Feb 2016 - Additions to Online Course Recommendations Functionality

Overview:

After the Jan release of the enhancements to the Online Course Recommendation functions, a couple of additional improvements and changes were requests from school districts. This document highlights those features that are new as of the February 2016 release that were not included in the Jan release.

Summary of Enhancement Requests

- Allow counselors to see all alternates requests on the screen with a new checkbox parameter.
- Allow teachers to enter, view and delete recommendations in departments that are different from the department of the current class roster
- Allow schools to restrict and control which courses parents and students are able to search for in the course look up tool
- Prevent students from receiving recommendation if no Next Year School populated (seniors)
- Duplicate course recommendations can no longer be added to multiple primary recommendations.

New Features:

1. A new field labeled "Show Recommendation" has been added to the course record. This will allow school personnel to control which courses are available for parents and students to select from the Course Catalog. This field is similar to the "Available as Elective" field except that this field is used for all recommendations, not just Electives.

   - In order for a course to appear in the departmental search (non-elective) the **"Show Recommendation"** must be set to **Yes**.

   - In order for a course to appear in an elective search both the **"Show Recommendation"** field AND the **"Available as Elective"** field must be set to **Yes**.
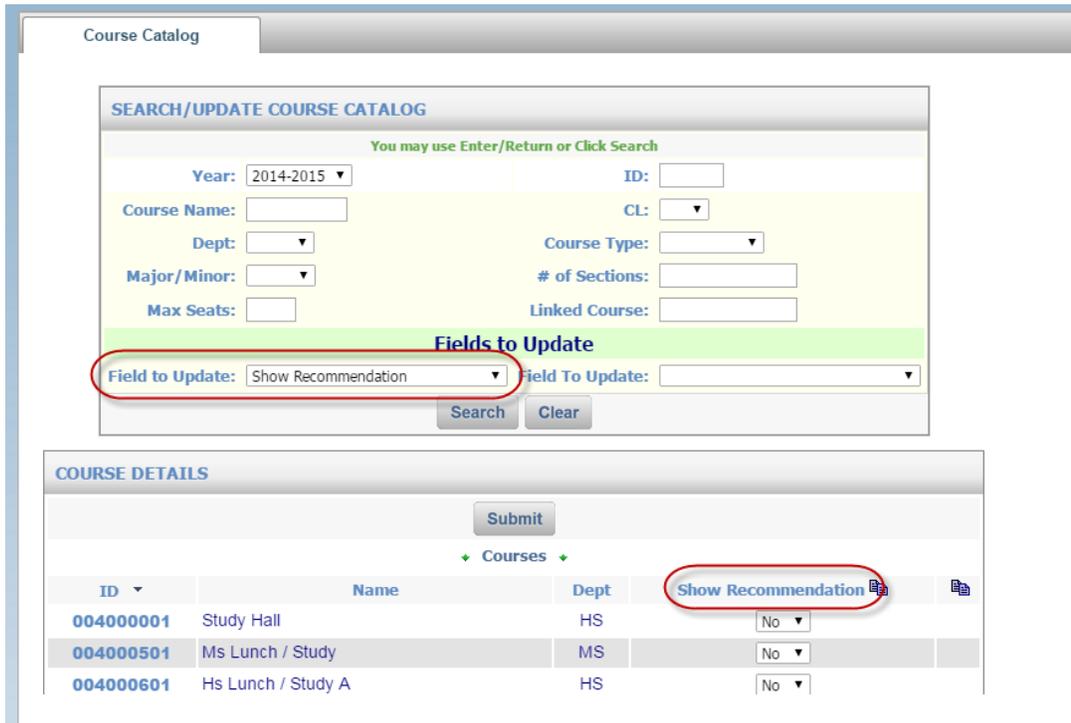

2. The option for "Show Recommendation" has been added to the "Field to Update" dropdown on the Course Details search screen so that courses can be updated en masse.

3. A new checkbox field labeled "Show All Alternates" has been added to the REQUESTS screen. Selecting this checkbox will cause all alternates for all primary recommendations to display on the screen at the same time. This prevents the user from having to view alternates for each separate primary request one by one.

Note: This is for the REQUEST screen, NOT the RECOMMENDATION screen.

STUDENT REQUESTS FOR CHARLIE BROWN AT PA DEV MIDDLE & HIGH

PA Dev Middle & High   School Year: 2015-2016 ▼

Show All Alternates ☑

Submit   Cancel

Delete	Priority	Course ID	Course Name		Alternates	Curriculum Level	Credits	# Of Terms	Scheduled
☐	0	H0131	Ap Eng Comp / Lit 11	Add Alternate	0	2	1.00	4	no
☐	0	H0225	Ap United States History	Add Alternate	0	3	1.00	4	no
☐	0	H0315	Honors Geometry	Add Alternate	0	2	1.00	4	no
☐	0	H0425	Ecology	Add Alternate	1	1	1.00	2	no
☐		Alt1 HHCHI	Honors Chem			2	1.00	4	no
☐	0	H0850	Ceramics	Add Alternate	2	1	0.50	2	no
☐		Alt1 H0926	Video Production			1	0.50	2	no
☐		Alt2 H0916	Animation			1	0.50	2	no
☐	0	H0937	Wood Crafts III	Add Alternate	3	1	0.50	2	no
☐		Alt1 H0792	Computer Grapics II			1	0.50	2	no
☐		Alt2 H0837	Art III			1	0.50	2	no
☐		Alt3 H0810	Sports Marketing			1	0.50	2	no

