

New Features in PowerTeacher 1.1

Power Teacher 1.1 has over 40 key usability and feature enhancements for teachers. Thousands of teachers and dozens of administrators using PowerTeacher 1.0 provided detailed product feedback, and Pearson is listening. Thanks to the feedback of our fantastic PowerTeacher customers, this release incorporates the most commonly requested features and fixes, including:

- **Reporting enhancements** — Reports open immediately without saving. Added flexibility, including layout options, notes, signature line, randomization by student ID, and other options to help more data fit on a page.
- **Scoresheet enhancements** — Options for: zooming in and out, due dates on copied assignments, display of final grades, and naming and sorting sections. A missing assignment indicator was added, in addition to several quick entry shortcut keys. Comment bank spacing options are also available to fit specific report card design needs.
- **PowerTeacher portal** — The popular “green dot” customization for attendance. Citizenship can be entered in the PowerTeacher portal. All sections now display on the start page, and customization of the home page is now available.
- **And much more!**

Pearson is dedicated to a process of continual improvement, to bring you the features you need to be successful in the classroom today and in the future. Your feedback is important to us, and helps each new release meet and exceed the expectations of our teachers across the nation.

The following tables display a complete list of enhancements in PowerTeacher 1.1.

Reports

Feature	Description
Open immediately	Option to open or save the completed report.
Report Layout tab	Add custom title, top note, bottom note, page break options, and signature line for each report. Settings are remembered across sessions for future use.
Student Multi-Section Report – NEW!	New report displays progress across all of a student's sections and teachers.
Student Name vs. Student Number	Display Student Number or Student Name on all reports. Randomize student numbers.
Student Roster Report	Six blank fields added that can be named and stored.
Individual Student Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include or exclude final grades, assignment info, score comments, and category totals. • Specify reporting terms to display. • Assignment weighting is now displayed. Assignment and category abbreviations can be used. • Sorting by section, page break, and space-saving options.
Missing Assignment Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the new Missing indicator, or continue to use unrecorded scores. • Sort by section, or alphabetically by students across sections.

New Features in PowerTeacher 1.1

Reports - *continued*

Feature	Description
Attendance Grid Report	Include or exclude the date headings. Select a number of days to display, rather than a specific date. Allows use of this report for a variety of purposes, such as a class checklist.
Final Grade and Comment Verification Report	Include or exclude points, percent, and letter grade.
Scoresheet Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standardization of student name appearance. • Select which final grade columns to display. • Alternating line colors for enhanced readability.
Sorting options across reports	Additional sorting options on each report. Student specific reports can be generated separating students by section, or grouping together alphabetically or by number.
Paper saving enhancements across reports	Each report has been formatted to fit more information on fewer pages, while retaining the aesthetics of the report.
Page break enhancements across reports	Page break options for each report, allowing teachers to get the exact information needed. For example, the missing assignment report can print one page per student to distribute, or group all students together for a teacher's reference.
Saved reports remember saved location	Saving a report defaults to the desktop for easy locating. Also remembers last saved location.
Standardization of report header and footer	Header, footer, and row color is now standardized across all reports.
Reports definition tab default position	Reports definition window now appears in the middle of the screen, rather than minimized.

Scoresheet/Gradebook

Feature	Description
Zoom in and out	Scoresheet, Assignments, and Student window can display larger or smaller text. Settings are remembered between sessions.
Copy and Paste Assignment options	Keep the existing due date, use today's date, or assign any new due date when copying assignments.
Missing assignment indicator	New indicator to mark a student's assignment as missing. Missing Assignment report uses this indicator to generate report.



