

-An ExtraORDinary Opportunity-

CCC-Ord Learning Center Facilities Plan 2026-27

1A Background and History

In May of 1966, residents of seventeen central Nebraska counties voted overwhelmingly to create the Central Nebraska Vocational Technical School Number One to be located in Hastings, Nebraska. Although Valley County was not one of the original counties included, Dr. Glen Auble of Ord was mentioned several times in the College history books as very instrumental in the formation of the district and later served as a Board of Governor on our 11-member elected Board of Governors. Glen retired from the Board at age 88. In 1971, the Nebraska Legislature created the Nebraska Community College System which combined the state's junior college, vocational/technical colleges and area technical schools. By 1974, the state was divided into six service areas which led to the Central Community College name and a service which includes 25-counties in central Nebraska. Valley County is one of those counties.



Central Community College regularly promoted distance education, community education and early college options throughout the 25-county service area through a variety of modalities including in-person, video, packets, satellite and more recently internet based. Community based educational programming has been focused on all age demographics and offer not only vocational and academic education, but quality of life, avocational and recreational coursework as well.

In 2010-2011, CCC obtained a Rural Community Development Initiative grant through the United States Department of Agriculture that led to the opening of the Ord Learning Center through a lease agreement with the non-profit, Greater Loup Valley Activities, Inc. In this approximately 9,000 sq ft building located one block from the main town square in Ord, Nebraska, is co-location space for Central Community College staff and programming, Valley County Economic Development, Ord Area Chamber of Commerce, and Valley County Visitors

Bureau. Annual leases have been renewed since that time with additional steady enrollment through community-based and early college offerings, not only in Valley County, but adjacent CCC-service area counties of Greeley and Sherman.

CCC was awarded the maximum, \$175,105 total over 3 years. Overall, there were 43 grant recipients from 30 states, only two in Nebraska. CCC was the only community college awarded funds from any state. The targeted recipients included “low income” and “low population” regions as defined by USDA. In this case: Valley, Greeley and Sherman Counties in Nebraska and specifically: Valley County Economic Development Board, Ord Public Schools, Greeley-Wolbach High School (now called Central Valley), and Loup City Public Schools were partners in the grant. In 2016 of the six high schools in Valley, Greeley and Sherman counties, only 8 graduates attended CCC the following fall. Now that number has nearly doubled.

Over the years, the center has been host to camps provided for elementary students on topics like entomology, robotics, coding and graphic design, babysitting clinics for middle school age youth, early college and nurse assistant/medication aid, phlebotomy and CPR classes for high school youth, leadership development and business coaching for adults, and computer courses for senior citizens. This community resource has been valued and supported financially and physically by area citizens.

Ord Learning Center	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26 *
Unduplicated Headcount	483	362	379	193
Number of Registrations	649	449	452	238
FTE's	3.67	5.54	3.78	2.67
Adult Education	7	13	4	0

*8 month total

Ord Area Early College Sites Duplicated Headcount / FTE	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26*
Arcadia High	22 / 1.8	22 / 1.7	18 / 1.9	48 / 4.8
Central Valley High / Greeley	41 / 1.3	28 / 2.7	28 / 2.8	42 / 2.0
Litchfield High	8 / .8	7 / .8	24 / 2.4	13 / 1.3
Loup City High	31 / 2.8	27 / 2.9	36 / 3.25	49 / 4.8
Ord High	67 / 7.3	104 / 9.6	174 / 18.45	152 / 15.6
Spalding Academy	0 / 0	1 / .1	11 / 1.1	21 / 2.1
Six area high school spring graduates attending CCC in Fall	14	13	15	NA

*8 month total

1B Project Description

The project will involve a feasibility study regarding facility improvements and the possible purchase of the existing building that Central Community College has been leasing from the Greater Loup Valley Activities, Inc. Co-location will still occur with valuable partners including Valley County Economic Development, Ord Area Chamber of Commerce, and Valley County Visitors Bureau. The potential transfer of ownership will allow CCC to continue to provide updated learning spaces for community-based educational programming on a time frame non-reliant on fundraising efforts or investments from the non-profit GLVA group.

Central Community College employs two full time staff members at the CCC-Ord Learning Center and jointly shares a full-time business coach and part-time assistant with co-located partners. Community meetings held in May, 2026 were positively attended by various Valley County leaders and residents and strongly suggested continued investment and identification of additional opportunities in Ord. The current GLVA board is excited about this opportunity and willing to negotiate favorable terms to facilitate transfer and facility improvements.

