Creating Voice Board in Blackboard

Before heading to add Voice Board, we need to make sure the tools are available in your course shell. Click Customization under Control Panel > Choose Tool Availability. Make sure Blackboard Collaborative Voice Board and other Wimba tools checked. There are some other options at the bottom of Tools page. Please make sure scroll down to check them too.

Voice Authoring Mashups: a feature that incorporates audio recordings alongside course content.

Voice Board: a threaded, voice-based discussion board that can also be used for one to one vocal exercises.

Voice Email: an e-mail with standard text, plus a vocal element.

Voice Presentation: a presentation consisting of web content alongside voice messages.

Voice Podcaster: a feature that allows for the creation and subscription of podcasts.
First, choose the content area you want the Voice Board created. And then mouse over the Tools tab in the content area, you can choose Voice Board and other Wimba tools.
This open Add Voice Board page. Give the Voice Board title and description as needed.

You can only check either “Allow students to start a new thread” or “Make discussion threads private.” If you don’t want students view each other’s threads, check “Make discussion threads private.” The instructor can still view all threads. Under this option, you need to create a new thread first, so students could post theirs by using reply function, because they’re not allowed to start a new thread.
Make sure click the check box for the “Choose date and time restrictions” option if you need to set up restrictions.

Click the Submit button at the end, and then a new Voice Board is created. Click “Enter Voice Board” link to get into the board. Be prepared to running Java if this is your first time open Voice Board.

Click “New” button to create a new thread. If “Make the discussion private” was checked in the previous steps, the instructor needs to create a new thread first so that students could post their by using “Reply” button. The instructor could grade this Voice Board by clicking “Grade this board” button. All grades will be stored in Grade Center automatically.
Creating a New Thread

Type the subject in. Press red recording button to record your voice. And you can also type the text message into the blank box so students can receive the information from multiple channels. The recording could be overwritten before you press the Post button. Make sure press the Post button to post your recording.
Students’ perspective

When “Make the discussion private” is checked, there are two icons under students’ view of Voice Board “Reply” and “Option”. When students select the first thread posted by the instructor, they should see the text message and also listen to the recording by clicking Green playback button. Students’ post will list indented under the first thread. A small arrow will appear in front of the first thread that users could click it to expand or collapse the threads.
Instructors have more options to manage Voice Board. “Import” button allow instructor import pre-recorded audio into the Voice board. The import window will allow choose the file. The supported files could be .MP3, .WAV, .WVB, and .SPX. The file size need to be smaller than 10MB.

Instructor can export the selected message or the whole voice board messages as mp3, wav, wvb and spx zip file.
“Publish” button will generate a html code that instructor could copy & paste it into their own webpage. A link “Save audio file” can be used to download the .wav audio file. This feature can be used to record mini lectures that posted in any webpage.