New Features in PowerTeacher 1.1

Scoresheet/Gradebook - *continued*

Feature	Description
100 percent shortcut key	Enter the equal sign (=) in any score cell to automatically assign 100 percent of the points possible to the student. This applies to all point, percentage, and letter grade scores.
Missing, Late, Collected quick entry keys	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Missing: MI or forward slash (/)• Late: LT or asterisk (*)• Collected: COL or period (.) Repeat the quick entry key to remove the indicator.
Name your sections	Name each section and display that name in the section list.
Remember the reporting term filter	The gradebook now remembers the reporting term filtered between sessions. For example, if a teacher has filtered to S1, then S1 displays when they log in, rather than the default.
Final Grade display preference	Option to display any or all of the following in the Scoresheet Final Grade column: points earned, percent, or letter grade. No selection leaves the Final Grade column blank.
Mean, Median, Mode added for Final Grade column	Mean, median, and mode statistics for the class now display in the Final Grade column.
Section display: periods and days vs. section number	Display the period and days (for example, 3A) for the section, or use the section number. This is especially helpful for elementary and specialist teachers.
Section sorting options	Sort sections by period/day, course name, or section number.
Student count	Student column on the Scoresheet displays current count of students. Count updates as students are added or dropped from the section.
Student name and Final Grade columns can be resized separately	Ability to separately size the Student Name and the Final Grade columns as needed.
Option to update scores when changing points possible	When changing the points possible for an assignment (for example, from 10 points possible to 100), teachers can keep the existing scores, or scale them up or down to match the new points possible.
Decimal entry on Final Grade Setup	Enter weights such as 1.5 or 1.25 on the Grade Setup window.
Quick Entry Tips help window	New item on the Help menu. This document lists keyboard shortcuts and other quick entry tips.
Comment Bank: line breaks vs. spaces	Choose line breaks or spaces to separate entries selected from the Comment Bank



New Features in PowerTeacher 1.1

Scoresheet/Gradebook - *continued*

Feature	Description
Close button added to Score Inspector	Score Inspector window now displays a Close button in addition to the Clear button.
Updated online help	Online help is updated to include all new features and enhancements for version 1.1.

PowerTeacher Portal

Feature	Description
Green dot attendance indicator	New green dot indicator displays when attendance is taken for a section. A yellow dot and fraction appears for sections that take attendance multiple times in the same day.
Citizenship entry	Enter a final citizenship code for each student.
Display any number of sections	Display any number of sections on the Start page.
Allow customization while keeping performance enhancements	Customization enabled on the start page, while retaining performance enhancements.

General Fixes

Feature	Description
Attendance Grid displays N/A	Certain sections with unusual section IDs were displaying NA on the attendance grid report.
28 section limit on PowerTeacher start page	Updated to display as many sections as necessary.
OSX 10.5 (Leopard)	Fix to overcome a known issue with score entry when running on OSX 10.5 (Leopard)
Fix to ensure access to last year's data	View and use assignments and other items created in previous years.
Reports sort by last name, then first name	Students with the same last name are now sorted consistently on reports.

Enhancements

This section discusses the notable enhancements introduced in the release of PowerTeacher gradebook 1.1.

Attendance

Attendance Indicator Icon

A new attendance indicator icon now appears on the PowerTeacher Portal start page. A dot appears next to each class' Chair icon. The color of the dot indicates whether or not you've taken attendance for that class. This feature was originally created as a customization by Roger Sprik and David Chen. For information on customizing the icon (for example, changing the green dot to an image), see the Attendance Indicator section in *PowerSchool Online Help*.

Assignments

Automatic Line Breaks When Adding Comments

A **Separate Comments Using** pop-up menu is available on the Select Comments window that allows you to choose how to separate comments (by spaces or line breaks).

Changes to Existing Scores When Points Possible Updated

If **Points Possible** is modified for an assignment where student point-based scores exist, the Points Possible Has Changed window appears. You can either click **Keep Scores** to keep the scores as-is or click **Adjust Scores** to adjust them based on the new points possible.

Copied Assignment Date Specification

When copying an assignment in the PowerTeacher gradebook, the due date of the copied assignment was automatically calculated by the gradebook. Now, you can select a due date for the copied assignment. The selected due date is assigned to the copied assignment if it falls within the term of the class that the assignment is being copied to. Otherwise, the existing gradebook logic is used to calculate the due date for the copied assignment.

Missing Assignment Indicator

Assignment scores can now be marked as missing. Scores marked as missing have a visual indicator on the Scoresheet, and appear in the Missing Assignment report.

Final Grades

Decimal Entry on Final Grade Setup Page

Final grade weights using a decimal number can now be entered in weighting fields on the Final Grades screen.

