Product Release Notes & Overview

SchoolLeader Version 10.0

June 2015

The following document details the features and technology that are new -- or have been enhanced – since the last release of SchoolLeader – Version 9.2. If you have any further questions, contact Kressa Software at 800 858-8570

In 9.2 we began offering more connections to popular third party service suppliers for the Childcare industry.   In this latest release we are expanding on that new philosophy and adding even more optional connectors, as well as enhancing some existing ones, to improve collaboration and productivity for your school.   We have also invested a considerable amount of time and effort to improve the stability and performance.

Updated – SchoolLeader Cloud Services faster and better!

This is a simple item to list, but it is a very large improvement! One which we have been working on very hard for 6 months straight.   SchoolLeader's Cloud Services were introduced in V9.1 almost 2 years ago.   Since then many have signed up for it. We are confident all who did are happy with the freedom to access their data from anywhere, as well as the elimination of responsibility and cost for hosting your own server.   But many of you still felt it could be better. You missed the performance of a locally hosted database.   We heard you!

In Version 10.0 we have redesigned our "backend" processes to work better with the differences inherent in cloud/internet hosted services, while still providing the same solid performance for local servers hosted by you at the school.   It has been a large effort but we know you will be pleased.   Connection issues during peak workload hours? Virtually all eliminated!   Speed and reliability?   Depending on your equipment, you should experience a *25% improvement* in both!

And in our next version released by the end of this year or early next, we are already working on adding a feature to CPU "pooling" to help with those big long running processes such as "posting recurring fees, or, closing the Accounting Period. This "trick" will hopefully make these short running CPU intensive processes finish in a comparable time to those who have a dedicated server on premise.

Updated – Local Databases now run SQL Server 2014

We just talked above about a great change for our Cloud customers. Well, we also have improvements for our customers hosting their own databases. SchoolLeader V10 has been modified to work with Microsoft's latest iteration of their database product - *SQL Server 2014*.

You will first need to uninstall the old database engine you are using per provided instructions, and you also cannot use an "32 bit" version of Windows for these locally hosted servers any longer.   However, our turnkey installer take care of all the rest. It will automatically install the new Database engine, configure it, and upgrade your existing data to work with this new database system.

The results will be the latest and most stable database engine that is ready to go for SchoolLeader and the next version of Windows due out in late summer (Windows 10).

New – Ready for Microsoft Windows 10 releasing this summer

SchoolLeader has been tested and certified for Windows 10.   Windows 10 brings back the more traditional Start Menu of Windows 7 along with building on the newer "Live Tile" and App Store features of Windows 8.   It's the best of both worlds and with support for this new Operating System, SchoolLeader will be ready to run on ANY **Windows 10** device from desktops to laptops to Tablets of ANY size.

New – Graph Manager and viewer

SchoolLeader has always had over 150 reports to help you manage and track the important data of your business.   Now you can view and track some of that key information using our new graphing feature.

Many critical business data points can now be graphed with more to come in the future.   You can access the Graphing Manager window from the REPORTING option on the main menu in FrontDesk Manager.

Track trends for:

- Total Student Hours Per Day Per Class
- Total Student Counts Per Hr Per Class
- Total Student/Teacher Ratios Per Hr Per Class
- Total Payments and Charges booked Per Period

New – Tadpoles.com™ Connector

The Tadpoles.com Connector has been added to support transmission of informaton about Students, classrooms. This new connector wil allow for an initial synchronizatiion of all relevant data with Tadpoles for quick startup, as well as realtime synhcronization of any ongoing changes with this shared information.   For example, if you change a parents telephone number, address, or relation with a student, that change will be sent Tadpoles database almost instantly.

Updated - Listen360™ Connector

The Listen 360 Connector has been enhanced to support transmission of informaton about your employees as well.   This will now give you the opportunity to take advantage of offerings from Listen 360 that target employees

Listen360 provides an efficient way to manage feedback and use your customers' direct and honest comments to improve business operations, correct shortcomings, and deliver outstanding customer service. You benefit from retained business and a steady stream of recommendations that lead to sustained growth and profitability.   Learn more by visiting their website at www.Listen360.com.

