

**School District of Nekoosa**  
**2020-2021**  
**Charter School Authorizer Annual Report**

**SECTION I: AUTHORIZER INFORMATION**

<b>Authorizing Entity:</b>	School District of Nekoosa
<b>Authorizer Address:</b>	600 South Section Street Nekoosa, WI 54457
<b>Authorizer Contact Person:</b>	Terry Whitmore
<b>Contact Person Title:</b>	District Administrator
<b>Contact Person Phone:</b>	715-886-8000
<b>Contact Person Email:</b>	terry_whitmore@nekoosa.k12.wi.us

**SECTION II: CHARTER SCHOOL INFORMATION**

*(Add additional lines or attach additional sheets, if necessary.)*

<b>Charter Schools Currently Under Contract in 2021-2022:</b>			
<b>School Name:</b>	<b>Charter School's Governing Board Legal Entity Name:</b>	<b>Contract Term Dates (7/1/20xx – 6/30/20xx):</b>	<b>Grades Served:</b>
Central WI STEM Academy (CWSA)	Central Wisconsin STEM Academy	1/15/2019-6/30/2025	6-8
WISE (Wisconsin Individualized Selection of Education) Academy	Wisconsin Individualized Selection of Education Academy	7/1/2018-6/30/2023	4K-12

<b>Charter Schools with Non-renewed or Revoked Contract during 2020-2021:</b>			
<b>School Name:</b>	<b>Charter School's Governing Board Legal Entity Name:</b>	<b>Contract Term Dates (7/1/20xx – 6/30/20xx)*:</b>	<b>Reason for Non-renewal or Revocation:</b>

<b>Charter Schools that Closed During or at the Conclusion of 2020-2021:</b>			
<b>School Name:</b>	<b>Date of School Closure:</b>	<b>Contract Term Dates (7/1/20xx – 6/30/20xx):</b>	<b>Reason for Closure:</b>

<b>Charter Schools Currently Approved, But That Have Not Yet Begun to Operate:</b>			
<b>School Name:</b>	<b>Charter School's Governing Board Legal Entity Name:</b>	<b>Contract Term Dates (7/1/20xx – 6/30/20xx):</b>	<b>Anticipated First Academic Year of</b>

	Entity Name:		Instruction (e.g. 22-23):

**SECTION III: ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF CHARTER SCHOOLS**

**WISE Description:** WISE Academy is a virtual charter school that offers students the option to learn in a self-paced environment and allows them to customize their education. This option is a great solution for families who want to be totally involved in all aspects of their child(ren)’s education.

**Vision:** Our vision is to empower students to become lifelong learners by guiding them to take ownership of their own learning.

**Mission:** Our mission is to provide individualized learning options for students. Through the process of collaboration, authentic learning that honors a student’s interests and needs is accomplished through coursework and projects.

**WISE Academics Description:** WISE Academy allows learning and instruction to take place in the student’s home with a curriculum that is based on personalized learning plans. This may be accomplished through project-based and/or home-based curriculums. Online courses and/or providers are also available for families to utilize in grades Kindergarten through 12. Student goals are created and assessed based on their Individualized Learning plan and connected with personal and academic needs.

**WISE SLO:**

<b>Reading - 70% of WISE students participating in STAR Reading will achieve at or above the 50 percentile in STAR Reading.</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>2020-21</b>
Students scoring at or above the 50 percentile	26	37	32
Total students	35	42	41
70% of WISE students participating in STAR Reading will achieve at or above the 50 percentile in STAR Reading.	Met goal. 74.2% of students scored in the 50 percentile or higher.	Met goal. 88.0% of the students scored in the 50 percentile or higher.	Met goal. 78% of the students scored in the 50 percentile or higher.
<b>Math - 70% of WISE students participating in STAR Math will achieve at or above the 50 percentile in STAR Math.</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>	<b>2020-21</b>
Students scoring at or above the 50	24	36	34

percentile			
Total students	34	42	44
70% of WISE students participating in STAR Reading will achieve at or above the 50 percentile in STAR Reading.	Met goal. 70.5% of students scored in the 50 percentile or higher.	Met goal. 85.7% of students scored in the 50 percentile or higher.	77% of students scored in the 50 percentile or higher.
Of WISE seniors pursuing a high school diploma by the end of 2018-19 school year, 100% will graduate..	100% of students pursuing a high school diploma graduated June 2019.	100% of students pursuing a high school diploma graduated June 2020.	100% of students pursuing a high school diploma graduated June 2021.