Total Requests: 6   **Total Credits: 5.00**   **Number of Terms: 18**

Quick Add

4. A school can set the default value for the "Show All Alternates" field using the new parameter "Display All Alternates on Counselor Request Screen" on the Recommendation Configuration screen.

- If **"Display All Alternates on Counselor Request Screen"** = **Yes** then the **"Show All Alternates"** checkbox will be selected by default and all alternates will display by default on the counselors' Request screen.

- If **"Display All Alternates on Counselor Request Screen**" = **No** then the **"Show All Alternates"** checkbox will be **<u>de-selected</u>** by default and alternates will NOT display by default. The counselor would need to click on each main request to view alternates or select the "Show All Alternates" checkbox to see alternates.
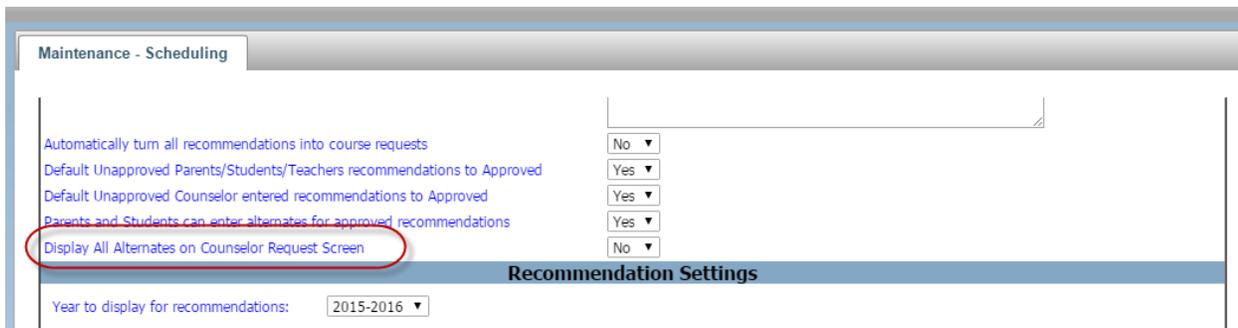
Maintenance - Scheduling	
Automatically turn all recommendations into course requests	No ▾
Default Unapproved Parents/Students/Teachers recommendations to Approved	Yes ▾
Default Unapproved Counselor entered recommendations to Approved	Yes ▾
Parents and Students can enter alternates for approved recommendations	Yes ▾
Display All Alternates on Counselor Request Screen	No ▾
Recommendation Settings	
Year to display for recommendations:	2015-2016 ▾

5. Previously, when teachers were entering Recommendations on the "Print Course List" screen, they were only able to see recommendations that belonged to a single department. Now teachers can view and delete recommendations for courses in any department so long as the teacher him/herself has entered the recommendation record.

Teachers can view:

- Any recommendation they have entered no matter the department
- All recommendations entered by other users as long as the department of the recommendations matches the department of their current class. (Example: if a teacher is entering recommendations for her English 10 class she will also be able to see recommendations in the English department entered by parents, students and counselors.

Teachers can delete:

- Any recommendation they have entered no matter the department

Recommend	Delete	Course	ID	Name	GL	Sex	HR	Phone	Counselor
			4188		12	Male	0238		
H0111	☐	English 9	Comment:						
H0241	☐	Geography	Comment:						
H0143		English 12	Comment:						
		Support Account	Comment:						
			16038		11	Female	00SC	(Home)	
H0010		Practical English 7	Comment:						
			Comment:						
H0011		Practical English 8	Comment:						
			Comment:						
			Comment:						
0334	☐	Honors Physics	Comment:						

Print a Course List

Check All Clear All

6. We have changed to logic regarding duplicate Alternates. Previously the same course could be assigned as an alternate recommendation to multiple primary recommendations on the RECOMMENDATION screen. However, the REQUEST screen does not allow this type of duplication. So that we do not interfere with how the Request screen handles alternates and how the Scheduler handles alternates we have changed the Recommendation screens so they function like the Request screen – a recommendation/request can only exist once for a student. The same course cannot be added as an alternate for multiple primary recommendations.

7. The Teacher Recommendation entry page (Print a Course List) will now allow course recommendations only for those students with a **Next School Year** populated. If a student does not have a Next Year School populated they will appear in the course list but will NOT have any textboxes to allow for the entry of recommendations.

Below only student 17032 has "Next Year School" populated so recommendations cannot be added for the other students in the course list.