



REACTS

Records Exchange Advice, Communication, and Technical Support Newsletter

Dear MSIX User,

The Records Exchange Advice, Communication, and Technical Support (REACTS) newsletter provides informative articles, stories, and information about upcoming events regarding national records exchange and information related to the Migrant Student Information Exchange (MSIX).

Please feel free to share this newsletter with your school counselors, registrars, and data specialists. We hope this information will be useful to your records exchange efforts.



Images provided by iStockphoto.com/Feverpitch

The Oregon Story

Maria Gaona is a home school consultant–recruiter for the Region 16–Willamette Educational Service District, North Marion School District in northern Oregon. Her experience with MSIX is useful to her records exchange goals and other recruiters may benefit from it.

Gaona stated, “We, as recruiters, are very fortunate to have access to the MSIX program. It is an extremely useful tool for recruiting purposes.”

One example of Gaona’s success is that she helped a family with four kids who recently arrived in Oregon from California.

Gaona explained, “I contacted them and was initially disappointed that their move to our area did not qualify them for our migrant education program. Then the mother of the family remembered participating in the migrant education program elsewhere, which

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Quick Links

REACTS Website

<http://reactsmsix.ed.gov>

MSIX Website

<http://msix.ed.gov>

Office of Migrant Education Website

<http://www2.ed.gov/oese/ome/>

How to Contribute to REACTS

Do you have an MSIX story to share?
We would love to hear from you.

Please contact us at reactshelp@ed.gov.



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The Oregon Story

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prompted me to do some research.” That research led Gaona to the MSIX database.

Gaona found all four children listed in MSIX. She said, “I was so excited that they still had eligibility left on their previous qualifying move!”

Gaona printed the information that she gathered directly from MSIX, visited the family, filled out a new Certificate of Eligibility using the last qualifying move information, promptly got them authorized to receive migrant assistance, and registered the children into schools.

Gaona now attests to the benefits of using MSIX to everyone who will listen: “I love MSIX!” she said.

We thank Maria Gaona, home school consultant–recruiter for the Region 16–Willamette Educational Service District, North Marion School District, for her contribution. We also thank Sue Cheavtharn, Oregon Migrant Student Information System Data Analyst II, for bringing this story to our attention.

MSIX Helps to Eliminate Gaps in Service

In early October 2010, the Pennsylvania MEP program received notification from Oregon via MSIX that a Nepali student was moving to Philadelphia. Vaughn Murray, education programs information management coordinator of the Pennsylvania MEP, forwarded this information to the regional data specialist, who searched MSIX to retrieve additional information that was then sent to the Philadelphia recruitment office. A contact that works closely with the Nepali community was aware that the new student was arriving the same evening, but did not know that the student had migrant history from Oregon.

With MSIX information in hand, local staff made the appropriate arrangements to have a recruiter and a Nepali interpreter meet with the family shortly upon the student’s arrival in Pennsylvania. Thanks to the quick electronic exchange of migrant student information on MSIX, all arrangements were made within a few hours of receiving the move notification.

The timely exchange of this information is critical because migrant students have only three years of eligibility for the program unless the student makes another qualifying move.

Murray stated that, “At the recruitment session, it was determined that the student was making a ‘To-Join’ move, and even though the family was

already in the MEP and would have likely eventually been identified, the MSIX notification allowed for a more efficient and quick identification process.”

MSIX facilitated this student’s uninterrupted access to MEP services in the transition from Oregon to Pennsylvania. “How many students (migrant or not) move from the Pacific to the Atlantic and receive uninterrupted supplemental support services?” asked Murray.

“This is a great example of how MSIX can not only help with the enrollment, placement, and credit accrual of migrant students but also how it can be used as an identification and recruitment tool to quickly locate eligible families and minimize or potentially eliminate any gap in services,” he said. “Unfortunately, we have only had a few notifications, including one almost immediately after Pennsylvania went live in MSIX. While these notifications have been few, they have almost always been very successful. It’s important that everyone use this notification feature in MSIX when they are aware that one of their families is moving to another city in another state. The results using MSIX can be outstanding!”

We thank Vaughn Murray, education programs information management coordinator from the Pennsylvania MEP, for his contribution.



