



**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
District Instructional Leaders
Principals

FROM: Dan Ralyea
Director of Research & Data Analysis

DATE: August 26, 2016

RE: PowerSchool Upgrade for Uniform Grading Scale

This summer, the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) has been working with PowerSchool, to develop a tool to automate the process of changing from the 7 point scale to the 10 point scale. Our goal is to make it easy for our schools to automatically apply the following:

1. 7 point scale to all courses a student has taken for high school credit, prior to the first day of school in 2016–17, and
2. 10 point scale to all courses a student takes for high school credit from this year forward.

In August 2016, PowerSchool provided the SCDE with a “Plug-in”, which is a programming code. All districts will need to install this “Plug-in” in each school where the 10 point scale will be applied, in order to make these changes happen automatically. Over the last few weeks, the SCDE has worked with twelve districts to pilot the “Plug-In” on test servers. We have been able to resolve several unique situations related to individual district PowerSchool databases with the developers. The “Plug In” is now ready to implement across the state.

Beginning Wednesday, August 24, 2016, we will provide the “Plug-in” programming code to twenty-three districts for installation. The PowerSchool support team has assured us they will be ready to provide immediate help to districts as they implement the “Plug-in.” After these districts have successfully implemented this upgrade, we will move in a systematic fashion across the state to implement the upgrade in each district (*see attached list*). The reason for the phase in model is to ensure that PowerSchool has the appropriate support staff on standby to answer district questions.

PowerSchool Upgrade for Uniform Grading Scale

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Tier One: First Round
Implementation
(begins: August 24, 2016)

- Anderson 01
- Beaufort 01
- Berkeley 01
- Charleston 01
- Clarendon 03
- Dillon 04
- Dorchester 02
- Florence 01
- Greenville 01
- Greenwood 50
- Horry 01
- Kershaw 01
- Lancaster 01
- Lexington 01
- Lexington 04
- Lexington 05
- Newberry 01
- Oconee 01
- Sumter 01
- Dillon 03
- Chesterfield 01
- Barnwell 29
- Barnwell 19

Tier Two: Second Round
Implementation
(begins: TBD after Tier 1)

- Barnwell 45
- Richland 02
- Aiken 01
- Anderson 02
- Anderson 03
- Anderson 04
- Anderson 05
- Calhoun 01
- Chester 01
- Darlington 01
- Edgefield 01
- Fairfield 01
- Georgetown 01
- Greenwood 51
- Greenwood 52
- Hampton 02
- Jasper 01
- Lexington 02
- Lexington 03
- Marion 10
- Pickens 01
- Richland 01
- Spartanburg 01
- Spartanburg 02
- Spartanburg 03
- Spartanburg 05
- Spartanburg 06
- Spartanburg 07
- York 01
- York 02
- York 03
- York 04
- Deaf & Blind School

Tier Three: Third Round
Implementation
(begins: TBD after Tier 2)

- Orangeburg 03
- Orangeburg 05
- Abbeville 60
- Allendale 01
- Bamberg 01
- Bamberg 02
- Cherokee 01
- Clarendon 02
- Colleton 01
- Dorchester 04
- Florence 02
- Florence 03
- Florence 04
- Florence 05
- Hampton 01
- Laurens 55
- Laurens 56
- McCormick 01
- Marlboro 01
- Saluda 01
- Union 01
- Williamsburg 01
- SC Public Charter School District
- Dept. Of Juvenile Justice
- Palmetto Unified
- Gov.School of Arts & Humanities
- Gov. School for Science & Math