

FALL 2022 NEWSLETTER



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Happy Fall! It seems like we had a quick transition from summer to fall, and I hope the 2022-2023 school year has gotten off to a good start for you. Our newsletter this quarter has many new items for you to review.

We are excited to report there has been continued progress on the merger with NCOCC, and we are close to finishing up the project's discovery phase. The goal of merging the two organizations is to improve staff redundancy, expand services and increase support to serve the membership needs better. This merger will afford the opportunity to leverage the economies of scale for product procurement and hardware utilization while maintaining a high level of customer service by combining experienced staff with a specialized skill set. A website (https://ncocc.net/merger/) has been launched to serve as the central communication center for the merger. The site's content will include the project plan, completed tasks, progress towards milestones, and a frequently asked questions section. We will continue to update this website as progress is made regarding the merger.

The NEOnet Strategic Plan defines who we are, where we want to go, and who is going to take us there. It creates the roadmap to achieving our vision, establishes organizational clarity, and builds and maintains an aligned and cohesive team. The FY23 initiatives are listed below, and the organization's continuous improvement plan can be found on our website at neonet.org/policies/.

FY23 Initiatives:

- 1. Retain and grow a knowledgeable and concerned staff
- 2. Implement Infinite Campus Student Information System
- 3. Streamline the financial operations of the council
- 4. Develop a customer fee and purchasing portal
- 5. Create and provide reports to streamline district and council processes
- 6. Complete the Facility Technology Modernization project
- 7. Decommission the Alpha
- 8. Implement multi-factor authentication (MFA) for student and financial software packages
- 9. Maintain the National Institute Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework
- 10. Utilize a Learning Management System to provide quality and effective professional development
- 11. Merge with North Central Ohio Computer Association (NCOCC)

I have highlighted a few of the important activities happening at NEOnet, but there is much more information within this edition. Please feel free to contact me by phone at 330.926.3902 or email at gdovin@neonet.org if you have any questions about the newsletter contents or to learn more about our services. And remember that without you, there would be no NEOnet!

Matthew Gdovin, Executive Director

New Employees

BONNIE MANCHESTER, FISCAL OFFICIER



Bonnie joins the NEONET team bringing over 15 years of ITC experience with her. Prior to that, she worked in the school districts as an EMIS coordinator. The district experience provided the understanding needed to transition to ACCESS as a Student Support Liaison. After five years of providing student support and two complete SIS conversions, she moved over to the Fiscal

Services Department. During her time in the fiscal department, she provided support to the districts and was involved in the successful conversion of all ACCESS districts from State Software to the Redesign.

Bonnie grew up in Southington, OH and graduated from Chalker High School. She attended Kent State University for her undergraduate work while raising her family. She continues to reside in Southington with her husband and her family nearby.

ETHAN AVERS, DTS SENIOR DESKTOP SUPPORT SPECIALIST



Ethan Avers is part of the DTS team working as the Senior Desktop Support Specialist for Coventry Schools.

During college Ethan worked on an internship through Shawnee State University setting up networking labs and performing repairs for the Information Systems department. After graduating from Shawnee State University with bachelor's degrees in both Information Systems

Management and Business Administration in 2017, Ethan joined Spectrum in 2018 as a field technician then as a call center repair representative for Internet and phone services.

When he is not busy, Ethan loves spending time with his fiancée Monica and his puppy Bruce Campbell. Ethan is a hands-on learner interested in many subjects, such as working on his '78 Ford Pinto, repairing broken retro game consoles, building computers, hosting dedicated game servers/communities, cooking, creating artwork both traditional and digital and much more.

Contact Us

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From the Tech Director

CHRIS ZOLLA

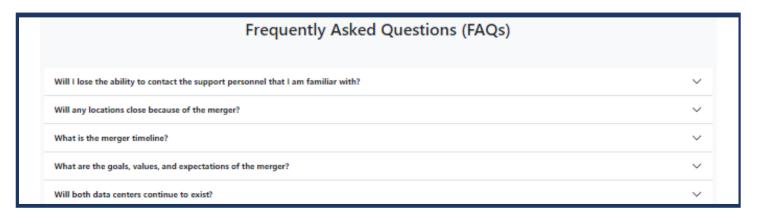
Welcome back to another year in educational technology. It has been a long couple of years in our field, with the breadth of our supported services ever-growing. We have had to adapt to implementing new technologies and facing new challenges at breakneck speeds and without any additional help. During these times, I think the role of an ITC becomes even more important for schools. It is our responsibility to offer more services and help alleviate some of the pressure schools face with each new endeavor. With that in mind, I wanted to take a few minutes to discuss an important step toward providing more services and helping our schools get more from NEOnet.

