

*Providing leadership, research, and service since 1906*



[www.pdkintl.org](http://www.pdkintl.org)  
[information@pdkintl.org](mailto:information@pdkintl.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Sept. 25, 2012

**Contact:**

Melanie Keller

812-269-6624/[mkeller@pdkintl.org](mailto:mkeller@pdkintl.org)

**Butler Tech Director of Curriculum and Assessment Selected as Emerging Leader**

ARLINGTON, Va.—Abbie Cook, the director of curriculum and assessment for Butler Technology and Career Development Schools in Hamilton, Ohio, has been recognized as an Emerging Leader by PDK International, a global association of education professionals.

The PDK Emerging Leader program recognizes top educators under age 40 from around the world for their leadership. A committee made up of PDK's past Emerging Leaders selected the 22 honorees from a competitive field of applicants, based on their outstanding professional accomplishments.

In addition to being honored at an event in Washington, D.C., honorees also have the opportunity to be published by PDK, apply for grants, and participate in PDK initiatives.

"Honoring these young leaders is one of PDK's most important initiatives," said William J. Bushaw, PDK International's executive director. "We know the future of education is in good hands with leaders like these making a difference in the lives of our students."

In Cook's 15-year career, she has worked as a teacher in alternative schools, online schools, and at the university level. Currently she serves as director of curriculum and assessment for Butler Tech, a career technical district in Ohio and as an associate curriculum auditor for PDK International's Curriculum Management Center.

"I am an advocate for solid curriculum alignment as a means for district improvement and a proponent for relevant, innovative educational experiences for students," Cook said. "I firmly believe the most you can ever know is how much you have yet to learn."

Cook is a member of several professional education organizations, including PDK International, ASCD, Learning Forward, International Society for Technology in Education, International Reading Association, and Association for Career and Technical Education. She holds bachelor's and master's degrees in education and a doctorate in curriculum and instruction. She has a principal license and is currently working towards licensure as a superintendent.

For more information on PDK's 2012-2013 Class of Emerging Leaders, go to [www.pdkemergingleaders.org](http://www.pdkemergingleaders.org).

-30-

**About PDK International**

Founded in 1906, PDK International is a global association for professional educators. The organization's mission is to support education, particularly public education, as the cornerstone of democracy. More information is online at [www.pdkintl.org](http://www.pdkintl.org).

**PDK INTERNATIONAL FAMILY OF ASSOCIATIONS**

PDK INTERNATIONAL® • PI LAMBDA THETA • FUTURE EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION®

Toll Free 800-766-1156 • [www.pdkintl.org](http://www.pdkintl.org)

1525 Wilson Blvd., Suite 605 • Arlington, VA 22209