar Registration

PowerSchool Scheduler Training and Preparation Update

PowerSchool Scheduling training will begin Jan 20 and continue through Feb 6. PowerSchool coordinators will receive registration emails with all logistical information for their teams starting Jan 7. The NCDPI PowerSchool trainers will walk attendees through the initial scheduling processes (establishing Years and Terms; updating course catalogs; etc.) that must be completed before information is loaded in the Home Base system. If you have questions about these workshops, please contact your district's PowerSchool coordinator.

Upcoming PowerTeacher and PowerSchool Webinars and Workshops Schedule

- Mid-year Graduates in PowerSchool Webinar - This webinar will discuss the process for handling records of students graduating mid-year.

- Tuesday, Jan 13, at 9 a.m.

Register Here! <http://bit.ly/1xXKMj>

- Athletic eligibility in PowerSchool - This webinar will demonstrate the new Athletic Eligibility functionality in PowerSchool
 - Wednesday, Jan 14, at 1 p.m.

Register Here! <http://bit.ly/1BEpC8P>

- Office of Civil Rights Data Collection (OCR/CRDC) - This hour and a half webinar is intended for OCR Coordinators, NC SIS Coordinators and any staff who are involved in the Office of Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC).
 - Tuesday, Jan 20, at 1 p.m.

Register here! <http://bit.ly/1pnrBVg>

- PowerSchool New Coordinator Training Workshop - This workshop is geared to new PowerSchool coordinators who have not attended the 5 day IPT certification training or the 8 day District certification training.

- Monday and Tuesday, Jan 12 – 13, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Thursday and Friday, Jan 15 – 16, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Register here! <http://bit.ly/1rcc1U2>

PD MOOClet: Effective Digital Strategies for Teaching and Learning in the K-12 Classroom

Due to the continuing popularity of this course, the Educator Effectiveness Division of the NC Department of Public Instruction is offering another session of *Effective Digital Strategies for Teaching and Learning in the K-12 Classroom: A PD MOOClet*, starting February 9. This course is available at no cost to North Carolina educators and will be facilitated by the NCDPI professionals.

This course will start Monday February 9. Registration will open Monday, January 26.
Duration: 6 Weeks (20 hours)

Credits: 2 CEUs

Maximum registration: 300

This course is intended for K-12 classroom teachers and other instructional personnel. It focuses on using digital tools and strategies to support teaching and learning, and enriching individuals' knowledge through developing communities of practice across the state. In this course, we will look at the 4Cs - Creativity, Critical Thinking, Communication and Collaboration: keystones for the 21st Century Classroom. This MOOClet:

- Learner-centered, focusing on participants' professional needs in different disciplines and grade levels
- Focuses on participants as creators of content as much as they are "consumers" of content
- Involves extensive peer-to-peer communication
- Includes a larger number of students than a typical facilitator-led course

Who should participate? Active, collaborative learners who are self-driven, motivated, flexible and enjoy

sharing information and resources.

To register, follow the instructions below:

- Log in to the NCEES system using your PowerSchool log in or the alternate log in <http://bit.ly/1zX2bmU>
- Click the Professional Development tab.
- Perform a search by entering the title and populating the course list.
- Click on the course title; then click on the section
- Click on the register button.

Contact Dr. Geetanjali Soni at Geetanjali.soni@dpi.nc.gov if you have any questions.

Spring 2015: Instructor-Facilitated and CEU Credited Online Courses

Looking for high-quality professional development and the opportunity to interact with peers? Now you can participate in a series of instructor-facilitated online courses that are being offered for Session 1, Spring 2015. These courses will start Monday, Feb 9. Registration will open Monday, Jan 26. Our second spring session will be offered starting Mar 30.

Course name
Digital Literacies in the Classroom (6 weeks)
Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects: Part 1 (5 weeks)
Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects: Part 2 (6 weeks)
Introduction to Data Literacy (5 weeks)
Data Literacy in Action (6 weeks)
Introduction to Universal Design for Learning (4 weeks)
Universal Design for Learning: Part 2 (4 weeks)
Connecting with our 21 Century Learners (6 weeks)
North Carolina Professional Teaching Standards (6 weeks)
Building and Sustaining PD (6 weeks)

For a description of the courses and associated CEUs, visit <https://rt3nc.org/>.