Mean, Median, Mode Added to Final Grade Column

Changes have been made to the gradebook to calculate and display the mean, median and mode in the Final Grade column on the Scoresheet.

PowerTeacher Portal

Citizenship Final Grade Entry

The Final Grade Entry page on the PowerTeacher Portal now allows you to enter or select a citizenship grade and suppress the display of teacher comments. For more information, see the Student Information section in *PowerTeacher Portal Online Help*.

Teacher Comments

PowerTeacher gradebook users should enter report card comments in the gradebook. Instructional notes now appear on the PowerTeacher Portal Teacher Comments page and the Modify Comment pages as a reminder to enter comments in the gradebook. An instructional note now appears on the PowerSchool Admin Teacher Comments page instructing you how to view comments entered in PowerTeacher gradebook.

Preferences

Section Information

You can now customize how the class list displays in the Current Classes pane. Use the Preferences window to customize how the class lists displays. When you select options on the Preferences window, PowerTeacher gradebook now saves the preferences on the server.

Reports

The following report enhancements are available in this release.

Reports Forced to Save Before Opening

- When opening a report using Windows operating system, PowerTeacher gradebook looks to the default browser to determine how to handle the report. If a report does not open automatically either the application needed to open the report does not exist or the default browser does not know how to handle the

report. For more information on setting the browser preferences, see the About Reports section in *PowerTeacher Gradebook Online Help*.

- When reports are generated, select the **Open Report** option to view the report immediately.
- A new **Layout** tab is now available on the Reports window that allows you to change the report name, add text to the top and bottom of the report, and add a signature line to the bottom of the report.
- A new **Student Field** now appears on each report window, allowing you to select the options **Student Name** or **Student Number** to appear on the report. If **Student Number** is selected, sort options are now available on the **Sort By** pop-up menu.
- A new **Page Breaks** field is now available, allowing you to select options for inserting page breaks on the report. Options vary from report to report and appear enabled/disabled based on the selected report criteria.
- The following enhancements are now available on the Attendance Grid Report:
 - A new **No Dates** field is now available, which allows you to run the report based on the number of days for which you want to take attendance, rather than actual dates.
 - A new **# of Days** field is now available, which allows you to choose the number of days for which you want to take attendance from a pop-up menu.
 - Margins are now reduced to allow the maximum number of students per page.
- The following enhancements are now available on the Category Total Report:
 - Report output is now updated with consistent row heights and font sizes, and reduced space for the header information.
 - Alternating row colors now appear.
 - The column header titled **Letter Grade** now appears as **Grade**.
- The following enhancements are now available on the Final Grade Report:
 - Report output is now updated with consistent row heights and font sizes, and reduced space for the header information.
 - Alternating row colors now appear.
 - Added a column titled **Pts. Earned/Pts. Possible**.
 - **Include** checkboxes are now available to include **Final Grade**, **Assignment Scores**, and **Category Summary** in the report. In addition, you can choose to include **Score Comments** if the **Assignment Scores** checkbox is selected.
 - **Include** checkboxes are now available to include **Points**, **Grades**, **Percent**, and **Comment** in the report.
- The following enhancements are now available in the Individual Student Report:
 - A new **Abbreviate** field is now available, which allows you to select abbreviations for assignment name and category name in the Assignment Scores section.

- Updated the **Date Range** options to be consistent with the Scoresheet report. This includes changing the order of the list in order for the terms to appear above the pre-defined options.
- A new **Order By** pop-up menu is now available when the **Active Classes** option is selected, allowing you to select the sort order of the sections.
- **Include** checkboxes are now available to include **Final Grade**, **Assignment Scores**, and **Category Summary** in the report. In addition, you can choose to include **Score Comments** if the **Assignment Scores** checkbox is selected.
- Sorting by student last name, first name is now available.
- Report output design has been improved to maximize space and provide a consistent look.
- Added a weight indicator to the **Assignment Scores** section.
- Assignment weights are taken into account in the **Category Summary** section.
- The following enhancements are now available on the Missing Assignment Report:
 - New **Marked Missing** field with options to generate the report by **Unrecorded Scores** or **Missing Indicator**.
 - New **Order By** pop-up menu to indicate the report sort order by **Student Name** or **Section, Student**.
 - Report output design has been improved to maximize space and provide a consistent look.
- The following enhancements are now available on the Scoresheet Report:
 - Long student names now wrap if they do not fit in the **Student Field**.
 - If Final Grades are included in the report, you can now choose a final grade term from a pop-up menu. The report will display the selected term and all lower level terms.
 - Report output design has been improved to maximize space and provide a consistent look.
 - Alternating row colors now appear.
- The following enhancement is now available on the Student Roster Report:
 - The report is enhanced to allow you to add up to six blank columns to the report. You can customize the names of the columns, and the settings are saved when you run the report.

