



Welcome to Wednesday's Wisdom

Your weekly dose of support!

January 31, 2017

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Hope to See You Next Week!

We will be in Pennsylvania and Massachusetts next week. Registration is closing soon for the User Group meetings and High School Scheduling Workshop. Find more information below in the [Upcoming Events & Workshops](#) section.

Support Announcements

Important Update – Student Name Suffix

Earlier this month the MA DESE let districts know that they would be migrating student name suffixes out of the last name field and into a separate field in their student directory. The MA DESE wants the suffix entered when registering new students with the state, but they do not want the suffix sent in SIMS. In the January 17 Wednesday's Wisdom we suggested you identify students with a suffix in the Last Name field and begin moving these to the separate Suffix field, already available in iPass.

Since announcing our recommendation, we have heard concerns from several iPass

districts: How would the suffix be included on Report Cards, Transcripts, and Student IDs? How would student names be matched with third-party programs?

We want you to know that we are investigating how best to handle the state requirements and your district needs.

You can go ahead and add the suffix value to the separate Suffix field, but keep in mind that at this time, to include the suffix in iPass reports and exports, the suffix will also need to be included in the Last Name field (i.e. Smith Jr - no comma).

Self-Service Photo Upload System – Next Step

REMINDER: We have only received email addresses from a few districts.

In preparation to roll out the new self-service photo upload system, we are asking all hosted sites to provide us with a group email address that will be used by the automated system to notify your district when your uploaded images have been placed on the server and are ready for you to run Assign Picture IDs to update iPass. Establishing a generic email that is attached to a group will make it easier for you add/remove staff as needed to maintain an up-to-date list for notification.

Please send the selected group email address to: msweeny@harriscomputer.com.

We will be compiling this and we will let you know when we will begin testing.

Wednesday's Wisdom & Online User Group

Since we will be on the road next week visiting users in person, there will be no Wednesday's Wisdom on February 7 and no monthly online User Group meeting February 14.

Upcoming Events & Workshops

February User Group Meetings

February 5, 2018

iPass PA School District User Group – Bethel Park PA Office (FREE)

Location: Harris School Solutions Bethel Park Office: 1008 Progress Ct. Bethel Park, PA, 15102

Join your fellow Pennsylvania school districts using iPass and participate in discussions about how best to use the system to your school district's advantage.

Topics will include: GPA, Transcripts, Horizontal Average Rules, Honor Roll, Report Cards, Scheduling Add /Drop/Transfer, and more.

Please send your other topic ideas to lpatton@harriscomputer.com.

Please register by Feb 2, 2018: [Click here to register.](#)

Agenda

Session 1: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Small lunch provided: 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

Session 2: 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

February 6, 2018

iPass PA Charter School User Group – Bethlehem PA Office (FREE)

Location: Harris School Solutions Bethlehem Office: 1660 Valley Center Parkway, Bethlehem, PA, 18017

Join your fellow Pennsylvania charter schools using iPass and participate in discussions about how best to use the system to your charter school's advantage.

Discussions will include: finding parts of iPass you may not be utilizing but that can save you time, bringing data to/from other systems to improve your everyday workflow, and more.

Please send your other topic ideas to lpatton@harriscomputer.com.

Please register by Feb 2, 2018: [Click here to register.](#)

Agenda

Session 1: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Small lunch provided: 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

Session 2: 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

February 7, 2018

iPass MA/NH User Group Assabet Valley Regional Marlborough, MA (FREE)

Location: 215 Fitchburg St, Marlborough, MA, 01752

Join your fellow Massachusetts and New Hampshire school districts using iPass and participate in discussions about how best to use the system to your school district's advantage.

Topics will include: GPA, Transcripts, Horizontal Average Rules, Honor Roll, Report Cards, Scheduling Add /Drop/Transfer, School Safety, Discipline Report (SSDR) in SIF, and more.

Please send your other topic ideas to lpatton@harriscomputer.com.

Please register by Feb 2, 2018: [Click here to register.](#)

Agenda

Session 1: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Small lunch provided: 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

Session 2: 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Scheduling Workshops

Harris School Solutions will be hosting iPass Workshops for Middle and High School Scheduling for the 2018-2019 school year. Each workshop will consist of two-day, hands-on sessions where attendees will be working in their own iPass database to schedule their schools for the 2018-2019 academic year.

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – Learn how to set up your Schedule

12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. – Small Lunch Provided

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. – Hands-on work session to work on your schedule with help from the iPass Support Team

New Webex Option: We encourage all participants to attend in person, but if this is not possible, this year there is an option to follow along with the training during the morning session on both days (9am – 12pm only).

High School Scheduling Workshop [Click here for workshop details](#)

Dates: February 8 and April 3

Times: 9am to 3pm

Location: Westford Public Schools, Central Office, 23 Depot Street, Westford, MA.
Please register by February 2, 2018: [Click here to Register.](#)

Middle School Scheduling Workshop [Click here for workshop details](#)

Dates: April 4 and May 23

Times: 9am to 3pm

Location: Miscoe Hill Middle School, 148 North Ave, Mendon, MA.

Please register by March 30, 2018. [Click here to Register.](#)

April 5, 2018

iPass Vocational Schools User Group – Norfolk Aggie Walpole, MA (FREE)

Location: 400 Main St, Walpole, MA 02081

Join your fellow vocational school districts using iPass and participate in discussions about how best to use the system to your school district's advantage.

Please send your other topic ideas to lpatton@harriscomputer.com.

Please register by March 30, 2018: [Click here to register.](#)

Agenda

Session 1: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Small lunch provided: 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

Session 2: 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

More Upcoming Events

We are planning additional workshops for End of Year, State Reporting, and Elementary Scheduling. We will provide more information as it becomes available.

[Click here for more information](#)

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1-866-450-6696

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