Blackboard

Office Hours

Weekly product update webinar

November 17, 2026

Accessibility Support for Today’s Webinar

Turning on Closed Captions (CC)

More (...) → Language and speech → Turn on live captions

Captions then appear at the bottom of the screen for the rest of the session.

Sign Language Mode

More actions → Settings → Accessibility → toggle on Sign language mode

Then select Signer or Interpreter role.

Full instructions:

support.microsoft.com/en-us/accessibility/teams/use-sign-language-mode-in-microsoft-teams-meetings

About Office Hours

Who runs them

Office hours are facilitated by the Product team, Customer Success Managers, Support, and the wider team.

What we cover

Join the Blackboard® team to discuss in detail the latest feature releases, product developments, and emerging current issues.

Why join

An opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions of the Blackboard Product Management team and fellow clients.

Today’s Webinar

AI

Recording & notetaking consent

Based on Blackboard’s AI Trustworthy Framework, the use of third-party AI generator software for notetaking or recording of this session requires consent from all webinar attendees and prior approval from Blackboard.

Agenda

- Welcome & Announcements
- Release Updates
- Update: Idea Exchange
- Update: New Editor Conversion
- Demo: **Submit on behalf of a student**
- Demo: Video Studio – Watch full video in forced sequence
- Open Discussion

Blackboard LMS Roadmap Webinars

North America

Tuesday, December 1
12 p.m. EDT

Office Hours on Dec 1 cancelled

Business and Government

Thursday, December 3
2 p.m. EDT

Aisa-Pacific

Wednesday, December 2
12 p.m. AEST

Europe, Middle East and Africa

Wednesday, December 2
3 p.m. GMT

Latin America and the Caribbean

Wednesday, December 2
10 a.m. EDT

Original EOL Office Hour Sessions

Agenda

- Changes on January 1, 2027
- Read-Only Original Courses/Organizations
- Readiness Checklist
- What's Coming in 2028

Sessions

- ~~*NAHE – November 3rd*~~
- ~~*LAC – November 4th*~~
- **EMEA – November 19th**
- **APAC – November 19th**

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Digital Teaching Symposium 2026

Reach. Teach. Demonstrate.

Thurs November 19, 2026

Free & Online virtual event

Register Now



Last chance to register!

Blackboard User Group

Led by your peers, with each session featuring a client or guest speaker. Sessions take place every other Thursday, 11:00am EST (4:00pm BST).

Thu Nov 26 - *Break for Thanksgiving*

Thu Dec 10– One Tool, One Purpose: Designing a Digital Ecosystem for Content-and-Language Teaching
Mariella Guadalupe Mariduena Vargas, UEES (Universidad Espíritu Santo), Ecuador

Register for calendar appointments and reminder emails.

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STUDY HALL Blackboard® Outcomes

Are Academic Programs in Outcomes Right for You?

Assess learning in programs that cross departments, like gen ed, minors, and certificates, without changing your institutional hierarchy.

Who should attend: Assessment directors, program coordinators, IE leads, LMS administrators, and data analysts

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

Report on learning by program
Setup, connections, permissions, and reporting

Assess cross-unit programs
Gen ed, minors, certificates, and more

Launch without restructuring
Best practices for assessment

WHEN · LIVE ONLINE
Wed, Dec 2, 2026 · 9 a.m. ET

SPEAKER
Dr. Summer Jackson, Senior Product Manager

REGISTER
community.blackboard.com

Community Insider of the Month

Each month during **Office Hours**, we'll spotlight one community member for how they engage, share, and help others.
Recognizing a member who actively joins Office Hours, shares their experience, and supports others.

Want to stay connected with your peers? Join the Community!
Join conversations, share what you know, attend events, and help fellow members. **JOIN TODAY**

MS

Mary Beth Scumaci

Director of Digital Learning

Trocaire College

"Our User Group superstar": If there's a Blackboard LMS User Group session, Mary Beth has already posted it, shared the details and saved you a seat.