Scoresheet/Score Inspector

Scoresheet Customization

The following Scoresheet window customizations are now available.

- You can now customize what scores display in the Final Grade column on the Scoresheet. Use the Preferences window to select **Letter Grade**, **Percentage**,

Points Earned, or any combination of the three options. When you select options on the Preferences window, PowerTeacher gradebook now saves the preferences on the server.

- The Final Grade column is now resizable. Click and hold the vertical three-line icon located at the bottom of the column and drag the cursor right or left to resize the column.
- The number of students displaying in the current Scoresheet now appears in the Students column header.

Shortcut Keys and Quick Entry Tips

Several new shortcut keys and quick entry options are now available on the Scoresheet and Score Inspector. To view a complete list of these shortcuts:

- Click on the link provided on the PowerTeacher gradebook Launch page (**PowerTeacher > Gradebook**).

OR

- Select **Quick Entry Tips** on the PowerTeacher gradebook Help menu. A link is provided in the help file to print a PDF version of the page.

Resolved Issues

This section discusses the issues that have been resolved in the release of PowerSchool 5.1.2.

Assignments

Assignments Do Not Display When Students Are Not Enrolled in a Section

Previously, assignments for sections with no students enrolled did not appear on the Scoresheet. This issue is now resolved. Now, assignments appear on the Scoresheet even if there are no students enrolled in that section.

Reentering Original Assignment Score Does Not Save

Previously, the Scoresheet would try and detect if the same score was being entered over an existing score and ignore the change. This issue is now resolved. Now, you can enter a score over an existing score, even if it is identical to the existing score.

Maintain Scores

Assignment Scores and Final Grade No Longer Appear in PowerTeacher Gradebook

Previously, when deleting duplicate CC records in PowerSchool, associated SectionEnrollments located in the PSM_SectionEnrollment table used by PowerTeacher gradebook were also deleted. This would cause scores associated with that enrollment in PowerTeacher gradebook to also be deleted. This issue is now resolved. Now, scores are moved to another existing enrollment for that student when an associated CC record is deleted. If there is no existing enrollment record left, the scores are deleted.

PowerTeacher Portal

Portal Page Customization

Previously, the PowerTeacher Portal page could not be customized due to the method by which the page was cached. This issue is now resolved. Now, the page cache has been updated to enable the addition of customized columns for section information displayed on the portal start page.

Reports

Attendance Grid Report Prints Blank

Previously, the Attendance Grid report printed a blank report for certain sections, and the column headers on the report displayed N/A. This issue is now resolved. Now, the Section ID field is updated to accept a longer ID number, and the report prints correctly.

Reports Window Collapsed by Default

Previously, after closing a report and then selecting a different report, the [report name] report window remained minimized at the bottom of the **Report** window. This issue is now resolved. Now, when selecting a different report, the [report name] window appears as the normal size in the **Report** window area. In addition, when no report is selected, the message "No selection" appears in the **Report** window.

Score Inspector

Clear Button Moved

Previously, the **Clear** button on the Score Inspector was often mistaken as **OK** or **Save**. This issue is now resolved. Now, the **Clear** button has been moved to the left of a new **Close** button on the Score Inspector.

Terms

Previous Year Terms Do Not Display

Previously, the terms for the previous school year did not display once the new school term was selected. This issue is now resolved. Now, when you first launch PowerTeacher gradebook, the current full year term appears in the **[Term Selector]** pop-up menu. The pop-up menu displays current, future, and past year terms, as well as any lower level terms within a term.