IT Bulletin

A Better SAIS (continued)

The Student Details database was successfully migrated to the new SAIS infrastructure the weekend of July 30th and processing components followed the weekend of August 5th. As data reporting ramps up with the new school year underway we are looking forward to better report response times and faster integrity runs. Stay tuned for more SAIS improvements to come!

New SAIS Transactions Document

As part of the effort to update the SAIS documentation a new Transactions document is being created. It will contain all the SAIS transactions information similar to the current Transaction Requirements documents but without the non-transaction material. The target audience for this new document is the IT team as reference material. This new document will be beta released once all the change drivers have been incorporated.

Important Dates to Remember:

August 24th /5:00PM –
Statistical appeals deadline

September 6 –
Statewide SAIS Recalc will begin

September 27 –
Language Program Participation data entered in to SAIS

Check the IT Bulletin Board for updates:
https://www.azed.gov/Administrators/IT/bb/default.aspx

A Message from Superintendent Huppenthal

Superintendent Huppenthal has extended the deadline for statistical appeals until **Wednesday, August 24, 2011 at 5:00 PM.** This will allow all districts and charters time to review for accuracy and modify student data if needed.

IT Data Management:

Supported and managed approximately 30 data requests since June 1 including 2nd quarter reporting for ARRA, data requirements by ELL task force, Title I eligibility, Special Olympics, School Facilities Board, Arizona Criminal Justice, First Things First, ASU c/o Dr. David Garcia and the Governor's office.

Continual support of Federal mandates such as EdFacts, resubmitting updates to Memberships and LEP Program counts; NAEP; and Arizona Indicator 7 - Early Childhood Outcomes.

IT Development Highlights:

30 successful software migrations for various applications to support our business partners.

IT New Employees:

Yemi Cummins-John, SharePoint Developer for Health & Nutrition.
Tom Hall, Developer, CTE Performance Measures
Chris Wind, SQL Development
David Nunez, .Net Developer on Health Nutrition
Gerry Van Mourik, SAIS Developer

The Arizona Department of Education, Information Technology Division

Mark T. Masterson
Chief Information Officer

The CIO Corner
REAL TIME SAIS

When I look back at what our team at ADE has accomplished in a mere 8 months since I have arrived here, I am amazed. However, when I balance that with the customer service and reliability that you expect from a professional IT organization I fully understand your frustration over the last several years. We remain committed to turn SAIS into an accountability tool that you not only trust but rely on. No LEA, or District should have to spend resources to build systems just to check our systems.

I have directed our teams to deliver a real time version of SAIS by March of 2012. In order to accomplish this the team will essentially rewrite the program and the databases that are associated with this Service. What does that mean to you, our customer? First, you should receive immediate feedback (within 1 hour) after submitted students or changes. Secondly, if there is a problem with your submission then you will receive an error message explaining to you the logic that was broken. With this massive change we believe we can finally remove a large sore point from you and your staff's daily efforts and allow you to focus on helping our children exceed!

I have received many kudos from our customers and I pass them on the outstanding team that I get the pleasure to manage. Please continue to raise issues to our customer service center on IT impediments that need to be removed so that we can truly provide knock your socks off customer service.

From the Desk of:
Micky Gutier,
ELL Specialist.

Language Program Participation Data in SAIS for ELL Students

For school year 2011-2012, it is vital that districts and charters enter "Language Program Participation" data into SAIS at the beginning of the school year for those English Language Learner (ELL) students who qualify for language program services. This data upload to SAIS is also important in identifying those kindergarten and newly-enrolled students who have been classified as ELL.

Most schools with ELL students can expect to be included in the November 2011 AZELLA field test. AZELLA field test student pre-ID labels will be provided for schools that have "Language Program Participation" data entered into SAIS by September 27, 2011. Schools without this student level data entered into SAIS will have to bubble by hand the student demographic data on the AZELLA field test documents.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the hours for the Support Center?
The Support Center phone lines will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday beginning September 15, 2011. (602) 542-SERV (7378).

How many calls does the Support Center receive?
The Support Center received 714 calls in the month of July; 48 calls were abandoned. Our abandoned rate was 7% compared to 21% in June. We continue to strive for improvement in this area and to provide "Knock Your Socks Off" customer service.