**CWSA (Central Wisconsin STEM Academy) Description:**

CWSA centers on project based learning with a focus on STEM. Offering one-to-one chromebooks allowed us to provide students the opportunity to work at their own pace and at the same time research independently. Through independent research, our Common Core State Standards in reading and writing are primarily accomplished through the project research and documentation.

Using ALEKS (CWSA’s) math curriculum, students were able to move through topics and complete the curriculum individually with guided assistance from their teachers. This results in several students moving up into the next grade level content - some doing so by second semester. For students who struggle, CWSA provides opportunities to work in small groups, in dedicated rooms, and with teachers for assistance. Students that find math challenging will also be able to understand the practical applications with a deliberate incorporation of math concepts in their projects.

Independently, students had the opportunity to follow their passions and focus their learning in areas of interest. For example, we had one student work on the feasibility of the NELL to sustain an owl population. In doing the project, we were able to discover that there are currently nesting owls in the NELL. Another group of students took what they learned in Game Design and created their own games as a final product for their projects. We feel it is important for students to have the opportunity to pursue these passions in a way that leads them to greater understanding. Our challenge is in creating rubrics and assessments that fit every project by focusing on project design and in helping find contacts and resources that students can access.

## CWSA's Academics Description:

### STAR Benchmark Scores

What goal did the school set for achievement in English language arts?

The percentage of students exceeding the 50th percentile of reading proficiency will increase between September of 2020 and May of 2021 by at least 10 percent.

Below are the most up-to-date academic achievement scores come from the 2020-21 Fall and Winter administrations of STAR Reading and Math, which are our district's benchmark measurements. In most years we measure growth between the Fall and Spring windows, but due to teacher turnover in the CWSA program last year the teacher during the Spring window didn't administer the Spring assessment consistently with the Fall and Winter assessments, so we are reporting only the data which we feel is the most accurate and consistent. Additional student growth beyond the Winter window likely did occur, but isn't reflected in these scores.

