

# BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Departmental Report

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May 20, 2026

ESOL Program

Bruce Clemetsen, Interim Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs

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## HIGHLIGHTS

- Our ESOL Program has 53 students so far in 25–26, compared to 63 in 24–25. In response, the program is expanding access through Burlington English:
  - Flexible online learning with instructor support, allowing students to participate from home and overcome barriers like childcare, transportation, and work schedules.
  - Supports students at different skill levels while maintaining a consistent classroom experience.
- Integrated Education & Training (IET) – Early Childhood Education (ECE):
  - Two ESOL students will complete the ECE program this year through concurrent language and workforce training; an IET model that allows students to build English skills while simultaneously completing career training, rather than taking those steps separately. This is a strong outcome compared to similar community college programs.
  - Students receive tuition support, book vouchers, gas cards, and individualized tutoring from ESOL faculty, helping them persist and complete both language and career training.

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May 20, 2026

GED Program

Bruce Clemetsen, Interim Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs

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## HIGHLIGHTS

- Our GED program has seen significant growth, going from 59 students in 24–25 to 77 students in 25–26 so far. Students continue to schedule orientations and enroll, so that number should continue to increase. We currently have over 24 students signed up for orientations.
- GED at the Jail has rebounded and is currently serving 12 students, following a temporary drop earlier this year due to staffing transitions.
- Persistence: Of all students enrolled, 76% achieved at least 12 hours (required to begin testing), demonstrating strong student engagement.
- Completion and progress:
  - 7 students have already completed their GED this year
  - 5 of those 7 students have transitioned to credit-bearing classes, supported by a warm handoff to our success coaching team to help ensure a smooth transition and persistence in college-level coursework.
  - 8 additional students have only 1 test left to complete
  - Because our GED program allows students to start throughout the term and year, many students are still early in their progress this year and would not yet be expected to have completed.

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May 20, 2026

Business Program

Bruce Clemetsen, Interim Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs

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### UPDATE

We believe the combination of the award winning SBDC offerings, and the credit-based business curriculum provides the breadth of business education to support local business and prepare students for more advanced business fields.

Our curriculum will move to the extent possible to be an in-person or hybrid teaching modality in the spirit that business is done through relationships, and being in the classroom to engage and work together is supportive of this outcome.

Teachout completed for Accounting degree and related certificates. Reached out last spring to have student make decisions to continue or change programs. We planned that whole year schedule in advance so students could plan. All courses were delivered online, so time and place were not barriers to accessing courses this last time.

We reviewed the transfer pathways for business and have adopted the AST-Business as the sole transfer degree in this discipline. Students can take more business courses than what is available in the ASOT. We will teach a much more robust offering of business classes than we could with the ASOT-Business.

To support the greater number of business classes we can offer, we reviewed all business courses in the catalog. We are retaining the courses that align best with our primary transfer universities, OSU and WOU, and provide a well-rounded 2-year degree in business.

For the future we are planning on promoting the degree partnership options with OSU and WOU for students pursuing a business degree, allowing for simplified access to university business curriculum taught online to maximize time spent in Lincoln County.

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