You probably have heard that NEOnet is in merger discussions with NCOCC in Mansfield. The two organizations have been working together to develop a comprehensive project plan to merge the two entities and expand the NEOnet team and our service capabilities. While NCOCC is considerably smaller than NEOnet, they have a very dedicated staff that provides excellent support to their schools.

Their core values align very well with our own and they bring a very talented staff with them. We believe the two organizations bring strengths to the table that complement one another and can help expand our support when our schools need it most.

In closing, I want everyone to know that I believe this merger is a step forward for the organization. I have been with NEOnet for 22 years and would never be part of something I didn't feel confident was in the best interest of the consortium. I think merging two great organizations will yield an even better result, allowing us to provide more for our schools. At any time, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me via email zolla@neonet.org.

FAQ: NCOCC.NET/MERGER





Technology Integration

DAN NIESSEN

The world of Educational Technology is always evolving to meet the needs of teachers, students, and schools. Google continues to add more useful functions and tools like dropdown boxes in Google Docs, Calendar Appointment Schedules, and Chrome OS Flex, Newer EdTech Tools like TeacherMade.com and Adobe Express for Education have found new ways for teachers to save time on grading and given them easily accessible tools for Project Based Learning and student-centered activities. All these changes and new tools can be overwhelming for some teachers, or they simply do not know about them. That is where NEOnet's Technology Integration service comes in! The new NEOnet.org includes over 50 PD On-Demand Sessions, plus a growing library of 2-Minute Tutorials that quickly explain how to achieve specific tasks with Google apps and other EdTech tools. School leaders that recognize teachers or staff need additional EdTech knowledge, or if they recently deployed a new software service or classroom tech tool, can always schedule On-Site EdTech Professional Development. To learn more about the Technology Integration Service, please visit training.neonet.org.

FALL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

OCTOBER

Accessibility
Tools for
Chromebooks
10.5.2022

SAMR & TPACK 10.12.2022

Tools for Fostering Discussions & Collaboration 10.19.2022

Google Classroom Essentials 10.26.2022

NOVEMBER

Digitizing Assessments

11.2.2022

GoGuardian **11.9.2022**

Virtual Field Trips 11.16.2022

Classroom Technology Open Help 11.23.2022

> Student Video Projects with WeVideo 11.30.2022

DECEMBER

Quizizz: Making Student Data & Vocabulary FUN! 12.7.2022

Math Quizzes with Equatio & Google Forms 12.14.2022



GenYES Ohio - now available for free

GenYES Ohio is a program that prepares Ohio students to become Student Technology Leaders (STLs) through a rigorous, technology-infused leadership curriculum. GenYES was previously a worldwide company with a paid service model but was bought by The Management Council last year and is now managed by INFOhio. Ohio Department of Education and other state funding have allowed INFOhio to offer the service free of charge.



In GenYes Ohio, STLs...

- Learn about technology through projects created to support their school's tech integration goals
- Gain communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and leadership skills
- Support teachers and peers by providing mentoring, tech support, and practical leadership to support learning



The GenYES Ohio program can provide an introduction to computer science, coding, and STEM careers, as well as careers in teaching and education. Students learn through action while supporting others and completing projects that demonstrate their learning. The program is flexible and is designed to support school technology integration goals, while building the next generation of technology leaders.

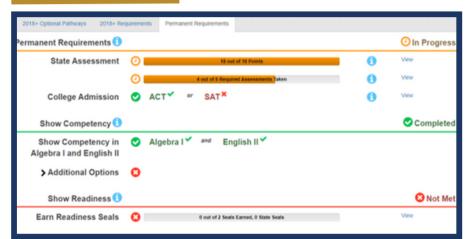
GenYES Ohio is implemented as a regular class or extracurricular club. Each school has a GenYES Ohio Facilitator who receives integration support and access to the GenYES Ohio Community. This gives them additional access to professional development opportunities and experts to help integrate GenYES Ohio in their classes, throughout their schools, and beyond.

To learn more about GenYES Ohio, visit genyes.org or contact Tamra Dugan at dugan@neonet.org.

Pathways, Plans, and Seals- Ohio's graduation requirements in DASL/SIS and DataMap

With the ever-changing Ohio High School Graduation Requirements, both DASL/SIS and DataMap are making strides to keep the software a user friendly environment to track plans, pathways, and seals. We have had several recent changes added to the software that can be overwhelming but exciting at the same time. Below are small explanations of the recent additions and professional development opportunities to learn it all!