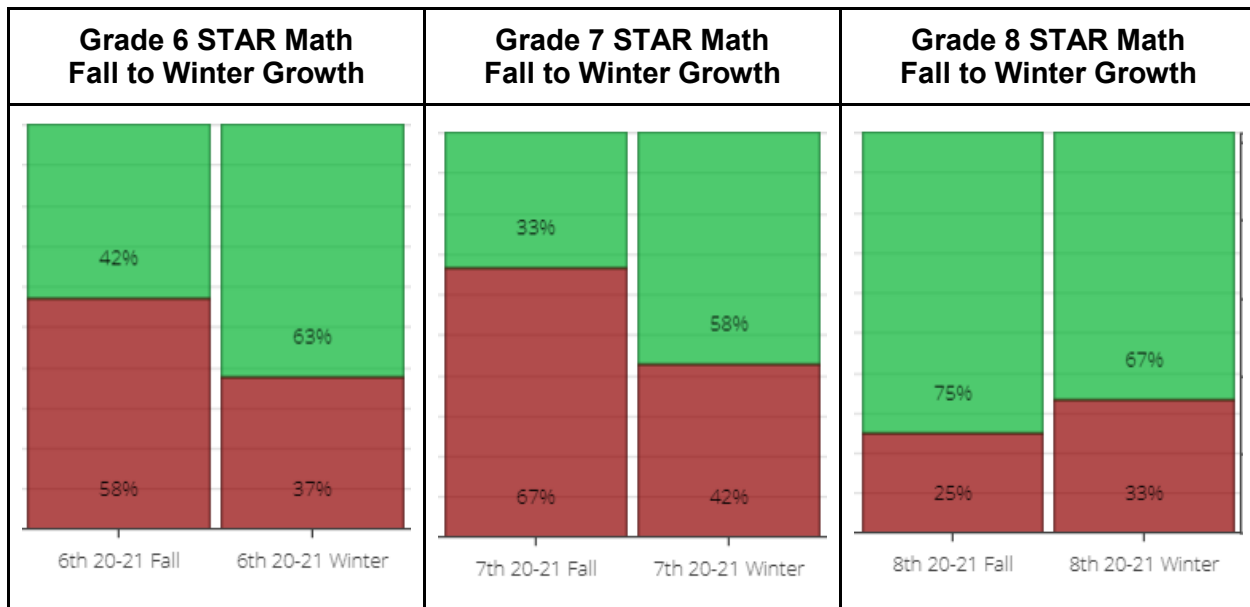


We used the STAR assessment as it allowed us to have a nationally normed test that we could administer multiple times over the course of the school year. Given that Forward Exam results were not available from the 2019-20 school year we weren't able to assess year-to-year growth using that instrument.

Over the course of the year, the percentage of students exceeding the 50th percentile grew in the following manner: 6th grade: 28.5% (Fall) to 62.5% (Winter). 7th grade: 20% (Fall) to 42.9% (Winter). 8th Grade: 60% (Fall) to 66.6% (Winter). In other words we saw significant growth in all grade levels except 8th who already were at a high level to begin with, but still improved on that. We attribute the low Fall scores to the COVID shutdown at the end of the 2019-20 school year and feel these scores validate our approach to closing the significant learning gaps that arose as a result of them.

What goal did the school set for achievement in mathematics?

The percentage of students exceeding the 50th percentile of math proficiency will increase between September of 2020 and May of 2021 by at least 10 percent.



We used the STAR Math assessment as it allowed us to have a nationally normed test that we could administer multiple times over the course of the school year. Given that Forward Exam results were not available from the 2019-20 school year we weren't able to assess year-to-year growth using that instrument.

Over the course of the year, the percentage of students exceeding the 50th percentile grew in the following manner: 6th grade: 42.9% (Fall) to 62.5% (Winter). 7th grade: 33.3% (Fall) to 57.1% (Winter). 8th Grade: 75% (Fall) to 66.6% (Winter). In other words we saw significant growth in all grade levels except 8th who already had such a high beginning score that the overall decrease was still within acceptable ranges given that the percentage of students at 50% mastery or higher was still higher than any other grade. We attribute the low Fall scores to the COVID shutdown at the end of the 2019-20 school year and feel these scores validate our approach to closing the significant learning gaps that arose as a result of them.

**SECTION IV: FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF CHARTER SCHOOLS**

There are no financial performance standards stipulated in the Charter contracts.

**SECTION V: OTHER CONTRACT TERMS AND EXPECTATIONS (OPTIONAL)**

NA

**SECTION VI: AUTHORIZER OPERATING COSTS**

To date, the District has not traced this information and therefore it has not been included in the financial statement.

**SECTION VII: SERVICES PROVIDED TO CHARTER SCHOOLS**

See completed Schedule of Charter School Authorizer Services and Costs.

**School District of Nekoosa**

**Section VI**

**SCHEDULE OF CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZER OPERATING COSTS**

**FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2021**

<b>OPERATING ACTIVITY</b>	<b>WUFAR OBJECT CODE</b>	<b>COST</b>
EMPLOYEE SALARIES	100	
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	200	
PURCHASED SERVICES	300	
NON-CAPITAL OBJECTS	400	
CAPITAL OBJECTS	500	
INSURANCE & JUDGEMENTS	700	
OTHER (REPLACE OTHER WITH AN ACTIVITY NAME)	900	
OTHER (REPLACE OTHER WITH AN ACTIVITY NAME)	900	
<b>TOTAL</b>		

**SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEKOOSA**

**SECTION VII**

**SCHEDULE OF CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZER SERVICES AND COSTS**

**FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2021**

<b>SERVICES PROVIDED</b>	<b>FUNCTION CODE</b>	<b>COST</b>
REGULAR CURRICULUM	120000	484,765
SPECIAL EDUCATION	150000	
HEALTH SERVICES	214000	
PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	215000	
CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT	221200	
INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF TRAINING	221300	1,380
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	230000	
BUILDING ADMINISTRATION	240000	7,022
BUSINESS SERVICES	252000	
GENERAL OPERATIONS	253000	
PUPIL TRANSPORTATION	256000	
TECHNOLOGY	266000	
OTHER SERVICES (REPLACE OTHER WITH A SERVICE)		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>493,167</b>