PowerSchool Handbook

Student Course Requests

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About this Handbook

This handbook was created by the San Diego Unified IT Training Department as reference material for the staff member responsible for entering student course request data for the next school year. It is updated periodically by the San Diego Unified IT Training Department. If you have any questions about how to execute these tasks in PowerSchool, please contact the IT Help Desk: (619)209-HELP (4357) or submit a support request online at https://sdusd.cherwellondemand.com



Dates and terms depicted throughout this handbook are used as examples and may not reflect the current scheduling school year or term.

If you are missing a course that your school plans to offer, contact Marcellus Walker at mwalker@sandi.net.

If you have questions regarding site schedule theory, policies/procedures, or any other course-related questions, please contact Dr. Jennifer Roberson at jroberson@sandi.net or Sharon Rubalcava at srubalcava@sandi.net.



Student Course Requests

Student course requests are vital to scheduling. During the PowerScheduler Build process, student Course Requests are used to determine how many sections of a course are required. During the Load process, the Requests are used to schedule the students into their selected or required courses. Requests can also be used to load students into selected sections of a course.

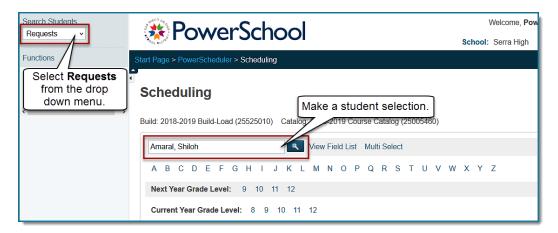
There are several methods to enter or delete student course requests. Course requests can be manually entered or deleted for an individual student, or mass added or deleted for a student group. Course Requests can also be entered by the student or counselor via the online Student Registration Screen. See the **Course Request Management Handbook**.

IMPORTANT! Prior to entering Course Requests, the Scheduling Course Catalog must be updated to include only the courses your school plans to offer. See the **Scheduling Course Catalog Job Aid**.

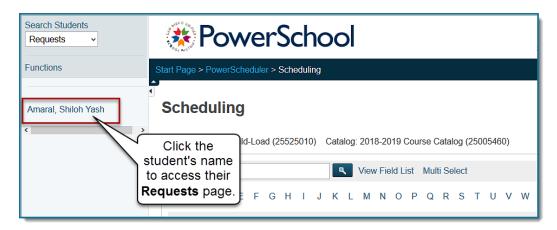


Entering Course Requests for One Student

- 1. On the Start Page, select PowerScheduler.
- 2. Under Resources, select Students.
- 3. Select **Requests** from the **Search Students** drop-down menu.
- 4. Make a student selection.

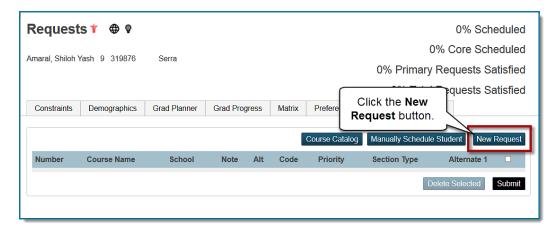


5. Click the name of the student to access their **Requests** page.





6. Click the **New Request** button.



IMPORTANT! Select a method of course request entry (You cannot use both methods at the same time):

Direct Course Entry – This method allows you to enter each course number separately into an entry field.

Associate button – The Associate button allows you to select courses from a list.

Using Direct Course Entry

1. On the **Edit Course Request** page, enter the course number and hit the **Tab** key to advance to the next entry field. Continue until all requests have been entered.

