

NSTU PowerSchool Concerns  
September 1, 2010 – January 1, 2011

Issues raised by members:

- Students not visible to specialist teachers (i.e. – resource).  
*- DOE Response: Fixed as identified – access privileges fixed.*
- All students registered for a specific course are grouped together and not separated into sections.  
*- DOE Response: Fixed.*
- Attendance is restricted to three choices (present, late, absent) with no choice to select excused absence.  
*- DOE Response: Teachers are limited to three choices and the office verifies the reason for absences.*
- Teachers are unable to view how students enrolled in their course is doing in other courses they are enrolled in.  
*- DOE Response: Noted by the Department.*
- Professional development has not been sufficient to allow some teachers to feel comfortable using the new system.  
*- DOE Response: The Department will monitor.*
- Student and teacher schedules are not appearing accurate in the system.  
*- DOE Response: Fixed.*
- Not all components of the software and documentation are available in French.  
*- DOE Response: Contract date April 15, 2011 with a target date December 2010.*
- Students are not numbered in the system.  
*- DOE Response: Department will investigate.*
- Timetable does not accurately reflect the school timetable.  
*- DOE Response: Fixed.*
- Does not tally attendance days of students.  
*- DOE Response: Noted by the Department.*
- Many components not turned on.
- In-services taking place on components that are not yet available.  
*- DOE Response: Noted by the Department.*
- Summer, lunchtime, prep time PD.  
*- DOE Response: Noted by the Department.*

- Comments cannot be retrieved at a later date.  
- *DOE Response: Department will investigate.*
- Teachers cannot retrieve learner profiles.  
- *DOE Response: Issue fixed – related to course offering.*
- Printing difficulties.  
- *DOE Response: In development.*
- Outcomes are not available for first reporting period.  
- *DOE Response: In development.*
- Does not support IB reporting.  
- *DOE Response: This is working. For students enrolled in IB courses it automatically becomes a 1-6 scale instead.*
- 400 characters for comments including spaces and names.  
- For first reporting period only required to make two comments but after that required to make four comments.  
- *DOE Response: Tied in to reporting policy which sets out space available for each subject.*
- Shown report cards October 29 for November 8 deadline.  
- *DOE Response: Noted by the Department.*
- Only one Professional Development opportunity at a particular school.  
- *DOE Response: Noted by the Department.*
- Need to track homework completion for commenting on reports.  
- *DOE Response: Needed to report in learner profile.*
- Being requested to make electronic back-ups of all report cards.  
- *DOE Response: Should not be necessary to do.*
- Confusion around weighting.  
- *DOE Response: Department will clarify.*
- Comments may not be clear to parents.  
- *DOE Response: Department will clarify.*
- Printing a class report will include all students who were enrolled from the beginning of the course whether they have changed, dropped, withdrawn, etc.  
- *DOE Response: Noted by the Department.*
- Items are being changed and causing confusion when members are accessing the software.  
- *DOE Response: Noted by the Department.*

- Elementary report cards not available with a week and a half before they are due.  
*- DOE Response: Noted by the Department.*
- Schools have to notify parents that report cards will be delayed in going home.  
*- DOE Response: Noted by the Department.*
- Grade 7-8 report cards not available yet.  
*- DOE Response: In development.*
- Mixed messages around reporting expectations for first reporting period.  
*- DOE Response: A letter went to schools via school boards to enter learner profile, grades/marks and comments.*
- Not able to use a personal computer at work site but expected to do work in the evenings on a personal computer – i.e. transfer of data/information.  
*- DOE Response: Noted by the Department.*
- Comments must be based on outcomes yet some courses do not have an approved set of outcomes.  
*- DOE Response: In development.*
- Teachers have to print and handwrite comments.  
*- DOE Response: Noted by the Department.*
- Process to print the report card is cumbersome/complicated (too many steps).  
*- DOE Response: Noted by the Department.*
- Learner profiles are not appearing due to a changed preference setting.  
*- DOE Response: Department will investigate.*
- Data for learner profiles being pulled from the wrong file.  
*- DOE Response: Department will investigate.*