

# Starfish Newsletter

## A NOTE OF THANKS

Fall semester is coming to a close. Thank you for continuing to use Starfish to connect, raise flags, and recognize your students' progress. Below are quick highlights and helpful reminders as we wrap up the term.



## STRATEGIC ANALYTICS UPDATE

The Starfish Strategic Analytics model is a new tool that takes our student data to the next level by identifying key trends and predictive factors that influence student retention and academic success across PennWest.

The model uses institutional data and will allow us to:

- View retention and risk trends in real time
- Compare student success indicators across campuses and programs
- Gain a clearer understanding of which interventions make the biggest impact

What's Next: Our Institutional Research team will complete a final data validation to ensure accuracy across all variables. Once that step is complete, our Starfish team will participate in system training sessions before sharing a live demo with academic affairs leadership. We'll continue to provide updates as this work moves toward full implementation.

In this newsletter  
you can expect:

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A Note of Thanks

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Strategic Analytics

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Helpful Reminders

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Tools and Guides

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Drop-In For Help

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Contact Us

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## HELPFUL END-OF-TERM REMINDERS

- Office Hours: Update or end your fall office hours to prevent calendar overlap next term.
- Raise Your Hand: Encourage students to use this feature if they need help before finals.
- Kudos: Send a quick Kudos to recognize students finishing strong. It takes less than a minute and means a lot.

## TOOLS AND GUIDES

The Starfish Faculty and Staff Guide includes step-by-step instructions for raising flags, documenting meetings, managing office hours, and recording attendance. It's a great quick reference as you close out the semester and prepare for spring.

You can access it anytime from the Starfish home page or directly at

[Starfish Faculty & Staff Guide](#)

## DROP-IN FOR STARFISH HELP

Need a refresher or quick fix? Join our open Zoom hours (Mon/Wed/Thurs, 11:00AM–12:00PM).

- Click [HERE](#) to join the Zoom during drop-in hours

## CONTACT US

Check your filters, update your office hours, and double-check your student lists.

If something doesn't look right, it's often a quick fix! Still stuck?

Email us at [starfish@pennwest.edu](mailto:starfish@pennwest.edu) ~ we've got you!