HARRIS
School Solutions

iPASS

Welcome to Wednesday's Wisdom
Your weekly dose of support!

Oct. 18, 2017

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Today's User Group Meeting

Please be sure to review and share with your fellow district users the important information in this week's email.

Support Announcements

October User Group Meeting Recording Available

For those of you that missed the October 11 online User Group Meeting on the Grading System, we have posted the webex recording in iPass Help > User Group Meeting > WebEx – October 2017 User Group Meeting – Grading System (10/11/17)

MA SIMS Update

The Massachusetts SIMS Report is due next week, October 26. The Support Team is available to assist you in clearing your final errors. Districts that are error-free should "freeze" (SIF) or submit (Legacy) the SIMS data to check their district reports for accurate enrollment and student status. It is also advised to get your SCS data to the error-free stage so that you can cross-validate prior to certifying your SIMS transmission. This will help you avoid missing students in your SIMS submission.

Important Notice: Plan to Delete Older Reports
(Repeat of notice sent last week.)

In order to free up disk space we are planning to begin deleting users' reports that are older than one year. This will <u>not</u> include published reports (PCL Progress Reports, Report Cards, and Transcripts) or reports checked off as "Save." <u>We will begin purging reports on October 18</u>.

Please instruct all iPass users to review their reports in My Data > My Reports, and check off "Save" for any reports they want to keep. It is advised that all reports your district wants to keep for reference or record keeping be saved to the local hard drive.

iPass Releases & Updates

Recent Patch Releases

A patch release went out on October 13 ([7.0.20171013_sync](#)) and October 16 ([7.0.20171016_sync](#)). These included updates for the Pennsylvania 2017-2018 PIMS reporting and provided a necessary correction for the Massachusetts SIF Homeless and Foster Care DOE Field values. Click on the links above for the Release Notes.

Important Note: Massachusetts SIF sites should re-send their StudentPersonal Objects to update the Homeless and Foster Care values being transmitted to the DOE. Use Delete SIF Tmp Table to clear the StudentPersonal Objects and re-send the StudentPersonal Objects for the district using SIF Send Objects. Homeless and Foster Care students should now appear in the Security Portal homeless and foster care application.

iPass Tips & Tricks

Updated SIMS Helpful Hints Guide
The Support Team has posted an updated version of the SIMS Helpful Hints Guide in iPass Help > DOE ID Manager > Help > SIMS subcategory folder > [Helpful Hints Guide – SIMS October 2017](#). Use the recommendations in this Guide while preparing your student data for October submission.

SIF – MA DESE Homeless and Foster Care
NEW for 2017-18: SIF districts do not need to do manual entry

The DESE announced that starting in the 2017-18 collection, SIF districts do not need to manually enter homeless and foster care student information into the Security Portal application, unless it is to edit or correct data that was transmitted in error.

For districts that are live in SIF, the information should be entered into the district SIS, and that data will be transmitted to ESE automatically via the SIF agent. The data that is transmitted via SIF will be populated in the homeless and foster care student application. Districts can go to the homeless application to verify, review, edit, or correct the data at any point in the school year.

iPass provides SIF Districts with data fields on the Student's MA DOE screen and Confidential screen to report their Homeless, Foster Care, Dwelling Arrangement and Unaccompanied Youth status via SIF transmission. These data elements are sent in the SIF StudentPersonal Object.

More information and a link to the DESE Homeless guide can be found in iPass Help > SIF > Help > MA DESE Guidance for Entering Homeless and Foster Care Student Data (2017-2018).

GPA Calculation
Prior to running GPA Calculation we recommend that you review our GPA Checklist. Go to iPass Help > Grading System > GPA Checklist – What do I check in iPass before running GPA Calculation?

The GPA Checklist includes checking the following:

- GPA Rank
- Grade Scales
- Curriculum Level
- Horizontal Averaging Rules
- Grade Scale Values
- Recommendations for troubleshooting GPA Calculation

iPass FAQs

Q. **We are a Gmail site, why is it that some users send emails that do not make it out to the email list?**

A. **This can be for two reasons:**

1. The username and password for Gmail is either not set up or does not match what is entered on the user's My Data > My Preferences screen.
2. The user's Gmail settings does not have "Allow less secure apps" set to ON.

More details can be found in iPass Help > My Data > FAQ > [We are a Gmail site, why is it that some users send emails that do not make it out to the email list?](#)

Upcoming Events & Workshops

Come see us at MassCUE!

Visit the Harris School Solutions booth at the MassCUE Fall Conference at Gillette Stadium, Foxborough, MA, on October 25 and 26 to learn more about *School Rush!*, *EZSchoolEnroll*, and *eWalk*.

Look for us at **Booth #223** or **[schedule a time](#)** to meet!

Harris School Solutions

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