

## **Soundbite Script – Taking Nursing Education to Another Level**

**Dr. Sandie Soldwisch, President, College of Health Sciences**

“The concept of creating a dedicated education unit arose when the medical centers and the College of Nursing were really examining what the student nursing experience was. This unit is developed in many facilities across the country but in the first time in OSF because it’s designed to help the student have a great experience in which they’re learning in combination with a nurse who has spent time advancing their nursing education skills. The student is matched one on one with that nurse to spend all of their clinical time on the unit actually delivering care alongside that nurse but also with oversight of a nursing faculty member.”

**Dr. Sandie Soldwisch, President, College of Health Sciences**

“This benefits the student by having consistent time with one nurse who sees that student during all phases in a day, multiple days of the week for 16 weeks. So they have consistent feedback and the student and the nurse plan together with oversight from the faculty member so there is growth from one week to the next, from one practice skill to the next all the way through the semester so they have more individualized development plans. This education opportunity looks and feels different than educational opportunities in the past.”

**Dr. Sandie Soldwisch, President, College of Health Sciences**

“This is a way of resolving some or assist in minimizing some of the nursing shortage issues. There are several reasons for that. One, if the students have a really good experience and they exit with greater competence and confidence, their transition to being a nurse will probably be quicker and with less challenges to it. So they would be more likely to remain in the nursing field.”

**Dr. Sandie Soldwisch, President, College of Health Sciences**

“I want people to know the Dedicated Education Unit is designed specifically to bring about improvements not only in patient care but in the students’ experience. When a nursing student has a great experience they exit as a strong nurse, a nurse who’s really committed to doing what they selected as their profession and, hopefully, it will help them desire to stay at our facility delivering care with the greatest care and love.”