

Collaboration and Communication =

**ONLINE SUCCESS!**



## Who Are We?

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- Butler Tech Online is a component of the Educational Options Division of Butler Technology and Career Development Schools.
- Butler Tech is a career-technical school district located in southwestern Ohio.
- We are in our 5<sup>th</sup> year of operation delivering quality online high school courses to Ohio students.

## Enrollment Options

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- Students complete one or more courses during the school day in a computer lab setting.
- Students complete all academic courses online in an alternative school setting.
- Students complete some courses online from home and some courses at school.
- Students complete all courses online from home.
- Any variation of the above.

- Served 1915 students
- 88% were in a school setting
  - Over 30 different school buildings
- Delivered 3723 courses
- 78% of courses completed



## Course Offerings

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We currently offer 65 semester courses in the following subjects:

- Math
- Science
- English
- Social Studies
- Fine Arts
- Health
- Work and Family Studies

College preparatory and foundational level courses are available and all are aligned to Ohio Academic Content Standards.



## About Our Teachers

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- Ohio Licensed, Highly Qualified
- Certified in Online Instruction
- Teach ONLY online
- Provide Motivational and Academic Support
- Assess Student Work and Respond to Student Questions
- Communicate with school officials and parents

*"Our biggest barrier is our memory of what schools look like. Those of us running the schools have a very strong memory of 'this is how a school looks, this is how it works.'*

- Susan Patrick - the President and CEO of the North American Council for Online Learning



## Communication and Collaboration

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What they say:

- Teachers/Administrators
- Parents
- Students
- Community Members

How do we address these issues?

- Teachers/Administrators
- Parents
- Students
- Community Members



# Communication and Collaboration

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## Marketing the Online Program

## Communication and Collaboration

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- One of the most important things we must communicate is student progress in their online courses.
- We found challenges in reporting this information due to numerous issues. . .

- Our program is asynchronous.
- We allow students to enroll at anytime.
- Students can enroll in a traditional, accelerated, or extended rate of completion.
- These factors make it very challenging to know where a student should be in his/her course at any given time.

- We could have changed our policies and program design to be more synchronous in nature, and making all students begin and end on the same dates, but that is not what best serves our students and schools.
- The only way to maintain a flexible environment, but still appropriately track student progress was to provide each student with a personalized education plan.

## Personalized Education Plan

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- Performance expectations are determined at the start of the course. A student can enroll in one of the following pace schedules:
  - Traditional Rate of Completion
  - Accelerated Rate of Completion
  - Extended Rate of Completion
- Based on this rate a personalized education plan will be created for each student giving them expected due dates for each lesson.

- As students complete their coursework, their progress will be tracked according to the pace schedule that was determined.
- A student's status will be calculated using the two following indicators:
  - The student's quality of completed work.
  - The student's quantity of completed work.



# Personalized Education Plan

My Courses    My Teachers    My Resources    Logout



Butler Tech Online Demo Course (Scheduled 08/23/06 - 12/04/06)  
Instructor: [Kathleen Klink](#)



## Course Topics

- [Getting Started](#)
- [Algebra 1 - Properties of Roots](#)



Lesson Title	Target Date	Score	Points
<a href="#">Simplifying Roots Presentation</a>	08/23/06	100%	2/2
<a href="#">Roots</a>	08/24/06	100%	2/2
<a href="#">Simplifying Roots Self-Assessment</a>	08/24/06	*	
<a href="#">Operations with Roots Presentation</a>	08/25/06	100%	2/2
<a href="#">Operations with Roots Assignment</a>	08/25/06	10%	2/20
<a href="#">Properties of Roots Quiz</a>	08/28/06	40%	16/40

- [Earth Science - Weathering and Shaping of the Earth](#)
- [Language Arts 11 - The Scarlet Letter: Part 1](#)
- [American History - The Roaring Twenties](#)
- [Art Appreciation - What is Art?](#)
- [Discovering Your Future - The Interview](#)



## Simplifying Roots Presentation

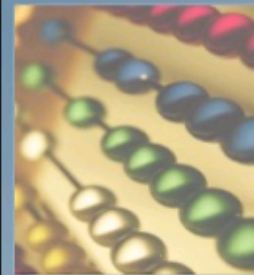
Ref: 80711-



Estimated Time To Complete: 35 minutes

Points Possible: 2 points

Roots are the opposite or inverse of exponents. You have probably seen roots before but may just think of roots in terms of square roots, and using a calculator to find them. The presentation will show you what roots are, how they are used, and how to simplify them to get an exact measure.



## Properties of Roots

### Simplifying Roots



# Personalized Education Plan

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Let's look at some actual student data:

Language Arts 9 A (Scheduled 08/23/2006 - 01/12/2007)  
Instructor Richard Jackson

<b>Points earned to date:</b>	<b>1489.00</b>
<b>Possible points for completed lessons:</b>	<b>1593</b>
<b>Total points for all lessons:</b>	<b>1593</b>
<b>Current grade for completed lessons:</b>	<b>93.47%</b>
<b>Current grade for all lessons:</b>	<b>93.47%</b>
<b>Percent of course completed:</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>On track to complete this percent:</b>	<b>116.70%</b>
<b>Adjusted grade:</b>	<b>109.00</b>
<b>Your current status:</b>	<b>Excellent</b>



# Personalized Education Plan

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Let's look at another student in the same course:

**Language Arts 9 A (Scheduled 08/23/2006 - 01/12/2007)**  
**Instructor Richard Jackson**

<b>Points earned to date:</b>	<b>695.00</b>
<b>Possible points for completed lessons:</b>	<b>913</b>
<b>Total points for all lessons:</b>	<b>1593</b>
<b>Current grade for completed lessons:</b>	<b>76.12%</b>
<b>Current grade for all lessons:</b>	<b>43.63%</b>
<b>Percent of course completed:</b>	<b>61.00%</b>
<b>On track to complete this percent:</b>	<b>77.76%</b>
<b>Adjusted grade:</b>	<b>59.00</b>
<b>Your current status:</b>	<b>Emergency</b>

- We have numerous students that work fulltime from home.
- How is attendance tracked in an online program?
- Many track attendance based on time spent on the computer. Is this really what is important?
- We more highly value the student actually completing quality work.

## Quality Attendance

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- We track Quality Attendance, not just the time the computer is on.
- Quality Attendance is based on the student's personalized education plan.
- If a student's overall course status is Excellent, Effective, or Improvement, the student is considered present and in good standing.

- If a student's overall status falls into the Watch or Emergency category, the student is expected to make adequately weekly progress to be considered in attendance.
- The adequate weekly progress goal is determined each week based on the amount of course complete and the amount of time left to complete the course.

- The following week, the student's course data will be reviewed again and the actual weekly progress will be determined.
- If the actual progress is equal to or above the adequate weekly progress goal, the student is considered as being in attendance.
- If the actual progress is lower than the adequate weekly progress goal, the student will be counted absent.



# Group Discussion

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# Responses

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Questions?

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Contact Us!

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## Butler Tech Online

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