PATHWAYS -



DASL's Grad Points Summary screen is up to date for students who are graduating in 2023 and higher. The userfriendly screen shows the students' progress to meet the requirements of taking 6 end-of-course exams, taking the ACT or SAT, showing competency in English II and Algebra I end-of-course exams or the numerous

alternatives, and demonstrating readiness by earning at least 2 diploma seals.

PLANS -

Users can now run the Ohio Graduation Plan for any high school student. The report pulls the students' earned high school credits, various assessment data, seal readiness, and fields designed to capture each students' future plans such as post-high school goals, career field interests. FAFSA data. apprenticeship data, and more! The students' graduation plan comes out in a printer friendly .pdf document.



SEALS -

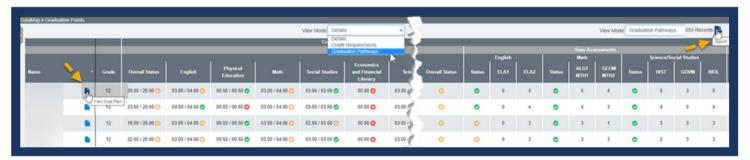
Tracking the seals a high school student plans to earn for graduation and when they actually earn a seal is a daunting task for most guidance offices. DASL has a feature to import the 12 seal options (planned and earned) and several other graduation exemptions and requirements via an Excel spreadsheet. The spreadsheet template can be found here: https://bit.ly/3Byl9KR

Once a user uploads or hand enters a student's seal they plan to earn, or have earned, the seal will appear on their Grad Points Summary progress screen, the Graduation Plan report, and the students' transcripts!

Studentid	LastName	FirstName	Career-Technical Pathway	Advanced Math	Advanced Science	Electives	Capstone Project	Work/Community Service	College Credit Plus	Pre-Apprenticeship	Citizenship Seal (Ohio)	College-Ready Seal (Ohio)
1234567	Duck	Donald		Υ			N				P	R

DATAMAP

DataMap has added the ability to print the Graduation Plan from the Student Roadmap and the Graduation Points page. The Graduation Points lists students in a grid format displaying a quick overview and the ability to quickly find the students who have met or not met their graduation requirements. The grid has the option to only view the Credit Requirements or Graduation Pathways and the option to export the selected view to Excel.



FREE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ON GRAD POINTS IN DASL

The NEOnet Student Services team will be conducting Grad Points training to help any user digest all the recent changes and how the Grad Points module can help you accomplish what needs done for each high school student. Both sessions are the same content, just offered two times:

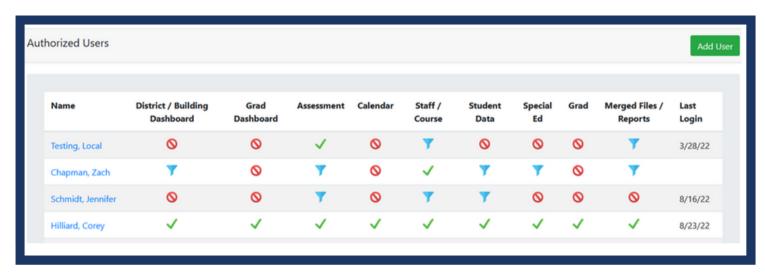
October 20th from 1:30-3:30 PM or October 27th from 9 - 11 AM

Register at: https://neonet.org/events/month/2022-10/

EMIS Cross Check

EMIS Cross Check is a data verification tool to allow school districts to dig deeper into their EMIS data. This product gives your EMIS Coordinators additional access to validate EMIS data beyond their SIS and Data Collector. Dashboards are included to provide EMIS data at a glance at both district and building levels. EMIS Cross Check can be a powerful tool for superintendents and other administrative staff.

EMIS Cross Check recently added a new User Management Tool. Several districts using Cross Check voiced that they would love to grant additional users access to Cross Check but not allow them access to all the dashboards, checks, and reports. With this new feature, EMIS Coordinators can manage Locally Created User accounts and grant them access to each individual screen. Locally Created Users are created by adding their email address and password to the User Management Screen. The User Management Screen also tells you the last time a user logged into Cross Check!



If you currently do not have Cross Check and want to review all the possible checks, dashboards and reports, you can review this document which details each one: https://bit.ly/3aX0chz

To view the EMIS Cross Check flyer: https://bit.ly/3UoY44G



If you are interested in learning more about EMIS Cross check please contact: emishelp@neonet.org



ProgressBook student pictures SFTP

NEONET is excited to now offer direct access to the student pictures in your ProgressBook Suite via the SFTP protocol.