A red message will appear if incorrect information is entered:

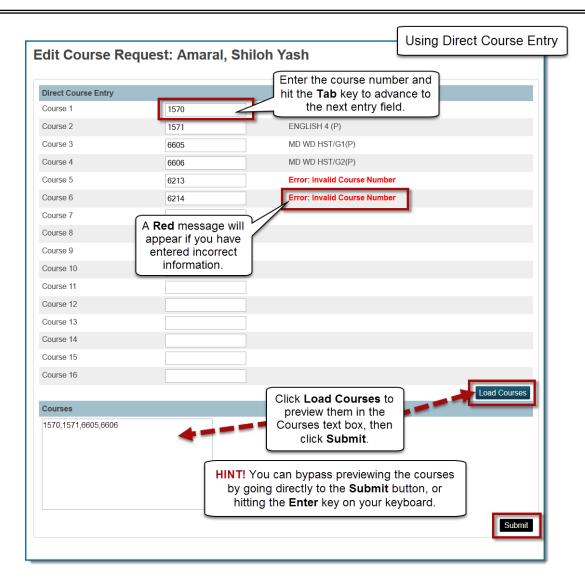
Error: Invalid Course Number means the course has not been selected in the Course Catalog, the course is not available to your school, or the course number has been entered incorrectly.

Warning: Duplicate Course Number means there are multiple entries for the same course number.

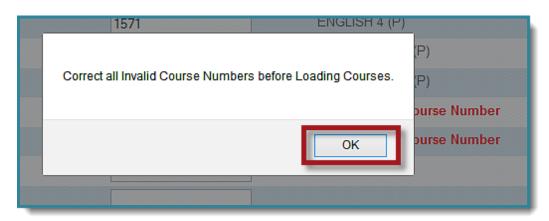
- 2. Correct all errors.
- 3. Click the Load Courses button to preview the course in the Courses text box, then click Submit.

HINT! Previewing the courses can be bypassed by going directly to the **Submit** button, or hitting the **Enter** key.



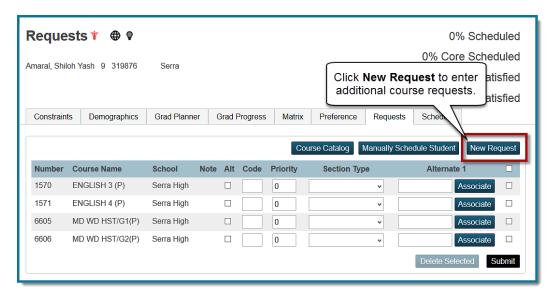


4. A message will display if errors exist. Click **OK**.





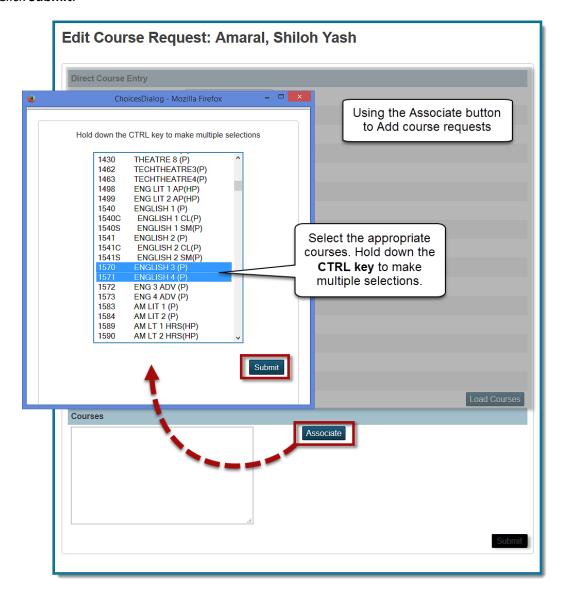
- 5. Make the appropriate corrections, if needed. Click **Submit**, or hit the **Enter** key.
- 6. Additional requests can be entered by clicking the **New Request** button.





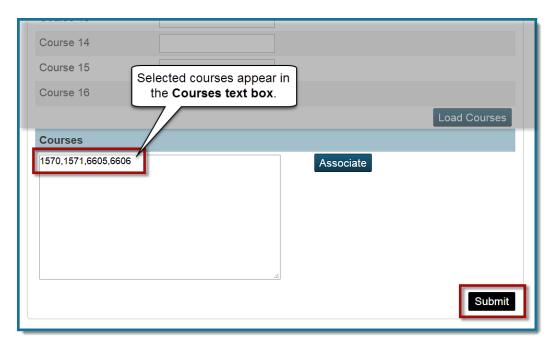
Using the Associate Button

- 1. On the Edit Course Request page, click the Associate button.
- 2. From the **ChoicesDialog** pop-up window, select the appropriate courses. Hold down the **CTRL key** to make multiple selections.
- 3. Click Submit.