She was on the site 26 of 30 days, and the Community feels a little more like home with her around.

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Release Updates

Recent Releases: 2026 Blackboard SaaS

4001.4.0 — Blackboard SaaS Production



Fixes in the upcoming 4001.4.0 Release — November 19, 2026

- Course Status Does not Update on Ultra Base Navigation Cards Without Refreshing # 17768484

Note: this is a preliminary list; the final list with all fixes will be available in Thursday's article.

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4001.7.0

Test / Stage: November 10
Prod: December 3

Instructional Design

- Use Learning Activities to create flashcards for student self-review
- December improvements to the beta Content Editor for Blackboard Documents

Assignments and Tests

- Improved accessibility for multiple choice questions

Gradebook

- Submit in-progress attempts on behalf of students from the Submissions page
- Navigate the Submissions page with a screen reader or keyboard

BB Core

- Add alternative text to images in the course outline

Integrations

- Connect AI assistants to Blackboard LMS with the Blackboard MCP Server

Communication and Collaboration

- ~~Quote a previous message when replying in Messages~~
- Fill existing empty groups first when randomly assigning students

BB Admin

- Manage institutional resources with a new Resources page on the Institution Page
- Blackboard Assist reaches end of life on December 31, 2026

Upgrade to Ultra

- Use REST APIs to bulk download automatic course archives
- Manage content duplication with a dedicated privilege

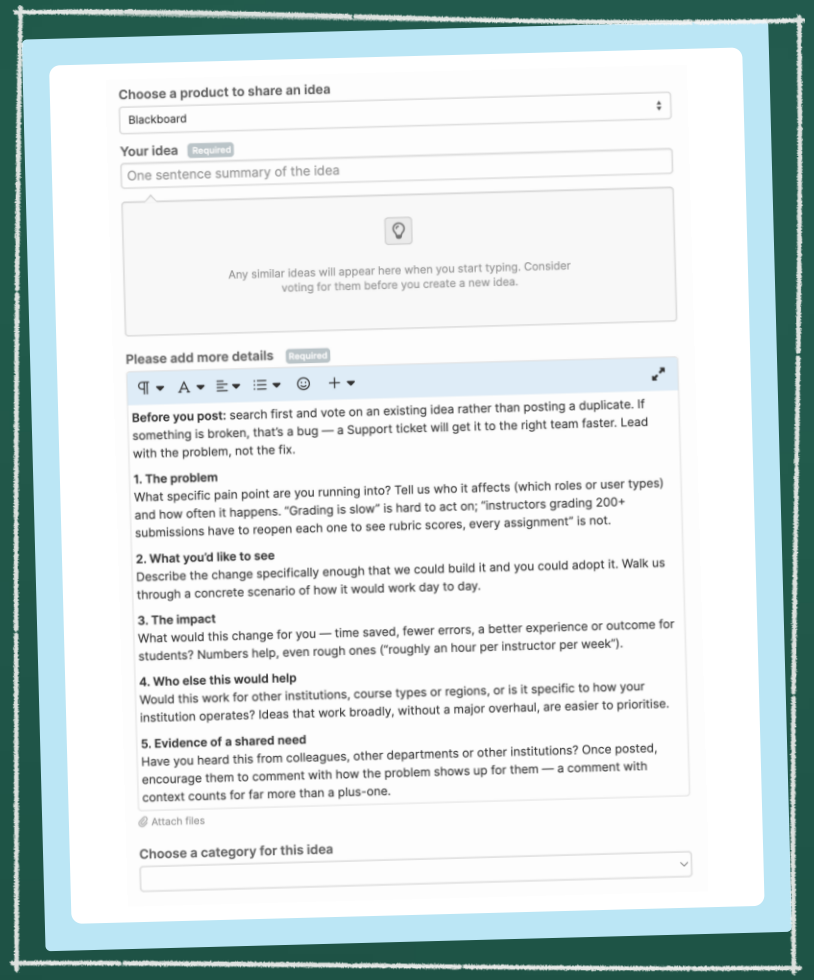
Video Studio *(requires Video Studio license)*

