

Hide Student Contacts Plugin

by Roger Sprik | September, 2020 | version 2.0 (compatible with "New Experience Start Page" in PS 20.4+)

By default this plugin completely hides the new Student Contacts feature, released in version 12. The rationale is not to avoid Student Contacts indefinitely, but allow you to upgrade for all the other benefits, and have time to prepare to transition to Student Contacts for when your district is ready.

The plugin does not remove any student contacts, it just removes the links to interface with them. Once you are ready to use Student Contacts, it is recommended to disable or delete this plugin.

Start Page

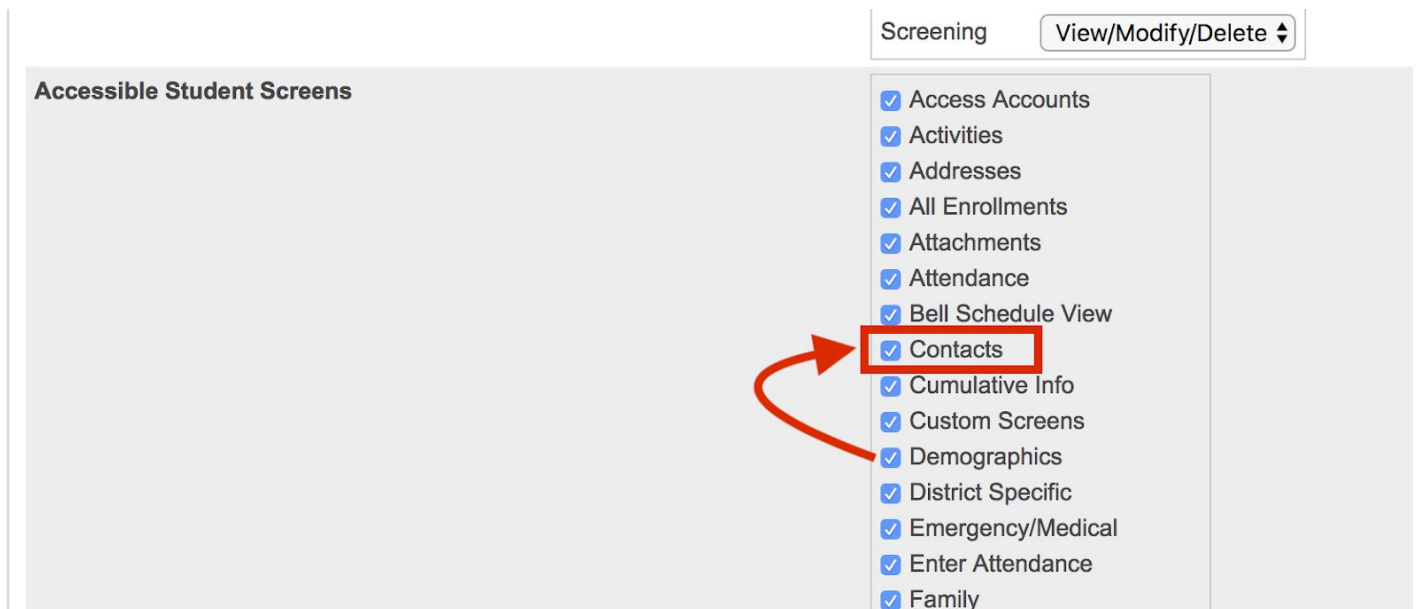
Version 2.0 of this plugin is now compatible with the "New Experience" start page. Screenshots below are from the legacy start page, but the same concepts apply.

One of the main areas is the Start page in PowerSchool. The plugin removes the new "Contact" elements and replaces them with the original "Parent" elements. See the "Before" and "After" comparison below.