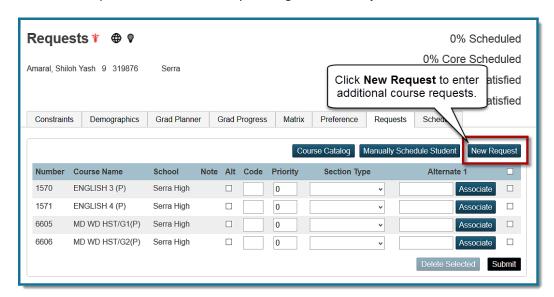




- 4. Selected courses appear in the **Courses** text box.
- 5. Click Submit.



6. Additional requests can be entered by clicking the New Request button.

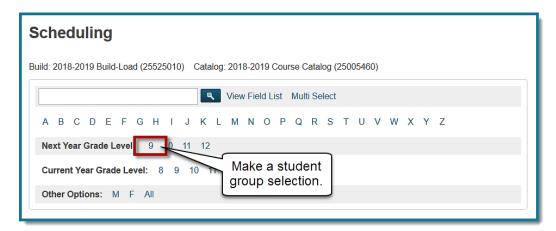




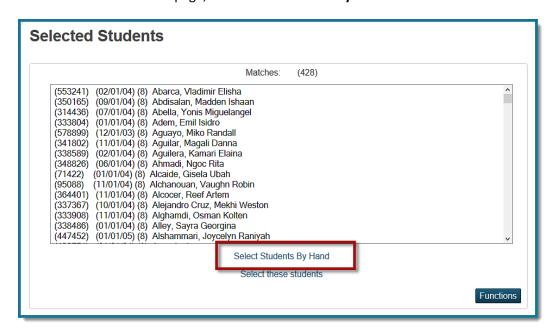
Mass Adding Course Requests for a Student Group

IMPORTANT! When using the **Mass Add Requests** function, courses are selected individually.

- 1. On the Start Page, select PowerScheduler.
- 2. Under Resources, select Students.
- 3. Make a student group selection.

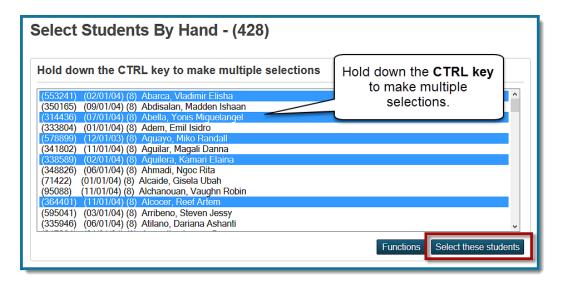


4. On the Selected Students page, click Select Students By Hand.

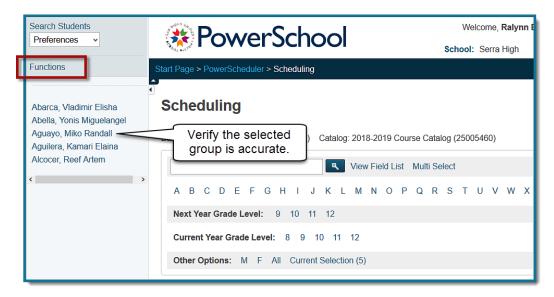




- 5. Hold down the CTRL key to select multiple students.
- Click Select these students.

