



PCSchool

Simply a Better Team

<http://www.pcschool.net>

PCSchool Conference Update

February 2005

Volume 2, Issue 1

Special points of interest:

- MCEETYA Requirements
- Library Seminar
- 2005 Financial Conference
- NZ Accreditation
- SQL Update
- Point of Sale
- New PCS Help File soon to be released
- Canada

Inside this issue:

Library Seminar Cont	2
NZ Accreditation	2
SQL Update	2
PCSchool Spider	3
PCS Financial Conference	3
Canadian Contacts	4
Pont of Sale	4
Help Desk Closure	4
PCS Web Site	4
Absentee Reports	4

Welcome Back

I am sure for all of us, as we return to the coal face, that 2005 holds many challenges and rewards. I trust that you had a very enjoyable and restful Christmas. Many of the staff at PCSchool had a short break, while some had to work through to keep the fires going. We have really appreciated the many kind wishes and supportive comments that have been

forth-coming. The end of year processes have generally run very smoothly and it is pleasing to see so many schools current in their processing. Several have seen the Auditors come and go and are now working towards a successful 2005. This newsletter contains details of Venue and timing of our bi-annual Bursars' Conference. We commend this to you and will pro-

vide program details in the next Newsletter. This conference is a "Not To Be Missed" event for all bursars. We have published the dates and venue so that you can take the opportunity to book your accommodation and travel early to avoid disappointment and to take advantage of any discounts that may become available.

PCSchool Meeting MCEETYA Requirements

PCSchool announces the release of our MCEETYA ready Version 2004.06.00. MCEETYA is an initiative of the Australian Government, and in keeping with our commitment to provide software changes in response to such legislation, we are pleased to release this update from 2004.05 (MCEETYA unfortunately will not be available for Version 6, so perhaps its time to bite the bullet and apply the update to 2004). The software changes are avail-

able on our web site, under downloads. We have also placed a Tech Tip on the site (see Tech Tips - Administration). The update is not major and should not take long to perform. The software offered at this time will enable schools to record the data necessary for MCEETYA. In a future release we will provide a specific report to extract the data in the format required. We would invite your comments on our implementation and

take this opportunity to thank those users who have assisted us in this work. I believe from comments that I have received from others that many of our competitors have levied significant charges for the supply of this facility. We are pleased to provide this as a service, within our standard maintenance, rather than see it as a profit opportunity. PCSchool is "Simply a better team"

Library Seminar—Gold Coast April 2005

Attention ALL Librarians

We at PCSchool acknowledge the importance of maintaining a close contact with our users to ensure that we remain in touch with current trends and that the PCSchool package continues to remain responsive to your future needs. To this end we have run very successful Fi-

nancial and Curriculum conferences since 2001, in Sydney, Hobart and the Gold Coast. We are keen to give the Library package equal attention and development. We have allocated a period of time throughout 2005 to the further development of the Library module, and to ensure that



Library

this development is in tune with your expectations we seek your valued input. Collectively we will be able to ensure that PCSchool Library reaches a standard of excellence in this market place. During the Seminar we will also offer training in the various

components of Library. In order to encourage attendance we are happy to host this at a school (if one is available and offering) and to keep costs at a bare minimum. The seminar will likely run over two days.

If you haven't already expressed your interest please forward an email to susan@pcschool.net

PCSchool - Path to New Zealand Accreditation

There has been some misinformation re PCSchool not seeking Accreditation in the current New Zealand Ministry of Education Software Management Systems Accreditation for 2005. I would like to point out that we have remained committed to this process and have submitted all necessary requirements to be considered for this accreditation. It has been published in the Gazette that **PCSchool has been accredited for the submission of Roll Return Data for 2005**. This means that

schools can use PCSchool to prepare the March and July Roll Returns. For details of this process see the Web Site and visit Tech Tips - Admin. I suggest that you start to get your data in order as soon as possible. For those that have used PCSchool for last year's returns this should be relatively simple but as the data needs to pass over 600 ministry validation rules new users may find that their data needs some tidying up.

PCSchool has submitted all necessary documents and

is currently being assessed for the second and third stages of the SMS Accreditation process. These phases include Business Practice and Software functionality. We await the examiner's (MOE) verdict. This should be forthcoming in late March. Our presentation comprised over 1400 pages of original submission. While this process has meant that some projects have been placed on the back-burner it has resulted in the company taking a very good look at our internal

processes and procedures. We believe that the improvements that we have implemented in preparing for this accreditation will greatly benefit all our users and has resulted in many significant and beneficial changes in the software.

New Tech Tips

- [Enhanced Time Tabler Import for 2004.05.02](#)
- [WS Files Explained](#)
- [Library Periodicals](#)
- [MCEETYA Requirements](#)
- [PCSchool Spider Web Result Entry Spread](#)

SQL Update

The move from Native Dataflex to MSSQL has taken longer than anticipated. This delay is a result of work on the New Zealand Accreditation, the continued stability of the software and more recently the MCEETYA changes.



With these projects now complete we at PCSchool

are single-minded towards the SQL release. The big holdup has been the need to rewrite the 600 plus Crystal Reports so that they will look at the SQL database. I am pleased to announce that we are dedicating staff to this

process as of next week. We anticipate having the SQL version into two test schools by the end of March. After a short beta phase it will be available for general release.