Complete online at no cost to North Carolina educators and will be facilitated by the NCDPI professionals. Participants are expected to meet all weekly deadlines in order to receive CEUs. Partial credit will not be given.

Registration is limited to 35 participants per section. To register, follow these instructions:

Log in to the NCEES system using your usual PowerSchool log in or the alternate log in <http://bit.ly/1zX2bmU>

- > Click the Professional Development tab.
- > You can search for the course by name and populate the list to select it.
- > Click on the course title; then click on the section.
- > Click on the register button.

Directions on how to register are available here: <http://bit.ly/1AwHYtb>

Contact Dr. Geetanjali Soni at Geetanjali.soni@dpi.nc.gov if you have any questions.

Coming in July 2015! Logging into Home Base with the IAM Service

The IAM Service will be replacing the "PowerSchool Login" after the 2014-2015 End-of-Year processing, July 6. With this change, all North Carolina K-12 students and employees will login to Home Base applications using their NCEdCloud username and password. The accounts are currently available and LEAs and Charter Schools can begin providing students and employees their accounts at any time. Employees can follow the "Claim Account" process described in [For Teachers and Staff](#) on the [NCEdCloud IAM Website](http://ncedcloud.mcnc.org) (ncedcloud.mcnc.org). Students' accounts will be issued by their teachers, who have access to their students' usernames and initial passwords. Parents will continue to use the PowerSchool Parent Portal for access to their student's information.

Identity and Access Management (IAM) is one of the NCEdCloud initiatives for the K-12 community of North Carolina and provides LEAs and Charter Schools a tool to help manage the authentication and authorization needs of students, employees and guests (and eventually parents) in accessing cloud-based resources. It provides self-service capabilities to all end users, and delegated administrator capabilities to LEA and Charter School technology leadership. The actual service is being provided by [Identity Automation](#) and the IAM infrastructure is hosted in [Amazon's AWS](#), a robust environment providing expandable capacity as well as increased stability.

More information on the IAM Service, including Getting Started, FAQ, Resources and background information is available on the [NCEdCloud IAM website](#). <http://bit.ly/1KpkLfH>

Next Home Base Maintenance Weekend is Feb 6-8

The next Home Base maintenance weekend is scheduled for Friday, Feb 6, through Monday, Feb 8. The system will shut down Friday at 5 p.m. Once maintenance is completed, a message will be sent to notify users that the system is up and available for use.

Home Base will be returned to service no later than 6 a.m., Monday morning. If a delay in bringing up the system should occur, users will be notified via NC SIS email and the new [Home Base Alert on Twitter](#): <http://bit.ly/1zVb561>

You can view the entire upcoming schedule of maintenance weekends [here](#) or at <http://bit.ly/1HEB335>

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

High Quality Online PD Modules: Available Now!

Please take advantage of our self-paced, facilitated modules and mini-modules available to teachers and principals at no charge! You may click here to access a printable version of current modules: <http://bit.ly/1BDKgam> All modules may be accessed through the Educator Effectiveness PD System

through Home Base. In addition, you may get ideas for staff and PLCs using the implementation guide, found here: www.rt3nc.org. Over 50 professional development opportunities are listed here for your educators.

Please contact Dr. Geetanjali Soni, Geetanjali.soni@dpi.nc.gov or any member of the *Educator Effectiveness Division* with any questions.

5th Annual Collaborative Conference for Student Achievement

The NC Department of Public Instruction will sponsor the fifth annual Collaborative Conference for Student Achievement (CCSA) on March 30-April 1 in Greensboro.

Registration and Proposal Submission Sites Now Open!

“Champions Engaging North Carolina in 21st Century Teaching and Learning”

What: A Collaborative Conference for Student Achievement

Date: March 30 - April 1

Where: Sheraton Four Seasons/Koury Convention Center, Greensboro, NC

Please note! More information may be found on the conference website by clicking [here](http://bit.ly/15oB2kN).
<http://bit.ly/15oB2kN>

Please watch our website for exciting updates on speakers and sessions!

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 [Biweekly Updates](#).

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

To follow Home Base Alerts on Twitter, sign up [here](#).