Updated – QuickBooks Connector now compatible with QB2015

The current SchoolLeader QuickBooks Connector has been updated and is now fully tested and compatible with QuickBooks 2015.   It also remains compatible with all desktop versions of QB starting with QB2010

The QB-Connector is installed and run on the same computer with your QuickBooks software and acts as a "bridge" to allow SchoolLeader to automatically forward journal entries to your QuickBooks database when certain key A/R events occur, thus keeping your ledger in sync with your SchoolLeader Receivables sub-ledger without the need for manual intervention..

New – Classroom analyzer helps build future age appropriate classrooms

The *Classroom Folder – Enrollment/Promotions Tab* already does a great job giving you a quick view of your current classroom enrollment, as well as make suggestions for individual students who are age eligible for movement.   In Version 10 there is a new tool on the Enrollment/Promotions tab that allows you to quickly build a hypothetical age appropriate classroom based on any future date you select.

For those who prefer to make classroom reassignments based on a calendar schedule, similar to a traditional K-12, this will be a great productivity tool to help you visualize and plan for classroom reassignments in advance. You can even have it consider or exclude waiting list students in the analysis. No more guessing or manual spreadsheets. Just ener the future date and press the button!

Updated – Message Alerts added for Dis-enrollment & No-Billing

The Message & Alert Manager is a powerful tool to help you and your administrative staff stay on top of rapidly changing events at your school.   In this latest version we have added two additoinal alert features.

First, you can now have SchoolLeader alert you when a Student is disenrolled from a classroom.   SchoolLeader will immediately send you an email alerting you of the students name and classroom.   It also analyzes your Waiting List and Prospects to provide a list of potential students who could fill that slot.   You can enable this feature from SCHOOL on the main menu. Then select EMAIL MESSAGING & ALERT SETUP.   As illustrated below, you will find a new option for alerts on disenrollments.

Second, the "A/R Fee Schedule alert" (5th option from the top) has been enhanced to provide some more helpful information. The Administrative Report will now also include a list of any active students who did NOT get billed during this process. Often times this is legitimate, but this can help you catch critical billing mistakes where a student was accidently not assigned a recurring fee, or, they were left suspended in the system even though they have returned.   If you want to receive this useful information, enable this option and designate an email in the "Send Administrative Report To" field.

Other Enhancements and Improvements

- ➢ **Multi-School Support Tool -** has been enhanced to now also allow you to close the Accounting Periods for multiple schools all at once. Viewing the Accounting Period status from this window has been helpful for those managing multiple ledgers. Now, with the ability to close them with one command, the tool will save even more time eliminating the need to log into each database separately.

- ➢ **Check Number field -** displayed in the "Receive Payment" window has been expanded to allow numbers up 50 digits from the prior 8. In our modern times, electronic checks often have extremely long payment id numbers which include timestamp data and other numerical sequences.   SchoolLeader can now accommodate those extremely long values.

➢ **Student Enrollment Reports** - have been enhanced to include Student Fee assignments.   For the Student Starts, this allows you to quickly scan for any students who did not get fees assigned to them during the initial setup.   For Suspensions and Disenrollments, it gives you a quick way to assess revenue impacts for students going off billing.

➢ **Email Address fields -** have ALL been increased from 50 characters to 150 characters. This will allow you to store more emails for a single person.   In this ever increasing connected world, people often give you more than one email for reaching them.   As always, you can still string multiple emails them together by separating them with a semi-colon (e.g. me@work.com ; me@home.com).

➢ **Performance improvements** - for "flickering" issue when loading Folders. This only occurs for some Windows 8 users

➢ **Crystal Reports has been upgraded -** to the latest version for faster and more reliable performance.   The turnkey installer will automatically install the new engine and convert all reports for you automatically

➢ **CheckPoint Station has been modified –**to record the name of the CheckPoint computer where the logout occurred when a full evening "sign-out" is triggered.   The "Logged By" entry will contain this additional information and can be helpful for those who have multiple Checkpoints running at satellite locations.