



Welcome to Wednesday's Wisdom

Your weekly dose of support!

October 5, 2016

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A LOT OF NEWS THIS WEEK – BE SURE TO SHARE!

Be sure to read all the items in this week's Wednesday's Wisdom and share the information with other iPass users in your school district.

SUPPORT ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Release

A patch release went out last week to all Massachusetts and Pennsylvania Sync version sites with enhancements, corrections, and minor enhancements. Please refer to the [iPass Release & Updates](#) section below for more information.

Uploading Student & Staff Photos

Create a Harris eSupport ticket in the "Tech – iPASS Software Package" category requesting assistance to upload photos to your site. The Tech Team will contact you with directions and a location to which you can upload your photos. The Tech Team will then upload the photos to your site. Note: users have the ability to upload individual photos for students and staff members. [Click here for more information.](#)

Upcoming October User's Group

The October 12 User's Group meeting Webex will be on the topic of "October State Reporting." Laura Patton will share tips and recommendations for submitting SIMS, SCS and EPIMS and review the new SIF transmission tools.

NEW MEETING INFORMATION: Please join us Wednesday, October 12 at 1:00 p.m. [Click here for User's Group Webex link.](#) Meeting Number: 270 889 755. Meeting Password: harris. Call in 605-475-6711 Access code 2262055#.

Columbus Day Holiday

Harris Support will be closed on Monday, October 10. Please use the eSupport ticket system to log any issues

you have during this time and we will try to manage any emergencies in a timely manner.

iPASS TIPS & TRICKS

Adding Notes to Gradebook

Gradebook provides teachers with several Note options. Teachers can enter a “Student Note” for an individual student, an “Assignment Note” for an individual student or all students, and a “Term Note” specific to the course and term. Student and Assignment Notes can be set to Private or Publish. Notes set to Publish will appear on the student’s Gradebook Progress Report. Term Notes by default appear on the Progress Report. [Click here for the new Quick Guide: Add Notes to Gradebook.](#)

iPASS RELEASES & UPDATES

A patch release (v. 7.0.20160928_sync) went out on September 28 to the Massachusetts and Pennsylvania Sync Version sites. The patch contained several enhancements and corrections, including the following:

Enhancements:

- Create iStudent Accounts – A new option has been added to iStudent Configuration and allows end users to create iStudent accounts, append existing accounts, and create iStudent email addresses. If you are interested in activating this on your site, please submit a request in an eSupport ticket.
- MA State Reporting: New “School Focus” field to identify school as a Scheduling School (SIF); New “Gender – DOE009” field to accommodate new Nonbinary Gender; New “Homeless” field (SIF); New “SLIFE – DOE041” field; New “Non-Graded” Course indicator added to Course Details screen (SIF); New Warning message if end users change the DOE011, DOE012, or DOE013 field without exiting or enrolling the student; New ability to restrict the row count for SIF Log files; and New “SIF Report” screen allows user to send SIF Objects by School (all reports), by Individual Students (SIMS, SCS, SSCR), by Course- Sections (SCS), or by individual staff members (EPIMS).

IMPORTANT NOTE TO SIF DISTRICTS: To update new DOE field code values at the DESE you will need to send SIF Objects. Refer to the FAQ section below for more information.

- PA State Reporting: Updates made to the PIMS Student Fact Template – Special Education for the Act 16 Report.

Corrections and Minor Enhancements Made To: Student Bio Verification Reports; Date of Birth Month Calculation; Gradebook/Rankbook Progress Reports; Gradebook Submit Course Grades; Quick Scheduling/Room Catalog; iParent Schedule Rotation view; Letters; Gradebook Period Absent Code Display; iStaff Batch Data Entry; Transcript History Add Button; Add/Modify Student Grades course selections; Massachusetts eSped export; and Import Staff Data.

It is highly recommended that you review the Release Notes for more detailed information. They can be found in iPass Help > iPass Patch Release Notes > [Patch Release Notes – 7.0.20160928_sync.](#)

iPASS FAQs

Q. How do I update the new code values for Gender – DOE009, SLIFE – DOE041 or Homeless if I report to the DESE via SIF transmission?

A. You will need to send the SIF Objects for “StudentPersonal.” SLIFE – DOE041 will send a default value of “No” when the field is blank. The Gender – DOE009 has been populated with the previous Gender code. Adjustments to the codes can be made to individual students on the student’s MA

DOE screen. Submitting the code change will transmit the new value to the DESE. [Click here to learn more about how to send SIF Objects.](#)

Q. How do I set the SchoolFocus SIF element for schools that report students attending a different school?

- A.** The DESE has added a new SchoolFocus element to SIF that should be set to "Scheduling" to indicate a particular school is reporting students that attend a different school. These students include Services Only and Out Placement students where the School ID field populated in the student's enrollment record. Go to Administration > School Resources > (select school) > Set School Focus = Scheduling. Submit to update. After this is done for each school, send SIF Objects for "SchoolInfo" for the entire district to update the data at the DESE. [Click here to learn more about how to send SIF Objects.](#)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Is Your School District Using iPass To Its Fullest Potential?

Recent business reviews have revealed that most districts only use about 30% of the available features and functionality of iPass. Please contact Sharon O'Connor, Professional Services & Training Manager, at sjoconnor@harriscomputer.com to schedule a complimentary business review at your district. We will meet with your district's administrative team to discuss past practices, future implementations, and training options, and to look at ways to maximize your SIS investment.



Please forward this email to other iPASS users in your district that would benefit from the information shared. Let us know if there is someone who should be added to the weekly email list.



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