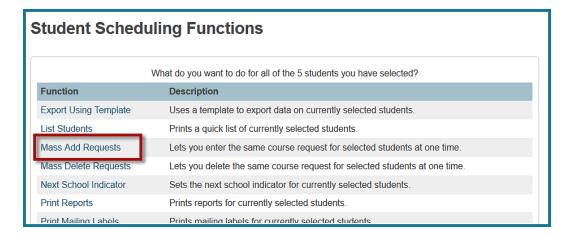


7. Verify the selected group is accurate, click **Functions**.

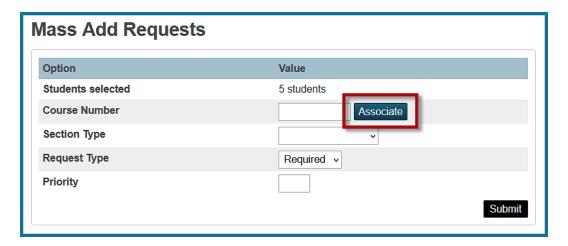




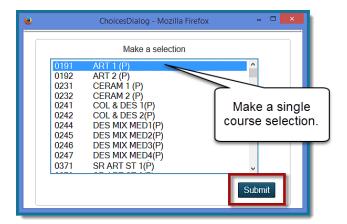
8. On the Student Scheduling Functions page, select Mass Add Requests.



9. Click the Associate button.



- 10. From the ChoicesDialog pop-up window, make a single course selection.
- 11. Click Submit.





12. On the Mass Add Requests page, do the following:

- Select a **Section Type** (optional).
- Select the **Request Type**:

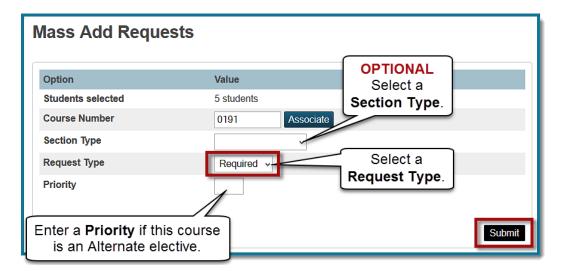
Required – Select this type if this is a required course.

Elective – Select this Type if this course is a first priority Elective.

Alternate – Select this Type if this course is an Alternate to the Elective.

• Enter a **Priority** if this course is an *Alternate*. If this is the first Alternate, enter "1"

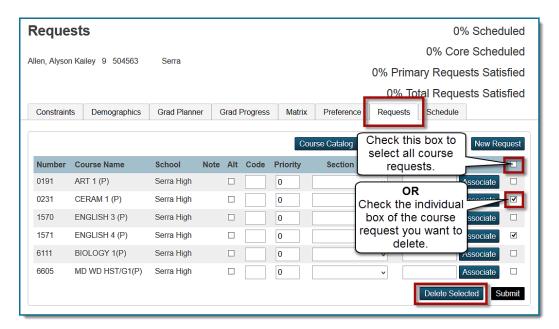
13. Click Submit.





Deleting Course Requests for an Individual Student

- 1. On the Start Page, select PowerScheduler.
- 2. Under **Resources**, select **Students**.
- 3. On the **Scheduling** page, search for and select the student.
- 4. On the **Student** page, click the **Requests** tab.
- 5. Check the box in the row of each course request to delete, or check the box in the header row to select all course requests.
- 6. Click Delete Selected.





Mass Deleting Course Requests for a Student Group

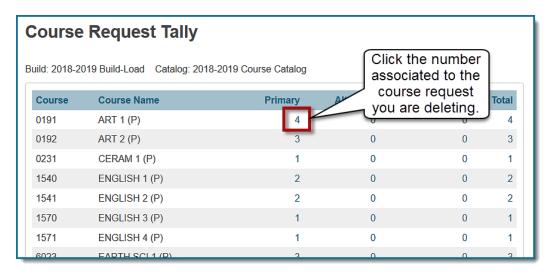
TIP! When making course request changes, add the new request BEFORE deleting the old.

Select one of the following methods of selecting a student group:

- The Course Request Tally Report
- Select by Hand

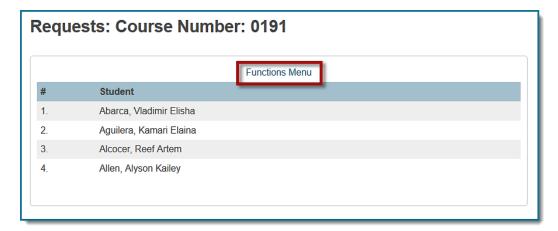
Using the Course Request Tally Report

- 1. In PowerScheduler, under Tools, select Reports.
- 2. Under the **Pre Build Reports Function** heading, select **Course Request Tally**.
- 3. Configure the report to run for all students in this school next year, then click Submit.
- 4. On the **Course Request Tally** report, click the number associated to the course request you are deleting.