1C Purpose and Objectives

Purpose and objectives to be accomplished by this project are as follows:

- Engage architectural and engineering firms to assist in assessment of current building, meet with facility partners and create a feasibility study prior to March 2027 that would include potential costs, renderings of site and possible timelines to implement plan.
- Continue to provide space to meet workplace and community needs in Ord and surrounding region.
- Continue to provide space for existing and expanded career & technical education programs and curriculum including courses toward a degree, diploma, certification, training, avocational and basic adult education programs. Examples of programming include
 - Distance Classroom for Certificate, Diploma, and Degree Coursework
 - GED Study & Testing
 - Nurse Assistant/Medication Assistant Certification
 - CPT & Emergency Management Training/Certification
 - AHA CPR Certification
 - Phlebotomy Training
 - Annual Summer Camps:
 - Beginning & Returning Entomology Camps
 - Robotics/ Coding Camp
 - Babysitting Bootcamp & CPR Certification
 - Safe Kids 101
 - Graphic Design & Illustration Camp

- Fishing Camp
 - Youth Anxiety Support Camp
- Continue to provide space for regional meetings and conferences. Examples of programming include:
 - Career Discovery Day
 - Business Discovery Day
 - Reality Check
 - Synovation Valley Leadership Academy
 - Connecting Young Nebraskans Biannual Summit
 - Big Give to Valley County Lead & Host- Valley County Philanthropic Partners
 - Chamber/Economic Development/CCC Lunch & Learns
- Provide adequate facilities and equipment for expanded program and course offerings that may include:
 - Reality Check Event for area high school juniors and seniors
 - Career Pathways in Nursing, Welding & Mechatronics
 - STEAM Workshop for area high school students
 - Entrepreneurship & Small Business Support
 - University Outreach offerings
- Continue to provide an environment that promotes collegial teaching and learning.
- Continue to provide adequate space for learning resources including:
 - Distance learning classroom and technology
 - Computer labs and virtual reality
 - Remote testing and proctoring space
- Continue to provide space to support community development activities and collaboration.
- Provide office space for academic advising and curriculum development.
- Provide space to support student services and outreach.
- Provide administrative and support staff space.
- Provide adequate parking to service students, staff, external agencies seeking space for workshops, meetings and training.

2A Data Which Supports the Funding Request

Since the building is currently being occupied by Central Community College and knows investments of past repairs/maintenance during our fifteen year occupancy, the college is comfortable exploring this opportunity.

2B Alternatives Considered

The alternatives that have been considered are:

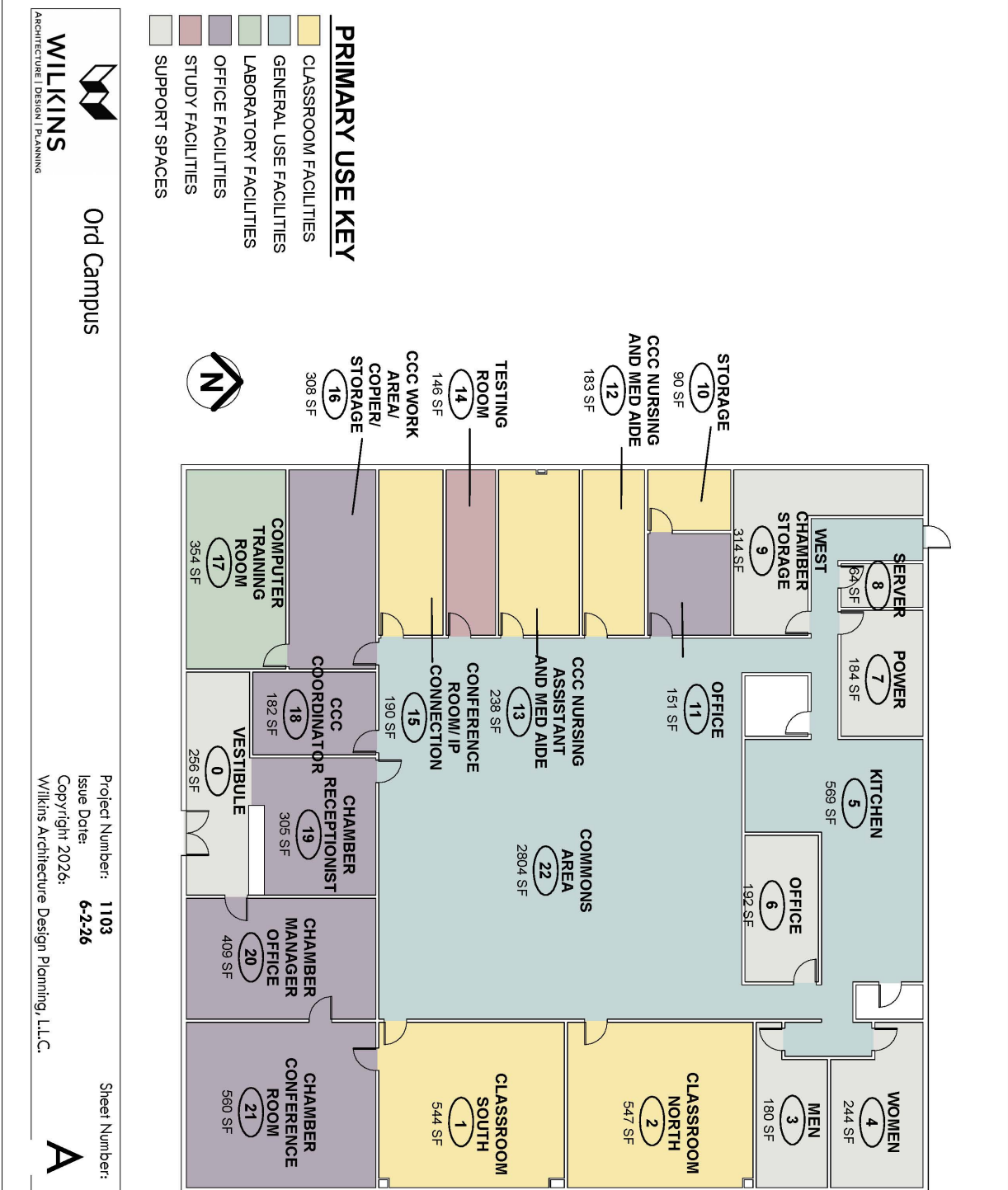
- Continue to lease annually and update when allowable by current owner.
- Look for additional spaces in the Ord community or area communities that may not have similar area partners like Economic Development, Chamber, Tourism, Foundation.
- Discontinue programming in the area, thus requiring transportation longer distances to a campus in Grand Island or center in Kearney.

B. Town



The Ord Learning Center is conveniently located near two main highways passing through the community. The center is two blocks from town square/business district where the Valley County Courthouse is located as well as near the Ord High School.

C. Current Site



The current building provides adequate space for multiple academic and community offerings in addition to room for community partners. Parking is located adjacent to the building and near other public or arranged private parking options for larger events.

D. List of community residents participating in the Community Input meetings held in May, 2026 in addition to CCC representatives from area office, community & workforce education and CCC-Columbus campus.

- Tracy Ries - Director of HR / Finance, Zangger Popcorn Hybrids
- Brad Welniak - Engineer at Olsson & Associates, GLVA Board Member
- Nancy Glaubke - GLVA & ED Board Member
- Zeb Augustyn - First National Bank of Ord Vice President, GLVA Board Member
- Russ Blaha - First National Bank of Ord President, GLVA Board Member
- Matt Woodward - Shelter Insurance Ord Agent/Owner, GLVA & ED Board Member
- Ashley Woodward - CEO of Valley County Health System (VCHS)
- Aaron Snyder - Principal, Ord Jr.-Sr. High School
- Dr. Heather Nebesniak - Superintendent, Ord Public Schools
- Ryan Broker - Director of Business Operations, Zangger Popcorn Hybrids
- Morgan Sherwood - Money Mindset Coach
- Austin Sherwood - IT Specialist, VCHS
- Lindsay Roberts - GUMB Auction & Realty, Inc.
- Kristina Foth - The Quiz Newspaper
- Caleb Pollard - Director, Valley County Economic Development
- Emily Reilly - Program Coordinator, Valley County Economic Development & Chamber
- Katie Walmsley - Business Coach, VCED/CCC

The College President recommends the Board approve a CCC Ord facility feasibility plan with results due back by March, 2027.