

PowerSchool Version Update: 20.11.0.0

Release Date: 11/18/2020

The following updates were release in the NYS 20.11.0.0 update:

New Features:

- The enhancements to the Graduation Planner provide better flexibility and new capabilities for admins in designing graduation plans (**Start Page > District Setup > Graduation Planner Setup**). These features support ESSA compliance, and include the following:
 - Ability to set minimum grade required for counting credit for a graduation plan. For example, a student will qualify for a High School Diploma if the student meets 40 credits but the student will qualify for High School Diploma with Academic Honors if the student meets 40 credits with a minimum grade of B in 5 subjects.
 - Ability to set a minimum GPA for a graduation plan.
 - Ability to set a composite test threshold. For example, earn a combined score of 1750 or higher on the SAT critical reading, mathematics, and writing sections and a minimum score of 530 on each. Currently, we can test for the min 530 on each part, but cannot simultaneously have a composite threshold of 1750 for the combined subtests.

- The Clock in/Clock Out feature now provides auto-calculation of the Clock in/Clock Out transaction for period attendance improving ease-of-use and efficiency, as well as promoting consistent attendance for accurate attendance accounting. Attendance Clerks can now:
 - Set Clock in/Clock Out meeting threshold levels for the school and year (**Start Page > School > Attendance Preferences**). Thresholds are copied to the next school year when the next year term is created.

- Attendance Clerks can now use the default code or override code quickly in each period, regardless of whether they are using Clock in/Clock Out.

- The PowerSchool SIS Substitute portal now includes the Group by Track feature for taking attendance

- Administrators can now define fitness tests and scales based on national or state recommendations to track student fitness. In this release, administrators are now able to:
 - Define fitness tests and scales for use in the district.
 - Administer tests to students individually or in groups
 - Enter fitness scores for individual students, or for groups of students using the mass-entry function
 - Review individual student fitness results

- The Health Plugin Data Migration feature (**Start Page > District > Health Setup - Health Plugin Data Migration**) provides the ability to migrate data currently stored in PowerPack Health tables to the new Enhanced Health tables.
- All updates to the Enhanced Health PowerSchool Data Sets are now complete and available within the Data Import Manager and the Data Export Manager:
 - Health – Concerns
 - Health - Contact Log
 - Health – Medication
 - Health - Medication Doses
 - Health - Medication Inventory
 - Health – Misc
 - Health - Monitoring – Diabetes
 - Health - Office Visit
 - Health - PE Waiver
 - Health – Physicals
 - Health - Student Health
- Improvements have been made to Enhanced Health Management providing nurses with the ability to:
 - Associate medication (and inventory) to a student without creating a schedule.
 - Track medication by unit.
 - Access a student’s health record from the Daily Log
 - View which student a Daily Log record pertains to when open.
 - Track vital signs on an office visit.
 - Collapsed user interface for Office Visit for usability
- Admins can now set up PowerSchool SIS with SSO with Microsoft Azure and Google for Teachers, Admins, Parents, and Students.
- Districts have the opportunity to retain Change History records for up to 10 years. *Please note that Change History records will require additional storage. This setting is configured within the PowerSchool SIS installer.
- Using the **Purge Change History** special operation, you can change history records greater than the Retain Change History setting. For example, if the Retain Change History setting is set to 1 year, only those records that are greater than one year will be purged.
- Teachers now have the opportunity to preview how unsaved assignments or standards scores will affect students' final grades and standards grades.

- Teachers now have can generate a report containing final grades and comments to verify student results.
- Teachers can now generate a report that lists missing assignments, by student or by class.
- Teachers can now generate a detailed report of standards grades, by assignment or by reporting term.
- Assignment Standards Scores now respect the Publish Scores option on an assignment.
- When new standards are added to a previously graded assignment that has its standards auto-calculated, those new standards will have their scores auto-calculated.
- Teachers can now send plain-text emails to students and contacts directly from the **Create** option in PowerTeacher Pro. An option to **Copy Emails** will copy all selected email addresses (separated by a semicolon and space) to the clipboard, allowing an email that requires rich text or attachments to be quickly drafted using another email service.

Enhancements:

- When defining your district boundaries, you can now enter 14 decimal places for latitude and longitude.
- Viewing Attendance Change History records is now available only at the school level. The maximum date range for Attendance Change History is 7 days. All other categories are now limited to a maximum of 31 days.
- The courses page now includes an option to search by Alternate Course Number.
- The System Setup > System Settings > Security page now contains an Enabl PowerTeacher Administrator Portal. It is recommended that PowerTeacher Administrator remain off if district has fully moved to PowerTeacher Pro.
- Teachers can now generate a detailed report of standards grades, by assignment or by reporting term.
- The User Settings page in the [PowerSchool SIS Admin portal](#) has been renamed to Manage Profile. In addition, the Personalize page in the [PowerSchool Teacher portal](#) has been replaced with the Manage Profiles page. User details are now included on the page, as well as all previous functional.

- Several improvements have been made to improve accessibility within the PowerSchool Public portal and the PowerSchool Teacher portal.
- As part of this release PowerSchool SIS has moved from Oracle Java to Amazon Corretto Java, which is based on OpenJDK, for server-side use.
- Startup logging has been changed to reflect a separation of system startup from district startup. Two summaries of schema update status now appear in the log, the first for system and the second for district.