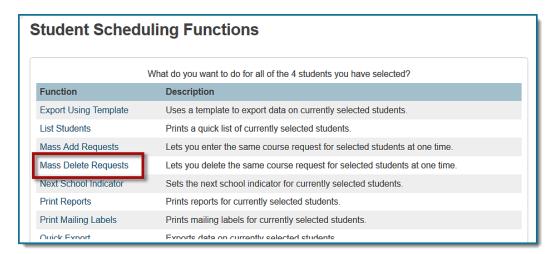




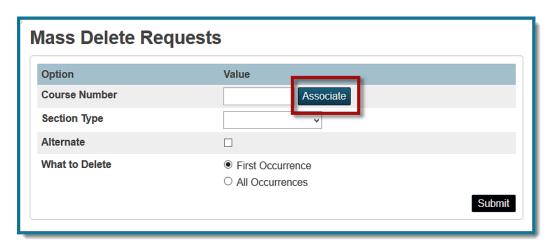
5. On the Requests: Course Number: page, click Functions Menu.



6. From the Student Scheduling Functions page, select Mass Delete Requests.

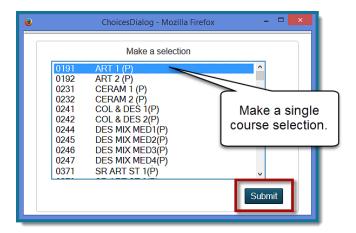


7. On the Mass Delete Requests page, click the Associate button.



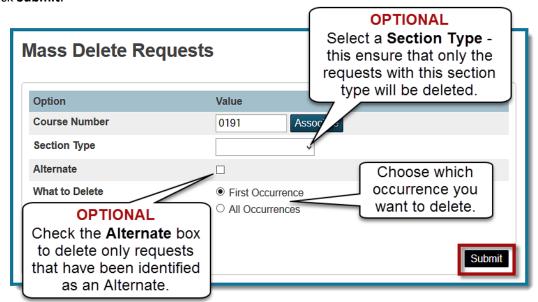


- 8. From the **ChoicesDialog** pop-up window, make a *single course selection*.
- 9. Click Submit.



- 10. On the Mass Delete Requests page, make the following selections:
 - Select **Section Type** from the drop-down menu *(OPTIONAL)* This ensures that only requests with this section type will be deleted.
 - Check the Alternate box (OPTIONAL) This ensures that only requests identified as Alternates will be deleted.
 - Select What to Delete Choose whether to delete the First Occurrence or All Occurrences of students' course requests. First Occurrence is helpful if the student has duplicate requests and you want to delete only one occurrence.

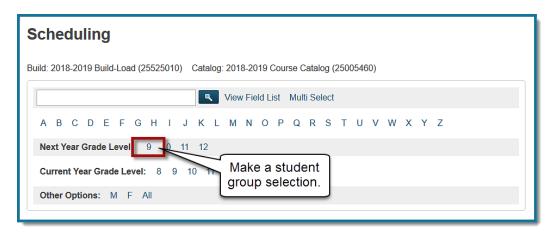
11. Click Submit.



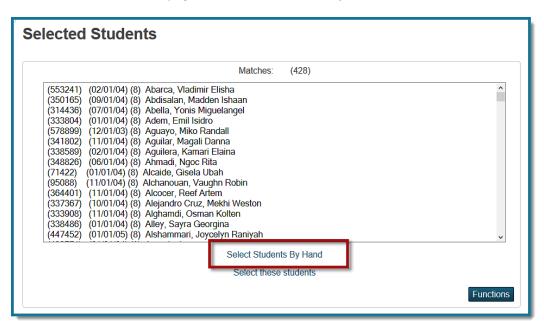


Selecting the Student Group by Hand

- 1. On the Start Page, select PowerScheduler
- 2. Under Resources, select Students.
- 3. Make a student group selection.