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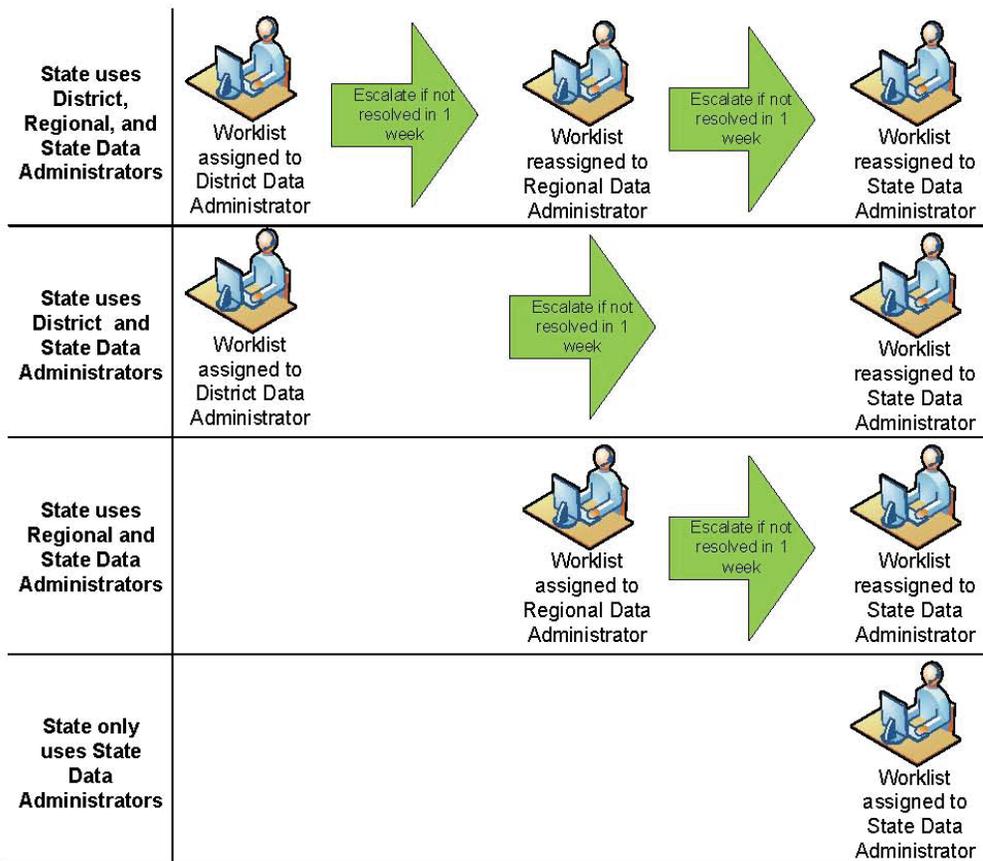
This Quarter's New MSIX Features Highlight - Worklist Escalation Notification

Overview

MSIX implemented a new worklist escalation functionality in January 2011. This functionality automatically escalates unresolved worklists from the district data administrator to the state and regional data administrator levels after one week at each level. Additionally, all "Validate" worklist entries will be automatically approved after a total of three weeks on a worklist.

Worklist Escalation

MSIX provides states with the ability to establish data administrators at the district, regional, and state levels. The use of the district and regional levels are optional, so states can choose to create data administrators at either or both of these levels. All states are required to have at least one data administrator at the state level.



Source: Deloitte Consulting, LLP

A document describing the specific details associated with these changes is available in the "Release Notes" section of the MSIX Trainers' Corner website at: <http://msix.ed.gov/msix/training.html>.



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REACTS Update

The REACTS Team assists states with their MSIX records exchange initiatives by identifying program gaps, discovering solutions to their issues, and mapping out effective strategies to improve and sustain their records exchange goals. The REACTS Team had a busy start since beginning operations in July 2010.



Images provided by Novel Management Group, LLC

As of January 2011, REACTS completed state visits to California, Florida, Missouri, Indiana, New Jersey, and Kentucky.

If you would like to invite the REACTS Team to your state, review the 2011–12 REACTS state site visit schedule on our website at <http://reactsmsix.ed.gov/sitevisits.aspx>.



Images provided by Novel Management Group, LLC

States in the Spotlight



Congratulations to Texas for creating 388 new MSIX user accounts during the months of December 2010

and January 2011.

The number of MSIX users continues to grow as we expand national awareness about records exchange.

Forty-three states are live!

Congratulations to New Jersey and North Carolina that have begun populating MSIX with student records.



With the addition of New Jersey and North Carolina, MSIX now contains information on 97 percent of MEP children.

Future Newsletters

You are on the Office of Migrant Education (OME) distribution list to receive this newsletter on a quarterly basis.

We would love to hear your MSIX stories, challenges, and advice and include these in future issues.

Feel free to share this issue of the REACTS Newsletter with your staff and colleagues.

If you prefer not to receive our news, feel free to contact us at reactshelp@ed.gov. We will automatically remove your address from our database.

Thank you for your continued support of the Migrant Records Exchange Initiative and MSIX. We look forward to serving you.

Sincerely,
Your REACTS Team

reactshelp@ed.gov

888-REACTS-0 or
888-732-2870

<http://reactsmsix.ed.gov>

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The Texas, New Jersey, and North Carolina state maps were created using Microsoft PowerPoint.

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