Student pictures can still be sent directly to NEOnet for loading, but this new feature allows district staff direct access to their student pictures in the ProgressBook Suite. Student pictures can be uploaded/downloaded/renamed/deleted with the changes being immediately visible in the ProgressBook Suite.

Access to the SFTP requires an SFTP client such as the free clients FileZilla or WinSCP. Once the software has been installed onto your computer, you simply need to request permissions from your tech department or tech coordinator, and they will contact NEOnet with the correct access details. After permissions have been granted and your account is active, you simply need to tell your SFTP client to connect to...

HOST: PBPICS.NEONET.ORG

PORT: 22

USERNAME: <YOUR PROGRESSBOOK USERNAME>

PASSWORD: <YOUR PROGRESSBOOK PASSWORD>

... and you will then have the ability to directly update and manipulate your district's student pictures in the ProgressBook Suite.

NEOnet has prepared a quick training video demonstrating some common tasks needed to manipulate student pictures on the SFTP.

https://bit.ly/PBPics SFTP

Additional training is available upon request if you require any additional information.

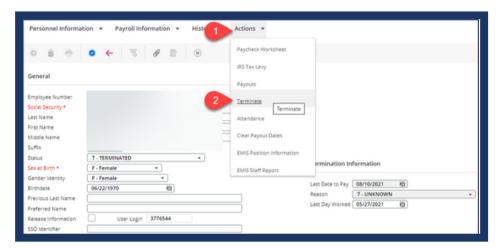
Please reach out to your tech department or tech coordinator for additional details, or contact us at techappshelp@neonet.org

eFP un-terminate employees

Do you have an employee you terminated, and they are going to be working back in the district? Here is how to easily unterminated an employee.

HR > Entry & processing> Employee information

Search the employee and go into their general screen as shown below. Click on actions, and then terminate.



When you get to the termination screen,



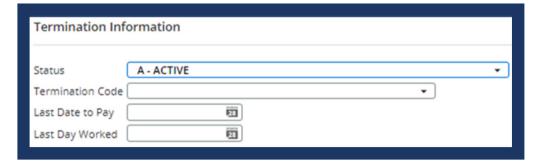
STATUS -

Change from Terminated to Active

TERMINATION CODE -

Choose the blank space at the bottom of the drop down list. Hit tab and this will clear the Last Date to Pay and Last Day Worked.

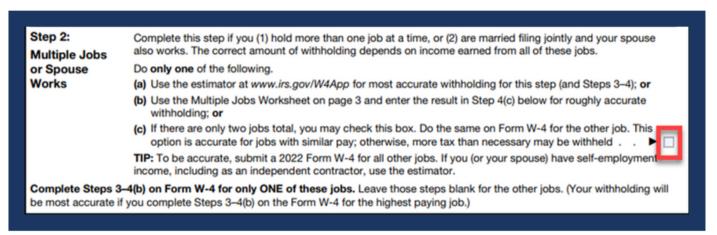
The end result should look like this:



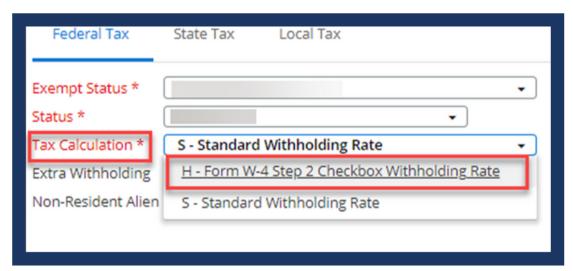
Employee W4 information applied to employee taxes within eFP

As the new school year begins so do new employees. Here is where to put the W4 information into eFP.

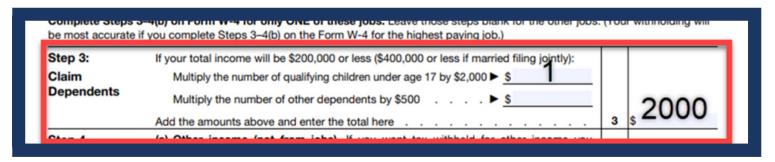
W-4: In Step 2: Multiple Jobs or Spouse Works: If the employee has the box checked like this:



<u>eFP:</u> You will choose "H- Form W-4 Step 2 Checkbox Withholding Rate" from the dropdown in Tax Calculations. If the box in step 3 from the W4 is NOT filled in, you will use S- Standard Withholding Rate.



