



All Belton New Tech learners are expected to grow and excel in the following areas. Content and skill mastery are measured as a percentage of each individual course grade.

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Content Knowledge</b>	The learner will demonstrate a mastery of the required curriculum through rigorous, engaging, and relevant learning experiences and authentic assessments.	60
<b>Professional Ethics</b>	The learner will demonstrate trust, respect, and responsibility through time management, leadership, and collaboration.	10
<b>Innovation</b>	The learner will initiate innovative solutions to problems using creativity and/or technology.	10
<b>Written Communication</b>	The learner will use standard conventions of grammar and rhetoric to produce clear, concise and logical writing appropriate for a variety of audiences.	10
<b>Oral Presentation</b>	The learner will clearly articulate ideas in a manner appropriate to audience, setting, and occasion.	10

Here is an example what this looks like in our web-based Echo gradebook, which parents and learners all have access to:



By presenting grades like this, facilitators and parents are able to have open and honest conversations with learners about their personal strengths and weaknesses. This isn't possible in a traditional grading model. For example, the grade of a New Tech learner who turns in an excellent project two-weeks late is evaluated on more than the content and the lateness of the project. In fact, a close look at the gradebook would reveal that this learner earned an "A" in Content Knowledge but a "B" in Written Communication.

The fundamental importance of this change comes when the learner, his parents, and his facilitators talk about the learner's success at school. Their conversations go beyond "Why did you get a 'A' on this project?" to "What steps can you take to improve your oral presentation skills?" This creates an essential shift in communication that we feel is essential to helping our learners succeed in the twenty-first century.