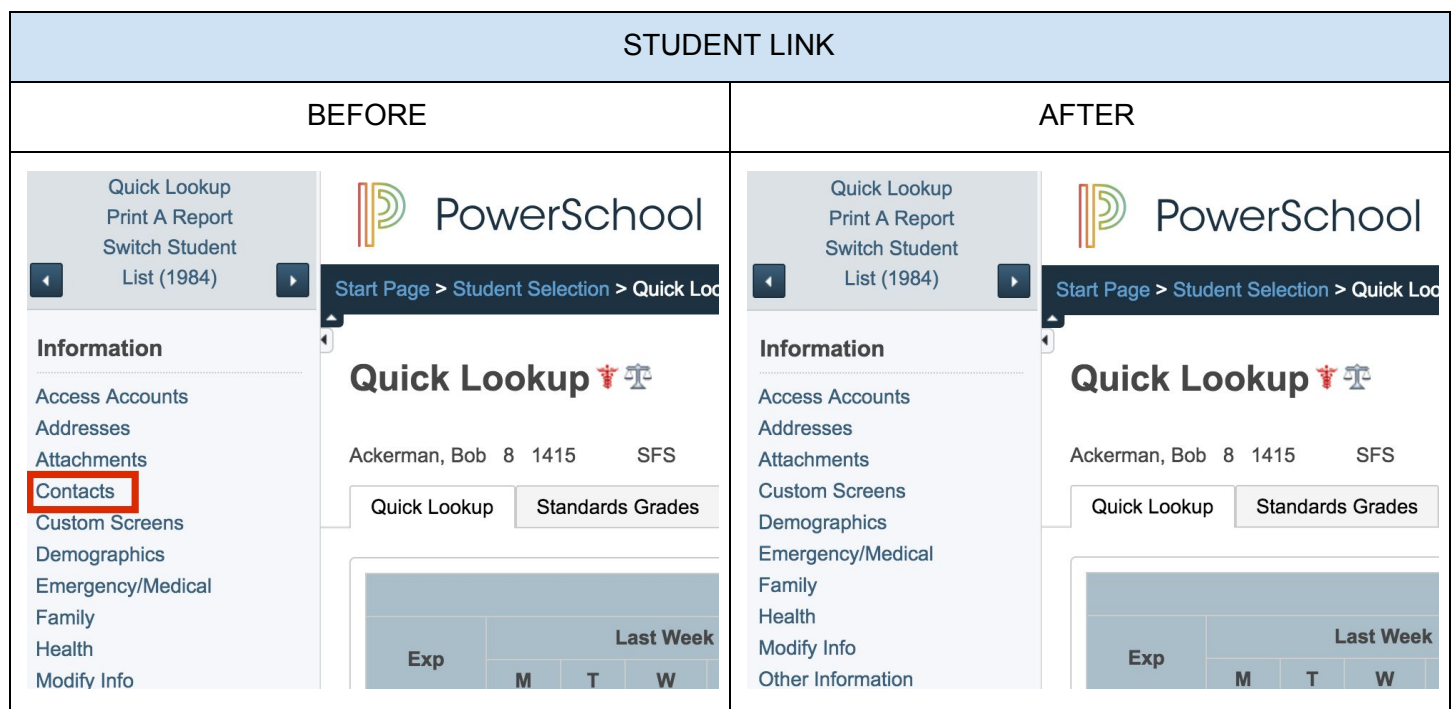
START PAGE	
BEFORE	AFTER
<div>1. "Contacts" Tab</div> <div>2. "Contacts Search" Link</div> <div>3. "New Contact Entry" Link</div>	<div>4. "Parents" Tab</div> <div>5. "Search Parents" Link</div> <div>6. "New Parent Entry" Link</div>
<div><div><div>Functions</div><div>Attendance</div><div>Daily Bulletin</div><div>Enrollment Summary</div><div>Master Schedule</div><div>Dashboard</div><div>Special Functions</div><div>Teacher Schedules</div></div><div>Reports</div><div>System Reports</div><div>ReportWorks</div><div>People</div><div>Student Search</div><div>Staff Search</div><div>Contact Search</div><div>Enroll New Student</div><div>New Staff Entry</div><div>New Contact Entry</div><div>Setup</div></div> <div><div>Start Page</div><div>StudentsStaffContacts</div><div><div></div><div>A B C D E F G H I J K</div><div>K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8</div></div><div><div>Current Student Selection (0)</div><div>The current selection is empty.</div></div><div><div>What's New</div><div>See what's new in the latest feature rel</div></div></div>	<div><div><div>Functions</div><div>Attendance</div><div>Daily Bulletin</div><div>Enrollment Summary</div><div>Master Schedule</div><div>Dashboard</div><div>Special Functions</div><div>Teacher Schedules</div></div><div>Reports</div><div>System Reports</div><div>ReportWorks</div><div>People</div><div>Student Search</div><div>Staff Search</div><div>Parent Search</div><div>Enroll New Student</div><div>New Staff Entry</div><div>New Parent Entry</div><div>Setup</div></div> <div><div>Start Page</div><div>StudentsStaffParents</div><div><div></div><div>A B C D E F G H I J K</div><div>K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8</div></div><div><div>Current Student Selection (0)</div><div>The current selection is empty.</div></div><div><div>What's New</div><div>See what's new in the latest feature rel</div></div></div>