Resolved Issues:

- When viewing the **Access Accounts** page, **Access Password** is incorrectly masked for users who have view-only page permissions. This issue is now resolved.
- In some instances, **Automated Study Hall** schedules students into different sections during overlapping timeframes. This issue is now resolved.
- In some instances, when a school boundary or district of residence boundary has a large number of points, attempting to edit the boundary results in an error. This issue is now resolved.
- When using the Automated Calendar Setup, **Bell Schedules** with a value of 0 are excluded if **Adjust Which Bell Schedules** is set to **Empty**. This issue is now resolved.
- Including **Has Fees** when filtering courses may include courses with fees from a previous school year. This issue is now resolved.
- When an Oracle SQL reserved word is used as a Field Name, attempts to export data through the Data Export Manager fail. This issue is now resolved. Reserved words cannot be used as Field Names. When exporting a .csv file using Data Export Manager in Chrome 75+, the file saves as a .txt file. This has been corrected.
- When **Include Inactive Students** is enabled in PowerSchool Enrollment, State/Provincial Reporting fields may not be copied from the Students table to the Re-Enrollments table when re-enrolling an Inactive or Transferred-Out student. This issue can occur when a student who has been transferred out of school is delivered via API by PowerSchool Enrollment. This issue is now resolved.

- When an inactive or transferred-out student is re-enrolled, the Enrollment_SchoolID is incorrectly updated with the School_Number. This issue is now resolved. The Enrollment_SchoolID field retains its original value.
- In some cases when accessing the Field Level Security page, an error occurs when the number of records is exactly at the 1,000 markers. This issue is now resolved.
- In some cases when the **Appropriate maximum number of characters** is defined to be 1000 characters or fewer, the remaining characters counter is hidden. This issue is now resolved.
- When using the **Not Recorded** Immunization Mode in the Health Management Student Immunization Count, students who are compliant but have not yet recorded receipt of the vaccine are excluded. This issue is now resolved.
- In some instances, PowerSchool SIS logs included personal information or insufficient information to determine the source of a problem. This issue is now resolved.
- When the PowerSchool SIS server is unable to connect to PowerSource, attempts to log in as a Maintenance user may fail. This issue is now resolved.
- In some cases, the following PowerScheduler reports may not return results:
 - Unscheduled Rooms
 - Unscheduled Students
 - Unscheduled Teachers

This issue has been resolved.

- When a dash ("-") is included in the day abbreviation within PowerScheduler, the DAT tag *period_info does not return any data. This has been resolved. PowerScheduler no longer supports the dash character within the day abbreviation.
- Primary course requests that are not filled do not display in the PowerScheduler Schedule Course Enrollment report when the student has multiple requests for the same course. This issue is now resolved.
- In some cases, Report Engine-based reports fail to render if a <, >, or & character is present in the text. This issue is now resolved. Improvements have been made to better handle these characters in these types of reports. However, there are some cases where these may still fail such as when another character immediately follows the ampersand (&) character.

- When attempting to run a report for an individual student, an error occurs if the student has a Health Concern Alert. This issue is now resolved.
- The value set in the Default Term Level setting is not applied when the school is out of session or between school years. This issue is now resolved.
- Attempting the Search for Additional Family Members takes a considerable amount of time to complete when the option to **Include Student's Last Name in Search** is selected. This issue is now resolved.
- In some instances, the Backfill functions do not complete and return an error if there are students who have switched Continuing Education schools during the term. This issue is now resolved.
- In some cases, a single sign-on error occurs when signing in as a student or a parent. This issue is now resolved.
- Under certain circumstances, when admin users accessed PowerTeacher Pro through read-only access, the users were sporadically signed out. This issue is now resolved.
- In some cases when editing a Grade Scale record from DDA or outside of the Grade Scale setup page, an error may occur. This issue is now resolved.
- In some cases, verbose technical error messages are shown to the end-user. This issue is now resolved. In cases where an error occurs a more user-friendly message is shown and the full error is recorded to the PowerSchool logs.
- In some cases, Nightly Attendance can take a significant amount of time to run when between years. This issue is now resolved.
- As part of this release two options have been added when advanced email is enabled. Email Batch Size – Enabled administrators to define how many emails are sent every 30 seconds. Use Reply – TO when sending – when enabled this setting will add the reply-to attribute for the originating sender.
- In Batch School Setup at both the District and the School level, we have removed the option to choose the grades to which the attendance point change will not apply.
- When navigating the Term Picker using the arrow keys, the last option in the picker is partially hidden. This issue is now resolved.

- When a Substitute Teacher takes attendance in the /subs portal, the Changed By field in Attendance change history displayed "PS Maintenance". This issue has been fixed and the Changed By field will now show "Substitute".
- When attempting to modify the phone number field on the Emergency Contact page of any Student record, if the associated contact record has the newly changed phone number value, the change will fail but appear to complete. This issue is now resolved.
- As part of this release the Pearson Inform integration has been removed. Pearson officially announced the end-of-life for Inform in June 2017.
- When working with staff security in Admin Access and Roles, access for a staff member can only be added to those schools which the District Administrator can access.
- In some cases field values may fail to copy from Students to the Re-Enrollments table depending on the current users Field Level Security permissions. This issue is now resolved.
- After upgrading to PowerSchool SIS 20.4.0.0 or above the Consecutive Absences page does not recalculate as part of the nightly process or when manually executed. This issue is now resolved.