



N-Gage Academy

A public charter choice in Necedah for middle/high school students

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How will students be graded?

- Students will have multiple opportunities to show their learning through standards in English, mathematics, science, and social studies. Student proficiencies will be shown through standards-based reporting, which can be converted to a traditional GPA if necessary.

Will students be able to take classes in the legacy school?

- Yes, students can opt out of the charter school for part of the day. However, in order to benefit from the charter experience, we recommend spending at least 75% of the day in the charter.

How do credits work at N-Gage Academy?

- Students will still earn credits based on completion of the district adopted standards.

Can a student leave if he/she doesn't like the N-Gage Academy setting?

- If for some reason a student is struggling with the charter school setting, the staff would want to work with him/her to try and meet those needs. If concerns cannot be resolved after a counseling period, it is every student's right to make a different choice. However, our staff believes that making a change at semester will best ensure a smooth transition of credits attained.

Will grades 6-12 be in the same location?

- While grade levels will be recognized, students will generally be divided into multi-level age groups that allow for individually paced development through a continuum of learning. Groupings could also vary based on the activities of the day; for example, groups could differ if the daily work is independent, teacher-led, or collaborative.

Will students be able to have lunch with their friends in the legacy school?

- N-Gage Academy students are part of the larger Necedah school community, so students will still be able to use the school lunch program and apply for free and reduced lunch. However, it will be each student's choice if he/she wants to eat in the commons or in the charter school.

Can students be involved in sports/extracurriculars?

- Yes, any opportunities afforded district students will also be available to N-Gage Academy students.

Where will the school be located?

- N-Gage Academy will be located within the Necedah Area School District building. The exact location of N-Gage Academy will be dependent on student enrollment.

What will a student schedule look like at N-Gage Academy?

- Students will be working in a combination of independent and teacher facilitated activities in a project-based setting. This means that there is not a strict bell schedule. Students will have extended periods of time to work on projects that involve their interests and career aspirations, as well as meeting the district adopted standards. Here is a link to a [Sample Student Schedule](#)

What are the field days? Will students take part in the planning trips?

- Field days will be experiential learning excursions that differ throughout the school year. Students will be engaged in activities that captivate them with cultural events, promote community connections with experts in their fields, and invite students to give back to the community through service projects in order to extend learning beyond the school's walls. Student input will be an important part of the planning process so that trips can be designed with their interests and aspirations in mind.

How will students learn math concepts? If they struggle, what options will they have for support?

- N-Gage Academy has purchased an online math program (ALEKS) which allows students to move at their own pace to learn math concepts. This program will be coupled with teacher led seminars to support needs.

Will students be able to take part in A.P. classes?

- Yes, classes in the legacy school will be available to N-Gage students. Classes can be chosen based on student interests and career aspirations.

How will lab classes like biology and chemistry be approached at N-Gage?

- Lab classes will be addressed through standards as part of projects or seminars. For example, one science standard typically covered in a lab-based class is "perform an experiment that changes energy from one form to another." A student could conduct an experiment to observe how energy in food is transferred to chemical energy in the body.

Who do we tell students to talk to if they have questions?

- The N-Gage design team consists of Molly Moseley, Elizabeth Schaller, Elizabeth Hecht, and Heather Moore. Tanya Kotlowski and Mark Becker are also resources for students. They can be contacted at info@necedahngage.org.

Who will the teachers be?

- Interested teachers will apply for the positions at N-Gage Academy and will be hired based on enrollment numbers.

How does the lottery work?

- N-Gage Academy will enroll up to 35 students for the 2019-2020 school year. If more than 35 applications are received, a lottery will be held. Students will be listed in the order they are drawn. Each grade shall initially admit up to five students. If there are less than five applicants for a particular grade, that grade's unused allotment shall be assigned to the grade level below. The unused allotment will then be filled by applicants for that grade level in the order established by the lottery. If there are not enough applicants to fill the unused allotment, the allotment shall move down one grade level and the process shall repeat until the allotment is fully used. Students not receiving a spot will be put on a waiting list based on their lottery number.

Will students take field trips with the legacy school?

- Trips associated with extracurriculars or something like the Senior Class trip will still be open to N-Gage Academy students if they meet the same terms of participation. The students will not be attending other trips organized through the legacy school as N-Gage will have its own field trips or field days.

Do we have the use of the school counselors?

- Yes, N-Gage Academy students will still receive services through the district.

Will students be able to graduate with the legacy school students?

- N-Gage Academy students will participate in a charter school graduation ceremony. Those students who would also like to be part of the legacy school graduation will still have that option.

How will students receive support for their academic needs?

- Charter schools allow for a flexible learning environment that can be tailored to each student's needs. This model places students in a position to articulate what they need to be successful and then work alongside the teacher to find the best way to make that happen.

What do students need to be successful in this learning environment?

- There are not any specific prerequisites for students. We realize it may take time for students to develop these aptitudes, but some important learner skills and characteristics for N-Gage students would be:
 - Curiosity (a desire to learn)
 - Commitment to their learning
 - Reflection and self-assessment
 - Time management
 - Communication
 - Compassion