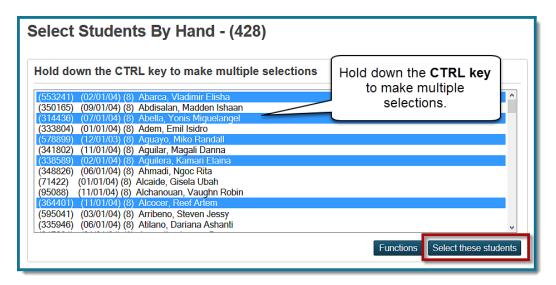


4. On the Selected Students page, click Select Students By Hand.

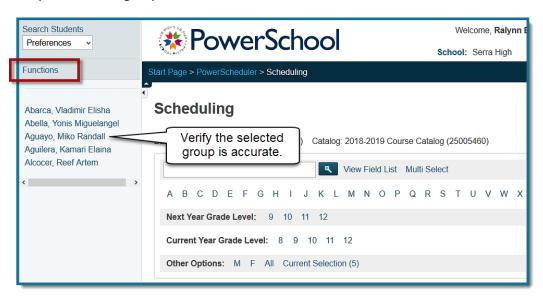




- 5. Hold down the **CTRL key** to select multiple students.
- Click Select these students.

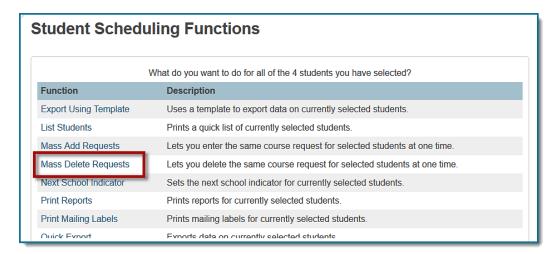


7. Verify the selected group is accurate, click **Functions**.

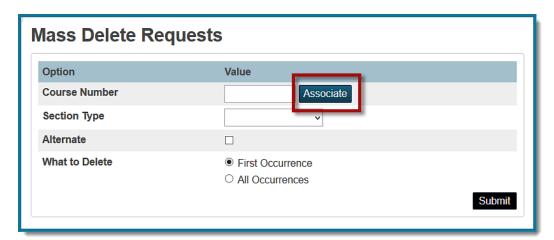




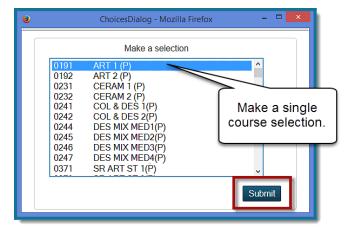
8. From the **Student Scheduling Functions** page, select **Mass Delete Requests**.



9. Click the Associate button.



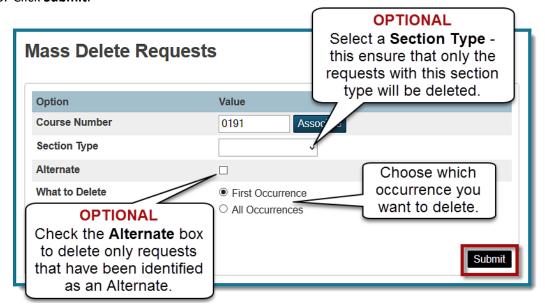
- 10. From the ChoicesDialog pop-up window, make a single course selection.
- 11. Click Submit.





- 12. On the Mass Delete Requests page, make the following selections:
 - Select **Section Type** from the drop-down menu *(OPTIONAL)* This ensures that only requests with this section type will be deleted.
 - Check the **Alternate** box **(OPTIONAL)** This ensures that only requests identified as Alternates will be deleted.
 - Select What to Delete Choose whether to delete the First Occurrence or All Occurrences of students' course requests. First Occurrence is helpful if the student has duplicate requests and you want to delete only one occurrence.