Student Link

PowerSchool adds a "Contacts" checklist item to Group Security and enables it for any user that also has access to the "Demographics" screen.



When you select a student, the plugin also hides the "Contacts" link in the left navigation. You don't need this plugin to hide that link, you could uncheck it from each Security Group -- the plugin just features a "one step" way to do it.



Contact Change Confirmation

On the Demographics, Parents, and Emergency/Medical Screen, a change to the original Mother, Father, Guardian, or Emergency contact name can trigger a "Reason for Change" confirmation from the user.

If the user chooses "Replacing Person", submitting the change will lead to a confirmation screen that encourages them to make the change in the contacts screen and features a "Go To Contacts Page" button which the plugin will hide, but will still allow the contact to be replaced.

Emergency Contact/Medical

Adair, Brandon 12 3 A AGHS1

Contact #1

Contact Name (Last, First)

Mccarthy, Mark

Reason for Name Change

Replacing Person

Phone

CONTACT NAME CHANGE CONFORMATION	
BEFORE	AFTER
<div><div>Contact Name Change</div><div><div>Contact #1 is about to be replaced.</div><div>There is more information stored for this contact than shows on this page. This contact will remain associated to the student and a new Contact #1 will be created with the new name entered.</div><div>It is strongly recommended that you make this change from this student's Contacts page where you can see all relevant data.</div><div>Go To Contacts Page</div><div>Submit</div><div>Cancel</div></div></div>	<div><div>Contact Name Change</div><div><div>Contact #1 is about to be replaced.</div><div>There is more information stored for this contact than shows on this page. This contact will remain associated to the student and a new Contact #1 will be created with the new name entered.</div><div>It is strongly recommended that you make this change from this student's Contacts page where you can see all relevant data.</div><div>Submit</div><div>Cancel</div></div></div>

Parent Search Results

When you search for parents with the legacy Parents Search, if there are multiple or zero results, there is a "Parent Search Results" screen that features a Contacts tab which the plugin will hide.

PARENT SEARCH RESULTS	
BEFORE	AFTER
<div><div>Parent Search Results</div><div><div>Select a parent to view details</div><div><div>No Parents match your entry</div><div>Back</div></div><div><div>Students</div><div>Staff</div><div>Parents</div><div>Contacts</div></div><div><div>First Name</div><div></div></div></div></div>	<div><div>Parent Search Results</div><div><div>Select a parent to view details</div><div><div>No Parents match your entry</div><div>Back</div></div><div><div>Students</div><div>Staff</div><div>Parents</div><div></div></div><div><div>First Name</div><div></div></div></div></div>

Access Accounts Student Screen

When you select a student and then view their "Access Accounts" screen, the previous functions to work with parents now work with Contacts. The plugin will restore the parent functionality and hide the links to Contacts.