- Require students to watch a video fully before continuing in a forced-sequence module
- Keep editing in Video Studio right after recording, without saving first

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Update

Idea Exchange



The recipe for a great idea, now built into the form

In October we shared five ingredients of a great idea. Each one is now a heading in the details box, and similar ideas appear as you type so you can vote instead of duplicating.

What we said in October		Where it lives in the form
A clear problem	→	The problem
Actionable	→	What you'd like to see
Real impact	→	The impact
Works at scale	→	Who else this would help
Community backing	→	Evidence of a shared need

Lead with the problem. We'll find the fix.

Found a bug? A Support ticket gets it fixed faster.

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Every status finishes the sentence “My idea is…” or “My idea needs…”

My idea… **You can still vote**	
is **submitted**	It’s in. Someone on the product team will take a first look within ten business days.
is **under review**	The product team has read it and is weighing it. You’ll have a direction within 90 days.
needs **input**	**Your move.** We’ve asked you a question. Reply within 30 days to keep it moving, or it moves to Not moving forward.
is **saved for later**	It’s a good idea, but not on the roadmap right now. We’ll revisit it at least once a year.
is **slated to build**	We plan to build it. We can’t promise a date yet, and we check on it every month.
is **in development**	We’re building it now, and the work is linked to a development item.

My idea… **Voting is closed**

is **released**
You can use it now. The comment tells you which release.

is **not moving forward**
We won’t build it in the next 12 to 24 months, and the comment explains why. You’re welcome to post a new idea about the problem.

is **closed**
It was a duplicate, already available or a support case. The comment gives the reason.

What happens to the ideas that have waited since 2022

The question you asked most

1 We review every long-open idea

Everything that has sat in Future consideration is being looked at again with the new statuses in mind.

2 Each one gets a written update

A comment from the product team saying where the idea stands and what would change our view. Subscribers are notified as usual.

3 Some move to Not moving forward

Where we do not expect to get to an idea in the next 12 to 24 months, we will say so plainly. The idea stays readable, and a new idea framed on the problem is welcome.

This will take a few weeks to work through, given the number of ideas. The aim is clarity: you should be able to open any long-standing idea and know what we think.

Two things under way, one we are deliberately holding

Under way

Reviewing long-standing ideas

Written updates on every long-open idea over the coming weeks, with some moved to Not moving forward.

Under way

Exploring voting capabilities

We're exploring voting capabilities that help your votes reflect what matters most to you.

On hold

Changes to voting

We have done the analysis and there is more to work through. We want the right structure in place first, so we would rather change once than twice.

What you can do now: use the new form for anything you raise, watch for the written update on ideas you follow, and tell us in the comments if you think we have read an idea wrong.

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Update

New Editor Conversion

Volunteers Requested:

New Editor Conversion

1. Open an existing Document in your institution's environment.
2. Select an existing content block and click **Try the New Editor** in the bottom-right corner.
3. Review the converted content to ensure formatting, tables, images, and other elements are preserved as expected.
4. Submit a **Support ticket** if you encounter any conversion issues. Please CC jake.webb@blackboard.com on all conversion related tickets.

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Demo

Submit on behalf of a student

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Demo

Video Studio - Require students to watch a video fully before continuing in a forced-sequence module

Open Discussion

- Any additional thoughts on content shared today?
- What are you looking forward to?
- Any clarifications needed?
- Any questions about the release updates?
- What are your current challenges?

Idea Exchange



Any other ideas? Post them on the Idea Exchange

anthology-teachingandlearning.ideas.aha.io

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Thank you

Blackboard delivers the digital environment for transformational teaching and learning.

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