



SEEING FORWARD

———— CHARTER SCHOOL ————



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Who we serve:

Our Mission:

SEEING Forward Charter School provides an inclusive, personalized, project-based, community focused learning environment designed to support students who are looking for something different than traditionally designed classrooms, online, or a hybrid model.

Social - utilize restorative practices to address relationships

Emotional - engage in a deeper understanding of one's self

Educational- project based learning led by students

Individualized - personalized learning based on student choice

Nurturing - develop mind, body and community

for **G**raduation

Grades: 6th through 12th grade

Location: In-person instruction provided at Dodgeville High School for all SEEING Forward students.
Online provided from student, family, and staff agreed upon location.

Why did the Dodgeville School District create a charter school?



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For the past eight years, the Dodgeville School District has supported at-risk students through the SEEING Forward alternative education program, helping them stay on track for graduation. With the rise of online and at-home education, the district saw an opportunity to enhance and align resources to better support families with diverse educational needs.

By transitioning to SEEING Forward Charter School, the district aims to:

- **Expand Alternative Programming** – Increase options for secondary students with targeted professional development for staff, supported by a charter school grant.
- **Strengthen Online & Hybrid Learning** – Provide flexible, student-driven learning opportunities.
- **Specialize in Project-Based Learning** – Engage students through hands-on, real-world experiences.
- **Require Community Engagement** – Connect students with local organizations, businesses, and mentors for real-world learning.

This transition ensures personalized, innovative education while maintaining cost neutrality for the district. The charter school grant further enhances development and recruitment.



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Staffing

SEEING Forward Charter School Staffing Model:

- Staffing will be determined based on student enrollment as of April 30th each year.
- Current Enrollment: 30 students, supported by 1.5 staff members.
- Target Staffing Ratio: 1 staff member for every 20 students to maintain personalized support.
- The Dodgeville School District will provide staffing using existing district personnel.
- All content areas will have an appropriately licensed educator.

This model ensures flexibility while maintaining a high-quality, student-centered learning environment.



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Educational experience

Does SEEING Forward provide the same academic rigor and college/career preparation as Dodgeville High School?

Students must meet the same standards as outlined by the Dodgeville School District, earn a Dodgeville School District diploma, and have opportunities for college and career readiness through structured coursework, projects, and community-based experiences.

What if my child struggles with self-directed learning?

Teachers and advisors work closely with students to develop time management, goal-setting, and organizational skills. Structured check-ins, small groups, and direct instruction help students stay on track.



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Educational experience

How does SEEING Forward differ from Dodgeville Middle/High School in structure and learning style?

SEEING Forward offers a flexible, student-driven learning environment where students earn credits or grade level proficiency through project-based learning (PBL), online courses, and hybrid, in contrast to the traditional classroom structure with scheduled periods. Students at SEEING Forward use FASTBRIDGE assessments to measure academic performance, in addition to the ACT. SEEING Forward must demonstrate growth over its five-year contract to continue operating as a charter school in Wisconsin.

What is project-based learning (PBL) compared to traditional classroom learning?

PBL allows students to dive into topics that interest them, engaging with real-world problems while integrating multiple content areas. This approach fosters deeper learning and practical application, as opposed to traditional methods that often focus on separate, teacher-led subjects and scheduled lessons.

Project Based Learning Example



Project Overview:

Students will work in teams to design a sustainable town or neighborhood that addresses housing, transportation, energy, food production, and waste management. They will research real-world sustainability practices and propose solutions that reduce environmental impact while meeting the needs of the community.

Key Learning Objectives:

- **Science:** Renewable energy, ecosystems, human impact on the environment
- **Math:** Scale drawings, budgeting, resource allocation
- **Social Studies:** Urban planning, government policies, economic factors
- **ELA:** Researching and presenting findings, persuasive writing
- **21st Century Skills:** Collaboration, critical thinking, problem-solving

Project Based Learning

Example continued



Project Phases:

1. **Research & Planning**
 - Investigate sustainable living practices (solar energy, composting, green spaces).
 - Analyze real-world case studies of sustainable cities.
2. **Design & Development**
 - Sketch a **blueprint** or create a **3D model** (digital or physical) of their community.
 - Budget and plan how resources are distributed.
3. **Community Engagement & Expert Input**
 - Interview city planners, architects, or environmental scientists.
 - Conduct surveys on community needs and preferences.
4. **Presentation & Reflection**
 - Present their sustainable community design to classmates, teachers, and local officials.
 - Reflect on what worked, what could be improved, and how real-world implementation might happen.

Project Based Learning Example continued



Final Products:

- **Blueprint or 3D model** of the community
- **Presentation** (video, slideshow, or live pitch)
- **Written proposal** explaining their design choices

This project encourages **real-world problem-solving** and helps students see the connections between multiple subjects while developing critical thinking skills.