13. Click Submit.





Alternate Electives

Flagging Alternate Elective Course Requests

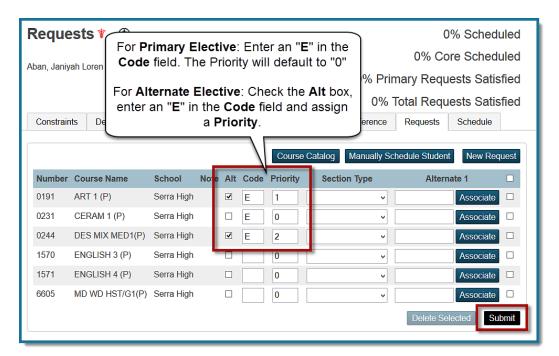
When an Elective course request is flagged with an "E" code, the system will consider it a non-required course and schedule it *after* all required courses.

Flagging an Elective course is optional, however, if the first choice elective cannot be met, the flag must be used in order for the Alternate elective to be considered as a replacement.

- 1. On the **Start Page**, select **PowerScheduler**.
- 2. Under **Resources**, select **Students**.
- 3. On the **Scheduling** page, search for and select the student.
- 4. On the **Student** page, click the **Requests** tab.
- 5. On the **Requests** page, enter an "E" in the Code field of the Primary Elective course.
- 6. For Alternate Electives, check the **Alt** box, enter an "E" in the Code field, and assign a **Priority**.

NOTE: Entering a priority number will tell the system which alternate to load first when the student did not receive the first choice elective.

7. Click Submit.

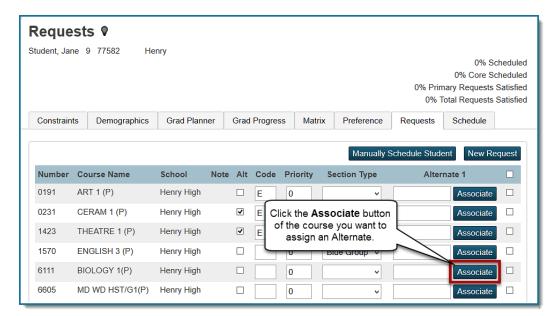




Adding an Alternate 1 for Course Replacement

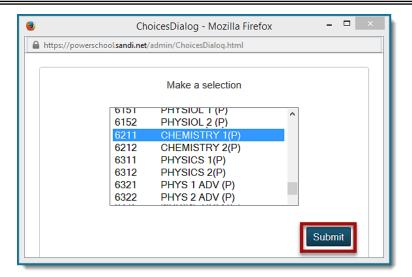
Alternate 1 courses are used most often for core course replacement. If the system cannot schedule a course, it will try to schedule the Alternate. Using this method to select an Alternate will ensure that the alternate course will only replace the specific primary course.

- 1. On the Start Page, select PowerScheduler.
- 2. Under Resources, select Students.
- 3. On the **Scheduling** page, search for and select the student.
- 4. On the **Student** page, click the **Requests** tab.
- 5. On the **Request** page, under **Alternate 1**, click the **Associate** button of the course you would like to assign an alternate.

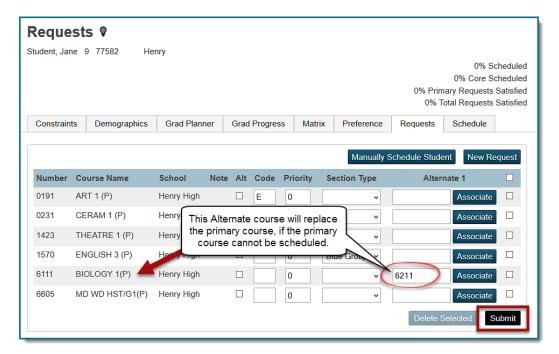


- Select the appropriate alternate course from the ChoicesDialog pop-up window.
- 7. Click Submit.





8. Click **Submit** on the Requests page.





Adding Section Types to Course Requests

Section types help identify special sections of a course. Teacher assignments and student course requests are identified with a specific section type and during the Load process, the system schedules students with the specific section type into the teacher's section with the same section type.

- 1. On the student's **Requests page**, select the appropriate **Section Type** from the Section Type drop-down menu.
- 2. Click Submit.