W-4: In Step 3: If the employee has a total dollar amount (for example \$2,000)



eFP: The Total in Step three will go into "Annual Tax Credit"

Exempt Status * N - Not Exempt •	W-4 Submission Date *	08/22/2022
Status * Married •	Annual Other Income	0.00
Tax Calculation ★ S - Standard Withholding Rate ▼	Annual Deductions	0.00
Extra Withholding 0.00	Annual Tax Credit	2,000.00
Non-Resident Alien	Pay Periods/Year *	26

W-4: If the employee has amounts fill in in 4a, 4b, and 4c

Step 4 (optional):	(a) Other income (not from jobs). If you want tax withheld for other income you expect this year that won't have withholding, enter the amount of other income here.		
Other	This may include interest, dividends, and retirement income	4(a)	\$
Adjustments			
Adjustinents	(b) Deductions. If you expect to claim deductions other than the standard deduction and		
	want to reduce your withholding, use the Deductions Worksheet on page 3 and enter	40.	
	the result here	4(b)	\$
	(c) Extra withholding. Enter any additional tax you want withheld each pay period	4(c)	\$

<u>eFP:</u> <u>4a</u> will go into "Annual Other Income", <u>4b</u> will go into "Annual Deductions, and <u>4c</u> will go into "Extra Withholdings".

Exempt Status *	N - Not Exempt		•	W-4 Submission Date *	08/22/2022	23
Status *	Married	•		Annual Other Income		4A 0.00
Tax Calculation *	S - Standard Withholding Rate		•	Annual Deductions	4B	0.00
Extra Withholding		4C	0.00	Annual Tax Credit		2,000.00
Non-Resident Alien				Pay Periods/Year *	26	

Activity Ledger is the way to find your info and make your day

Do you need to find transaction information fast? If so, look no further! The USAS Transaction Menu's Activity Ledger will give you the quick and easy answers you have been searching for.

The Activity Ledger Query provides information on the following transaction types: Disbursements, Distributions, Invoices, Purchase Orders, Receipts, Refunds & Transfers



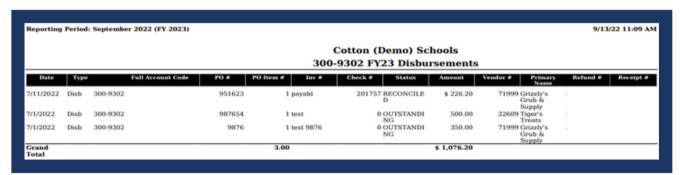
The many arrays of columns that display make it quick to find the information you are looking for. Users can even control the number of results that display by adjusting the slide bar on the top of the grid. The mobility of the columns makes it easy to create reports. There are several standard columns including transaction types, numbers and dates, and several additional choices listed under the More button, including

account codes, line-item information, and vendor information.

Example: A user desires to have a list of all disbursements created from a specific cash account code in the current fiscal year. Filtering the following columns will provide you instant results that you can turn into a handy report by clicking Report.

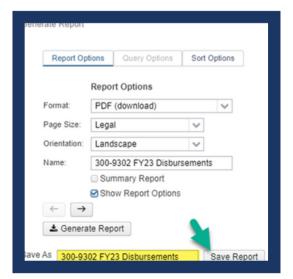


Results: The user receives all disbursements as well as the invoices and purchase orders they are associated with.



Report from the grid tip:

Don't forget to add a 'Save As' name to add this custom report to your Reports >Report Manager and Home Screen.



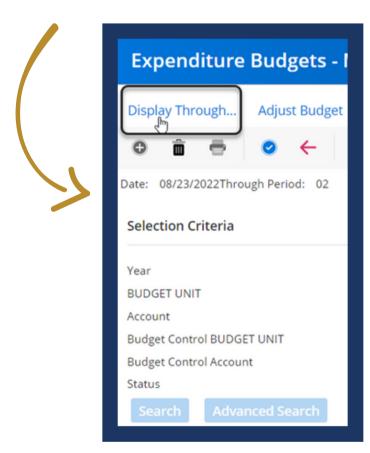


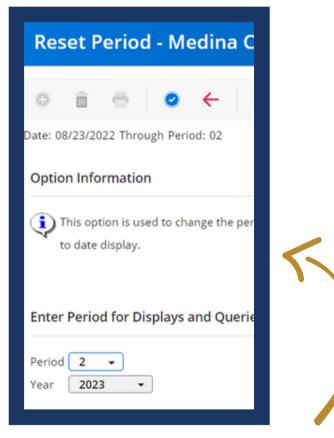
Fund Accounting - how to view previous period/FY budget balances

MENU PATH: FUND ACCOUNTING > ENTRY & PROCESSING > BUDGET LEDGERS > EXPENDITURE LEDGER

If you are looking for a previous period or fiscal year budget information, you will need to click on the display through option in the action bar of the expenditure ledger.

