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NEWS RELEASE

Teachers Gain Valuable Time with Web-Based Grade Management Tool from Pearson School Systems

MyGradeBook Pro Manages Grading, Attendance, Builds Home-School Connection

MESA, Ariz. – Oct. 5, 2005 – Ask today’s teachers what they would like more of and it is likely that “time” will top their lists. Now with Pearson School Systems next generation gradebook, MyGradeBook Pro™, teachers can manage the time-consuming tasks of grading and attendance flexibly and quickly from school or home over the Internet.

Offered in conjunction with the company’s current gradebook, InteGrade® Pro, the new classroom management tool supports the latest Windows® operating systems as well as Mac OS® X. Teachers simply set up their online grade books to match their class schedules and their personal grading systems. Once they define how they want grades computed, it is automatically done for them. Then they can select from 20 ready-to print reports to monitor the performance of the entire class or an individual student.

Some teachers at Georgia’s Fayette County Board of Education who have been using MyGradeBook Pro for the past several years have realized benefits in classroom management and parent-teacher communications.

“Many parents feel once the child is out of elementary school, they don’t have to be as involved at the secondary level. Much to the contrary,” said Joilene Price, Language Arts teacher, Rising Starr Middle School. “We need them even more and MyGradeBook Pro allows us to better partner with them to make their children even more successful in and out of the classroom. For instance, there is a feature that allows teachers to write messages with updated grades. I use it not only for explaining

assignments to parents and students, but also to let them know about upcoming school events in which their children might wish to be involved.”

Price’s colleague, Dan Hossbach, at JC Booth Middle School is also using MyGradeBook Pro. Hossbach, an English teacher, said, “It cut down on meetings about grades because the parents were immediately aware what grade their student received when they received it. It puts the focus back on the parent and student and what is required to be successful.”

Using the Web-based gradebook, teachers can track attendance online and then send email notifications to the parents of students who are absent or tardy. In fact, parents can receive password access to the gradebook so that they can be involved in the learning process by checking to see if their children are completing their assignments and keeping track of how they are doing in their classes throughout the school year, not just at report card time.

Like InteGrade Pro, MyGradeBook Pro seamlessly integrates with other Pearson School Systems software products, allowing teachers and administrators to import data from any of the company’s administration systems and then export information back to the gradebook software. Most importantly, MyGradeBook Pro was developed using industry-leading access and security protections, ensuring the security and privacy of all student information.

“At Pearson School Systems, we are committed to providing schools with technology solutions that allow them to spend the maximum amount of time focused on teaching and learning,” said Mike Evans, president, Pearson School Systems. “With MyGradeBook Pro, teachers will now be able to effectively and efficiently manage grading and attendance anywhere they have access to the Internet and keep parents up-to-date on how their children are doing. They can then devote the saved time to their true passion – teaching.”

About Pearson School Systems

Pearson School Systems (PSS) is changing the face of K-12 student performance and information management through its offering of tightly-integrated, mission critical district enterprise solutions. Through its innovative digital solutions, PSS is dedicated to

helping schools perform and students succeed. Its all-encompassing product lineup includes SASI the widely acclaimed, comprehensive student information system; Pearson Centerpoint; the multi-platform, Web-based student information and performance management system; CIMS® the comprehensive finance, human resources, and student information system; Pearson Inform, the achievement data analysis and decision support tool; and Pearson Benchmark, the customizable, Web-based district benchmark testing solution. PSS is a business unit of Pearson Education, the world's leading integrated education company, which in turn is part of Pearson (NYSE: PSO), the international media company. For more information, visit: www.pearsonschoolsystems.com

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