21st Century Skills (Collaboration, Critical Thinking, Problem-Solving)

- **Teamwork:** Collaborating in groups to design a sustainable town.
- **Innovation:** Finding creative solutions for food production, waste management, and renewable energy.
- **Problem-Solving:** Addressing real-world challenges like climate change, resource shortages, and urban expansion.

Project Based Learning

Example sample standards



Science Standards (NGSS - Next Generation Science Standards)

- **MS-PS3-4:** Plan an investigation to determine the relationships among energy transfer, heat, and efficiency of energy resources.

Math Standards (Common Core - 8th Grade Math Standards)

- **8.EE.C.8b:** Solve real-world systems of equations (e.g., calculating costs vs. energy savings in resource allocation).

Social Studies Standards (WI State Standards - Geography, Civics & Economics)

- **Econ1.a.m:** Explain how economic decisions impact individuals and communities.

ELA Standards (Common Core - Writing & Communication)

- **W.8.7:** Conduct short research projects to answer a question (e.g., how cities can reduce carbon footprints).



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Course offerings & schedule

Can my child take classes at both SEEING Forward and Dodgeville High School?

Students can take up to two classes at Dodgeville High School while being enrolled in SEEING Forward.

Does SEEING Forward offer AP, dual credit, or CTE courses like Dodgeville High School?

Students can take dual credit, CTE, and virtual AP courses through online platforms. Dodgeville High School courses are also available for students who want traditional AP, dual enrollment, or hands-on CTE experiences.

Will the start and end of the school days be the same in SEEING Forward & DMS/DHS?

For students taking the district school bus the days will start and end at the same time. However, for students with more **flexible learning plans**, their schedules can be adjusted based on **individualized agreements** between the student, their family, and SEEING Forward staff. This flexibility allows students to complete learning objectives in a way that best fits their needs.

SEEING Forward Middle vs High School Model



How will middle school differ from high school at SEEING Forward?

Middle school students will have a structured schedule with more teacher guidance and small-group instruction to help build strong foundational skills.

High school students will have a gradual release of a structured schedule as they demonstrate the capabilities of managing greater independence, working on self-directed projects while receiving ongoing mentorship and support from teachers.

Both levels focus on engagement, growth, and preparing students for future success through personalized, project-based learning, and community engagement.



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Course offerings & schedule

Can my child participate in sports, clubs, and extracurricular activities at Dodgeville High School?

SEEING Forward students have full access to Dodgeville School District sports teams, clubs, and activities.

Can I remain fully virtual?

Students enrolled in SEEING Forward may be fully virtual while having access to the SEEING Forward staff for additional support on their coursework. SEEING Forward students can still access all other opportunities that every student has while being enrolled in the Dodgeville School District. Students that are fully virtual will have to stay up to date on their course progress and credit attainment in order to maintain positive attendance.



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Graduation & post-high school readiness

Will my child receive a Dodgeville High School diploma?

All SEEING Forward students graduate with a Dodgeville School District diploma and can walk at DHS graduation.

Does SEEING Forward prepare students for college admissions, technical schools, and careers?

Students build critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, and technical skills, making them competitive for college, technical schools, apprenticeships, and the workforce.

Graduation & post-high school readiness



What work-based learning, internships, or community involvement opportunities are available?

Students can participate in youth apprenticeships and internships. SEEING Forward students are required to do job shadows and participate in community-based projects with local businesses and organizations. Students that attend Dodgeville Middle and High School students do not have to do community projects for graduation.

Governance Board vs School Board



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Charter schools have governance boards to provide autonomy, accountability, and stakeholder representation while ensuring compliance with their charter contract. They manage budgets, policies, and strategic planning while ensuring the school meets academic and financial goals. Wisconsin law also requires independent oversight from the District School Board, making governance boards essential for charter school accountability.

Governance Board representatives:

Ann Fillback Watt

Dan Prochaska

Michelle Latterell

Scott Storkson

Beth Mikrut



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Enrollment & logistics

How does enrollment work and can students switch back to DMS/DHS if needed?

Students enroll through SEEING Forward's application process and can switch back to Dodgeville Middle/High School at the quarter or semester break if they choose.

What is the student-teacher ratio at SEEING Forward?

The ratio varies based on whether a student is in virtual, hybrid, or project-based learning, but it typically remains around 20:1.

Are there any additional costs or requirements for SEEING Forward students?

Tuition-Free & Open to All: SEEING Forward is a public charter school, meaning it's free for all students. No additional costs. All resources are provided, and students remain part of the Dodgeville School District with access to all district services and activities.



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Enrollment & logistics

What other enrollment information do I need?

All students are encouraged to apply. Open Enrollment for Non-District Students: Students outside the Dodgeville School District must apply through Wisconsin's open enrollment process, deadline April 30th. [Go to this link to enroll.](#)

Informational Meeting & Orientation: Interested students and parents must attend a meeting and orientation before enrollment is finalized, ensuring a good fit for the program.

Lottery System: If more students apply than there are available spots, a lottery will determine enrollment.



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Questions?

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