



# Eagle Software Newsletter

February 2008

Volume 9, Issue 1

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## Spring 2008 Users' Conference – March 10 - 11 at the Ontario Convention Center

Eagle Software looks forward to welcoming approximately 1,100 participants at the **Eagle Software Users' Conference** to be held in Ontario, CA at the Ontario Convention Center on March 10 & 11, 2008. Confirmation letters have been mailed to those who are registered. If you have registered and you have not received a confirmation letter by Wednesday, March 5, 2008 please call Lucille at Eagle Software – (888) 487-7555.

Early check in will be available on Sunday, March 9, 2008 at the Doubletree Hotel. Please check your confirmation letter for the location and time.

## Eagle Support During the March 2008 Conference

During the upcoming March 2008 Users' Conference, our Call Coordinator will be available to take messages. Aeries Support will be operating with limited staff availability due to conference responsibilities on March 10 and 11. Therefore, Aeries Support will concentrate on "high priority/non-procedural" calls. Set-up issues and calls that may require extended time should be deferred until Wednesday, March 12. If you are planning to attend the Conference, please plan accordingly to have your offices covered.

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## Regional Workshops:

Please check our website at [Aeries Regional Workshops](#) for a calendar of scheduled workshops and registration information. Workshops will be presented using a lecture format with a single computer and projection unit.

Eagle Software regional workshops are offered on a variety of topics throughout the year. We are currently planning additional Regional Workshops, which should be posted in March. The workshops offered will have limited space available, so please check the website regularly for information and register early.

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## Electronic Teacher Signatures

Eagle Software was pleased to see a recent letter from State Superintendent Jack O'Connell concerning a pilot program for Electronic Teacher Signatures. Eagle Software has been working with the CDE and the Department of Fiscal Services to create a standard by which to allow systems like Aeries to manage, store, and verify attendance that has been electronically signed by teachers. This system would replace the need for teachers to physically sign weekly attendance sheets and for the school to store those sheets until an auditor asks for them. This is something that many districts have been requesting for a long time. Eagle Software has identified a couple of pilot districts to work with and we are continuing to work with the CDE to move this system forward.

## Student Assessment Definitions

Major enhancements have been made to Student Assessment Definitions:

- Assessments can now be created using the CST table. Also, assessments created using the TST table can now have performance level indicators setup for each grade level.
  - The Quick Report can now be generated limiting by Grade, and has five new sort options.
  - The Setup option has the ability to select custom color layouts based on assessment performance levels.
  - The color layouts will allow assessment performance levels to be printed in color on the Print Student Assessment Summary.
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## Sending Us Your Data (“Zip-it” before you “Ship-it”)

When sending any large files to Eagle Software we recommend using our Uploads process, as it works best in most situations. Reminder: please “zip” your database before you send it to us! We accept files of type: .ZIP, .RAR, and .TGZ.

Note: We are no longer going to accept large e-mail attachments!

If you are sending a very large file (District or SQL database), sending it to our FTP-site may be more practical.

Regarding SQL databases – please note that we do not want nor need your LOG-file, so please compact/truncate it prior to sending us your SQL database. It takes up a lot of space, and causes the file to take much longer to send. Also, please include your District name in your ‘zip’ file, so we can more easily identify the data we are receiving.

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## New ABI Features:

### Physical Fitness

Physical Fitness Test Results can now be entered through ABI. There is a new tab in the ABI Options for “Fitness” where the options can be setup. After everything is turned ON, PE teachers will see a new tab under the Grades section of ABI where they will be able to enter the results for this years Physical Fitness test. There is documentation on this feature and the new Physical Fitness Setup table in Aeries at: [Physical Fitness Enhancements](#).

### Activities and Awards

Activities and Awards is now accessible through ABI. Teachers accounts can be configured to enter new records and counselor-style accounts can be given permission to add, edit, or delete records from the ACT table.

### Class Labels

Class Labels have been enhanced to better support printing from IE 7 and Firefox. If you have had problems in the past printing from these environments, these recent changes should help fit everything onto those labels.

### Student Assignments

ABI now allows students to be able to turn in their assignments online. Students need to be give permissions to upload files to ABI in the ABI Options application. Teachers can then turn on the option for an assignment to “Allow drop Box.” **Note:** The File Upload feature is only available for AeriesCS districts.

## Access 2007 and Windows Vista

We have modified AeriesCS for Access 2007 and Windows Vista, and have released the changes to the Auto-Update process. The Aeries configuration file, Eagle1.ini, can now be placed in the "eagle" directory instead of "windows." If the file exists (and is updateable) in "windows" it will be used, otherwise the "eagle" one will be used (and created if it doesn't exist). This is a nice option for network administrators who don't want to allow files in their users' "windows" folders to be modified, and vital for Windows Vista as it defaults to locking the "windows" folder!

We continue to encourage all Aeries schools/districts to delay upgrading to these newest versions of Access and Windows at least until the first service pack is released for them.

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## End of Life for Access '97 & 2000 Versions of Aeries

Eagle Software is no longer releasing these versions of Aeries as of January 1, 2008. We encourage everyone still on the older versions of Access to upgrade to a newer version as soon as possible.

**Please Note:** We have re-arranged the Updates page placing the Aeries Client Server version and the Access 2002/2003 versions of Aeries at the top of the page.

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## Aeries New Feature Highlights

- The Aprenda Pre-Identification Form has been modified to support the 2007-2008 Data File Layout.
- Import Fixed Length Files – The new file format has been added for the 2007 PSAT test.

Please refer to the [Major Revision Notes](#) and [Detailed Revision Notes](#) for more information.

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## Eagle Software's Calendar

For future reference Eagle Software will be closed in observance of the following Holidays:

- Memorial Day – Monday, May 26, 2008
- Independence Day – Friday, July 4, 2008
- Labor Day – Monday, September 1, 2008
- Thanksgiving – (Thursday and Friday) - November 27, 2008 and November 28, 2008
- Winter Holidays Schedule – To be announced