

Washington Community Schools will be switching to a new student information system for the 2008-2009 school year. PowerSchool is the new system that will replace our current Centerpoint system. The company that makes Centerpoint – Pearson Education, has recently purchased several other software vendors, so they now own many of the student information programs available. This includes the PowerSchool product. It is the plan of Pearson Education to integrate many of these other systems, including Centerpoint, into their now flagship product PowerSchool. Technical support for Centerpoint will be ending soon. These are a couple of our reasons for switching systems.

Our Area Education Agency, Grant Wood, is currently the server and support provider for our Centerpoint system. Grant Wood staff are making the transition to PowerSchool in order to provide it for us. They have been working on this transition for over a year, and have already switched some districts to the new PowerSchool system this school year. We believe that with the help of Grant Wood, our transition will be a smooth one. Although the look and feel of PowerSchool will be different from Centerpoint, many of the same features will still be available, including some new features that we did not have before.

Many Washington Community Schools staff will be participating in training to learn the new system to be prepared for the start of school this fall. We will be sending out more documentation as it becomes available, and it is our intent to have sign up information for the new system included with the mail-in registration packets. Many of the details are yet to be worked out, so please keep your eye on the district website for more information.