PCSchool 2005 Financial Conference

In September 2005 PCSchool will be hosting a Financials Conference to be held in Melbourne Victoria.



Financials

The following information is provided for planning purposes and is not

intended as an invitation to book.

Should you wish to be kept informed about the conference and have a booking form sent to you directly please register your interest by emailing susan@pcschool.net

Conference Details:

When: 30th September & 1st October 2005.

Where: Novotel Melbourne on Collins

Cost: \$575 for first attendee \$525 for additional attendees.

The above cost include the PCSchool Conference and Conference Dinner on the 30th September 2005, it does not include accommodation nor breakfast.

Accommodation Details:

- \$178 Twin share excluding breakfast
- \$202 Twin share including breakfast.

ing breakfast.

For further information on the accommodation please call Novotel Melbourne on Collins on,

- (03) 9667 5800 or
- fax (03) 9669 8638,

please advise them you are attending the PCSchool Conference at the time of calling.

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	School-	-	-	-	-
2	Admin.	-	-	-	-
3	-	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	-	-

You never worked as fast before

Make your school more efficient. With PCSchool. A fully integrated, cost effective school administration software package, based on thirty years experience in your industry. All modules interact seamlessly through the common SQL database, resulting in timely access to a rock solid platform, without limitation. Learn more at www.pcschool.net or 0500 502 200 (Aust) 0508 502 200 (NZ)

PCSchool
simply a better team.

**PCSchool
Australia**

PO BOX 8463
Allenstown
QLD 4700

Phone: 0500 502 200
Fax: (07) 49393315
E-mail:
susan@pcschool.net

**PCSchool
New Zealand**

PO BOX 8463
Allenstown
QLD 4700

Phone: 0508 502 200
Fax: 64749393315
E-mail:
susan@pcschool.net

PCSchool Spider

As of the end of next week PCSchool will have a school entering results over the Web, via our new module namely PCSchool Spider. This product is in final testing and schools interested in implementing the Spider should contact our office. We have set up a test site for you to peruse. Go to our Web site, Tech

Tips - Curriculum and download the Tech Tip on how to get access to the Web Demo Site. We are very happy and excited about this development and see it as a giant leap forward



for PCSchool. The project has been the full time project of Aubery McKay for almost a year and I am sure that you will "love it"

Seeking Canadian Contacts

As part of our forward planning, PCSchool is looking at Canada as a potential marketplace. We have been invited to be part of a Queensland trade

mission to Canada in June. At this mission we will show case our software to interested parties. To this end we are seeking Canadian contacts such as

Schools and Organisation (educational or business) that may be influential in the marketplace, so that we may invite them to the presentation. If you have

any knowledge of this marketplace could you please contact

brendan@pcschool.net

Point of Sale

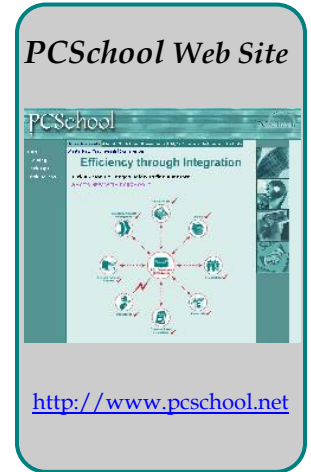
In July last year we farmed out the specification for our Point of Sale to an external programming team. This was done to ensure that we would have it ready for release in first

quarter 2005. We have now received the software and are presently submitting it to rigorous testing. This process is resulting in the software going back and forth between program-

mers and testers, however we can see an end in sight.



Point of Sale



<http://www.pcschool.net>

Help Desk to Close

PCSchool help desk is currently manned from approx 6am Aust (9am NZ) to 5.30pm Australia – five days a week. This extended trading makes it impossible for the Help center to conduct group

meetings and group training, which are essential for us to provide the high level of support that you have come to expect. We have monitored call rates over the past months and find that calls after Friday lunch

time are virtually non existent. In light of this we intend to trial closing the help desk from 2pm-4pm Queensland time on a Friday afternoon. This will enable us to efficiently conduct in-house training

and will result in better all round support. Your feedback on this initiative will be appreciated and will assist in our review of this trial. The trial will be reviewed at the end of March.

PCSchool Web Site

The PCSchool new Web Site was officially launched in December 2004. I would like to thank all the people that have sent feedback on the new sites usability and effectiveness; your comments are appreciated and

will be feed back into further development of our site. My job is to ensure that information, guides and help documentation is not only available but is distributed to our client as soon as possible. With this

in mind, recent changes to the PCSchool Help documentation will be made available to users within the next few weeks. As soon as the documentation is completed, details of how to update the help file

into your current PCSchool Application will be available from the following link [What's New](#). Updates will be available on a regular basis, so please check this site for the most current version.

Absentee Reports & Care Giver Details

In the last update we released a set of absentee reports containing Care Giver Contact details. We

acted on the premise that “more information is better.” Many users have expressed concern, re

parental privacy, with the publishing of these details. If you wish to return to the non-caregiver reports visit

<http://www.pcschool.net> Downloads page and download the report follow up.

PCSchool Australia & New Zealand

Phone: (AUST) 0500 502 200, (NZ) 0508 502 200, E-mail: susan@pcschool.net