



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION Eric C. Davis, Chairman

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION Mark Johnson, Superintendent of Public Instruction

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DATE: October 30, 2020

TO: Chief Academic Officers
Charter School Leaders
PowerSchool Coordinators and Data Managers

FROM: Sneha Shah-Coltrane *Sneha Coltrane*
Dr. Rob Dietrich, Home Base Manager of Digital Teaching & Learning *Rob Dietrich*

RE: **2021-2022 GPA AND GRADE SCALE AUTOMATION**

In order to lessen manual data entry by district and school personnel, NCDPI is working to automate several functions within the stored grade screen in PowerSchool. These changes will further ensure public school units are in compliance with various State Board of Education policies and legislation.

This memo is to bring awareness of the upcoming changes and provide PSUs the opportunity to make any updates needed and communicate possible impacts to students/families.

Beginning in the 2021-2022 school year, the following changes will occur within PowerSchool to help improve data accuracy and decrease manual entry per N.C.G.S. 116-11 (10a) and SBE GRAD-009:

- State Course Code and Course Title fields will both become required fields. The Course Title field may be auto-populated.
- The GPA Points field, also known as the unweighted GPA, for each course will be auto-populated by the numerical grade in the course.
- The GPA Added Value field, which determines the weighted GPA, will be auto-populated based on the course level programmed by NCDPI.
- The Credit Value for courses will be set by NCDPI and be auto-populated.
- The 10-point scale will be automatically applied to all courses that award high school credit.

These changes will go into effect for the 2021-22 school year for all high school students. These changes will not affect previously-stored historical grades; however, if the previously stored historical grades are changed after these updates are in place, those grades will be updated to follow the above changes. NCDPI encourages all districts and schools to review current stored grades to ensure that there are no major implications when these changes go into effect for 2021-22, especially for rising Seniors. Please note, this will not impact any actual earned numeric grades. This change just ensures that the GPA point value matches the numerical grade.

Please contact Brandon Young at brandon.young@dpi.nc.gov with any questions or concerns regarding these changes.

c: Dave Machado, Director of Charter Schools
Dr. Vanessa Wrenn, Director of Digital Teaching & Learning

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