Public Comments and Responses
XML Transcript Request and Response
October 2, 2007

On May 7, 2007, the XML Transcript Request & Response Workgroup, after having completed its development efforts, submitted its specifications to the Change Control Board of the Standards Forum for Education with the objective that they become approved and recognized education standards. The need and a significant foundation for the specifications were born out of the National Student Clearinghouse.

On Tuesday May 22, 2007, PESC posted the XML Transcript Request & Response Specifications on its website, made all corresponding announcements and communications regarding this submission, and opened a 30-day public comment period so that the education community could review and publicly comment on Specifications.

During the public comment period, which expired on June 21, 2007, a number of public comments were received. Those public comments were routed to the XML Transcript Request & Response Workgroup and the Standards Forum for Education’s Change Control Board (CCB). Both groups reviewed the public comments, discussed each thoroughly and meticulously, and provided responses. All public comments and responses are provided below. This document listing all public comments and responses will be posted on the PESC website.

As public comment period has been successfully addressed, the XML Transcript Request & Response Specifications are presented to the PESC Members for a Vote of Approval on October 2, 2007. The voting period for PESC Members is 10 business days and expires on October 17, 2007.

Public Comment 1

Issue: AgencyAssignedID

The Person block contains the element AgencyAssignedID which CCCTran populates with a statewide student ID (CSIS) number. The usefulness of this element would be enhanced by the addition of a companion element that describes the source of the value. We propose that AgencyAssignedID be changed to an optional complex element consisting of “AgencyAssignedIDCode” ( alphanumeric, 1-30, required) and “AgencyAssignedIDQualifier” ( alphanumeric, 1-30, required). This is similar to the structure of “LocalOrganizationID” in the School block.

CCCTran would populate AgencyAssignedIDCode with a 14 numeric character value that is a unique statewide student identification number and would populate AgencyAssignedIDQualifier with the value “CSIS”.

Reason:
Proposed Solution: See above.

Response: With regard to the AgencyAssignedID, a new simple element called AgencyAssignedIDQualifier will be added to the Person block to accommodate your request to indicate the agency that assigned the AgencyAssignedID to the person. While your suggested approach to change the AgencyAssignedID to a complex element is a more structured approach, it causes compatibility issues with approved standards that are already using the current Person definition. The Change Control Board will take your suggestion into consideration when planning future major releases.

Public Comment 2

Issue: BirthCity

CCCTran project representatives have previously requested that Birthcity be included along with Birthdate and Birthday as one of the components of the complex element “Birth”. The addition of BirthCity would be very helpful since many CCCs use it to assist in student identification. It was our understanding that Request and Response Workgroup was favorably disposed to this suggestion and indeed we find that BirthCityType is now available in the core schema and is used in the HighSchool Transcript. (We note that the HighSchool transcript uses AcRec:BirthType while the Postsecondary transcript uses core:BirthType). Of course BirthCity should be optional in the Postsecondary transcript as it is in the HighSchool transcript.

Reason:

Proposed Solution:

Response: With regard to the BirthCity, the Person block used by the Transcript Request and Response will be changed to the use the definition of BirthType from the Academic Record instead of the definition from Core. The definition in the Academic Record includes BirthCity.