ACCESS ACCOUNTS STUDENT SCREEN	
<p>BEFORE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. "Add New Contact" links to Contacts screen2. Parent names link to edit their contact record	<p>AFTER</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">3. "Add Parent" icon restored4. Parent names link to edit their parent record5. Original Edit and Remove icons restored
<div><div>Access Passwordparent</div><div>1Add New Contact</div><div><div>Parent Access Accounts</div><div>James Bailey</div><div>John Adair2</div><div>John Babb</div><div>John Bartlett</div></div></div>	<div><div>Access Passwordparent3</div><div><div>Parent Access Accounts</div><div>EditRemoveAdd+</div><div>James Bailey</div><div>John Adair4</div><div>John Babb</div><div>John Bartlett</div><div>5</div></div></div>
	<div><div>Search Filter3</div><div><div>First Name</div><div>Last Name</div><div>Email</div><div>Search</div></div><div><div>Cancel</div><div>New Parent Account</div><div>Add</div></div></div>
<div><div>Contact Details2</div><div><div><div>Demographics</div><div><div>PrefixFirst NameMiddle NameLast NameSuffix</div><div>JamesBailey</div><div>Gender</div><div>Employer</div><div>Active</div></div><div><div>Web Account Access</div><div><div>Account EnabledUsernameAccount Email</div><div><div>✓</div><div>bailey</div><div></div></div></div></div><div>Edit Account</div></div></div></div>	<div><div>Edit Parent4</div><div><div>Account Access</div><div>Disable Account</div><div>First NameJames</div><div>Last NameBailey</div></div></div>
	<div><div>James Bailey's Settings for Brandon Adair5</div><div><div>Sending reports by email is currently disabled by the system administrator.</div><div><div>Relationship to Student</div><div>Other</div></div><div><div>What Information Would You Like to Receive?</div><div><div>Summary of Current Grades and Attendance.</div><div>Detail Report Showing Assignment Scores for Each Class.</div><div>Detail Report of Attendance.</div><div>School Announcements.</div></div></div></div></div>

Selectively Enable Contacts by Security Group

By default the plugin will hide all the Contact elements from all users. You may want to enable the Contacts feature for **SOME** users. If you enable this setting, **ALL** Contact functionality will be enabled for any member of a Security Group that has the Contacts screen checked in their "Accessible Student Screens" section.

To enable this option, visit the "Student Contacts Hide" link in District settings (under "District Info").

The "Hide Student Contacts Setup" page features:

1. A checkbox to enable this feature
2. A reminder of which security group(s) the currently logged in user is a member of
3. For convenience, a link to edit Security Groups
4. For information, a list of all the Security Groups that have Contacts enabled.

Note that a large number of security groups may be enabled for Contacts, since it was based on their existing access to the "Demographics" screen.

District Information

District Info

Districts of Residence

Miscellaneous

Schools/School Info

Student Contacts Hide

Sign In Screen Custom Message

Student Numbers

Be sure to submit the setting change with the submit button at the bottom of the screen. After updating Security Group settings, the user will need to log out and back in to see the changes their access.

Enable Contacts by Security Group

Enable based on Group Access to Contacts Screen ☒ **1**
If unchecked, Student Contacts are completely hidden



Security Groups with Contacts enabled. You are in group 9 **2**

[Edit Security Groups](#) **3**

- (1) Unassigned
- (2) Office Staff
- (3) Counselors **4**
- (4) Registrar
- (5) Group 5
- (6) Group 6
- (7) Group 7

Note: Additional security around Student Contacts, such as "View Only" access, is not addressed by this plugin and should be setup based on the stock functionality available in PowerSchool, such as "Access to Page Permissions".

Version History:

2.0 September 2020 - Adds support for the new experience start page in 20.4

1.7 December 2019 - Fixes error in 19.11 when adding a parent from "Access Accounts"

1.6 July 2018 - Fixes bug that prevented plugin from working in Safari browser

1.5 July 2018 - Fixes issue on Access Accounts when single quote existed in name

1.4 May 2018 - Reverts Access Accounts Page back to pre 12.x functionality