- Step 1 Either find the expenditure line you are looking for or for a wide-open search and click on the Search button
- Step 2 Click on the Display Through... on the action bar





- Step 3 Set the Period and/or Year to the timeframe you are wanting
- Step 4 Click on the blue checkmark

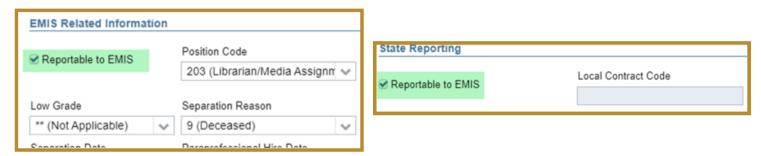
The data will now show the budget for the period you set.

EMIS 23L initial staff collection reminders

The EMIS Staff & Course Initial L Collection for Fiscal Year 2023 is open September 8, 2022 until January 31, 2023. To prepare for the initial collection of staff data from USPSr, there are a few important items to remember to clean up from the prior year.

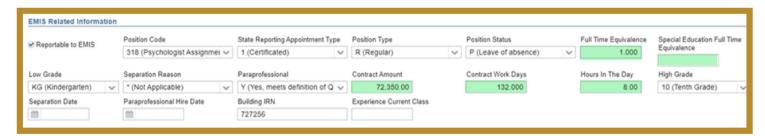
If you reported any staff separated in the Final collection of FY2022, then the associated position and compensation records can be unchecked for Reportable to EMIS so that they are not pulled into this collection.

The corresponding checkboxes for position records are located in the EMIS Position Entry screen within the Staff Employment information or in Core>Positions under the EMIS Related Information. For the Non-Contract or Contract Compensation records located in Core>Compensation, the checkbox will be under the State Reporting section of the compensation screen.



Please note, if the employee is no longer working for the district in any position after they were reported separated, then the employee screen should also be unchecked for "Report to EMIS."

Next, any Position EMIS override data that was populated for the previous collection should be cleared out or updated. These EMIS override fields are located in the Position screen under the EMIS Related Information, and should reflect the current fiscal year being reported.



Finally, Total and Authorized Years of Experience should be incremented for all applicable employees. These fields are located within the Employee screen under the Experience section.

Incrementing the years of experience can be done manually for each employee in EMIS Employee Entry, or the years can be mass updated with either a Mass Load file or a Mass Change procedure by users with that additional access. Please submit a Fiscal help ticket for assistance with setting up the mass change definition in the Employee grid.

Please be sure to utilize the EMIS Reports in the Reports menu to assist with identifying potential errors, as well as the reports added by Admin in the USPSr Report Manager. These template reports we have will help to verify EMIS elements and can help minimize errors in the collection.

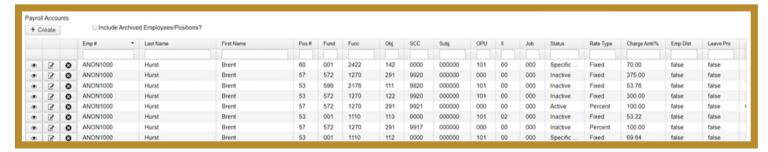
Payroll Accounts - new

DID YOU KNOW THAT THERE'S A NEW LINK UNDER CORE THAT IS CALLED PAYROLL ACCOUNTS - NEW?

This contains pay account records for each Compensation that is in the USPS system. When a payroll is processed, the accounts entered in Payroll Accounts option are used to complete the USAS charging of the payroll. You must have the role of GROUP_MANAGER to see this. This allows you to see the following in the main grid.

You can search by any of the filters in the grid.

Employee ID
Last Name
First Name
Position Number
Fund
Func
Obj
SCC
Subj
OPU
IL
Job
Status
Rate Type
Charge Amount %
Employer Distribution
Leave Pro



There are other items you can add, but when you leave this grid, these go away and must be added back every time you want to see them. You can find these by clicking on the three horizontal lines next to Leave Pro and clicking the items that aren't checked.

These options are:

- Start Date
- Stop Date
- Max
- Remaining Max

