

The Next Generation of Public Education in the Hortonville Area School District



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Waiting list for virtual charter school grows

May 12, 2010

The waiting list for students wanting to attend virtual charter schools under the state's open enrollment program grew by about 300 students this year, to 1,756 students, according to the state Department of Public Instruction.

Overall, more than, **7,000 students applied to attend one of the state's 14 virtual charter schools using open enrollment** which allows students to attend any school district in the state where there is room.

Under a 5,250-student cap enacted by the Legislature as part of compromise legislation that would allow the state to study the effects of these schools, which deliver all of their instruction through computers to students' homes, not everyone got an immediate placement.

Among this year's applicants, 2,571 current students and 284 of their siblings were granted entry to the schools while 2,395 new students were randomly selected to occupy the remaining available slots, DPI spokesman Patrick Gasper said.

Although not predicting how many of the students on this year's waiting list might eventually land a spot in one of the schools, Gasper noted that all the students on last year's waiting list **were told by August** that they could attend a virtual school.

Eventual enrollment in virtual charter schools for the 2009-'10 school year by open-enrollment students only **amounted to 3,635 students**, well below the cap and the number of initial applicants, he said.

Some U.S. hospitals outsourcing work

Shortage of radiologists spurs growing telemedicine trend

When a patient in Altoona, Pa., needs an emergency brain scan in the middle of the night, a doctor in Bangalore, India, is asked to interpret the results. Spurred by a shortage of U.S. radiologists and an exploding demand for more sophisticated scans to diagnose scores of ailments, doctors at Altoona Hospital and dozens of other American hospitals are finding that offshore outsourcing works even in medicine.



An Open Letter to Educators

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-P2PGGeTOA4>

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Factor #1

1. **Students Seek Alternatives to Traditional Public School**
 - **Charter schools:** 30 in CESA 6
 - **Home schooling:** 2,418 students (2008/09); 3rd highest CESA in WI
 - **Private schools:** 15,425 students (2009/10); 2nd highest CESA in WI
 - **Online schools**
 - Growth from 265 pupils (2002/03) to 2,951 (2007/08) FT
 - 7.6% of these are resident students to the chartering district
 - Predicted by 2019 over 50% of high school courses will be delivered online
 - China: '99-2006 grew from 4 mil online to 137 mil
 - India: developing Eng courseware as an export
 - Singapore: 100% of Secondary use online learning
 - Dept. of Ed meta-analysis found that, on average, students in online learning conditions performed better than those receiving face-to-face

Factor #2

2. Work and Social Interactions are Dominated by Technology

- *Smartphones*
- *Social Media - Facebook, Twitter, Myspace*
- *Streaming video on demand*
- *Non-stop music, video or read-aloud books*
- *Real-time connections any time of day or night*
- *Access to information that WAS only accessible to experts*
- *4.2 million Americans work from home; some 20 million do so part-time*

Factor #3

3. Widening Gap Between Expectations Placed and Systems Ability To Deliver

- *Federal education policy has set higher and higher performance targets*
- *“All” students; 100% graduation*
- *Parents want personal attention from great teachers*
- *Global demographics and economic realities demand the best of the best*
- *“Show me the data!”*
- *Students coming to school with more complex social and behavioral needs*
- *Historically remarkable success of the American public school model is its own worst enemy*
 - *Clings to old structures and practices even though they no longer match the needs of students today*
 - *Community wants school like they had and know*

Factor #4

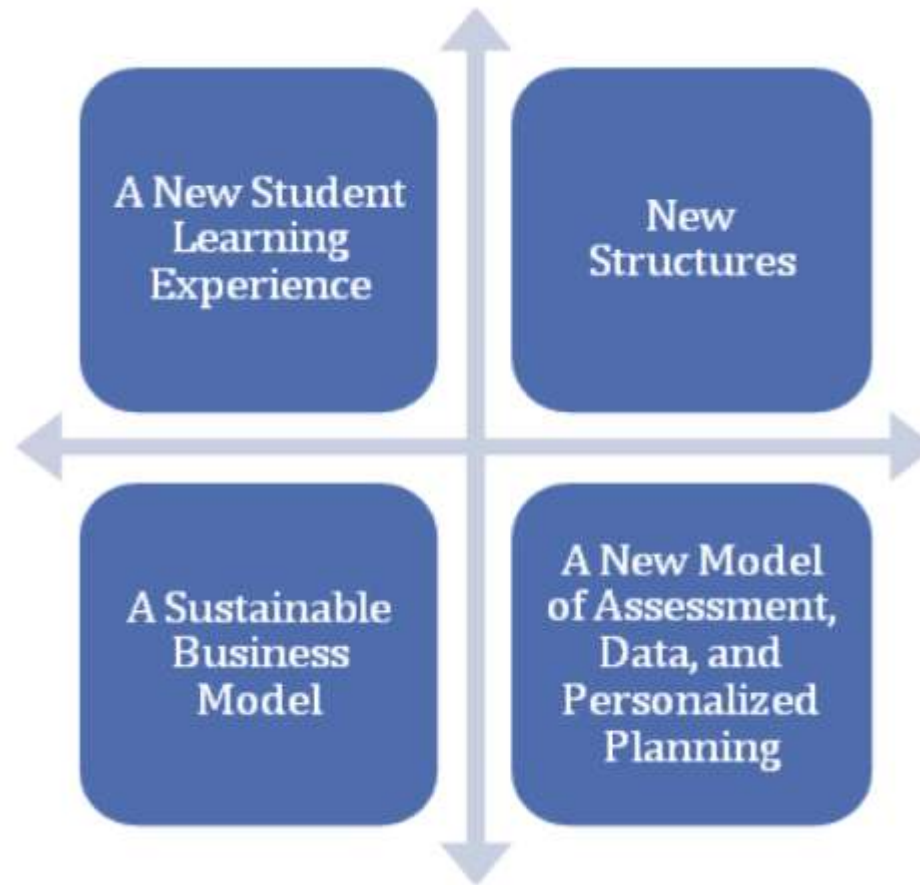
4. Today's Financial Model is Unsustainable

- *Historical assumption of school revenues rising to meet rising school expenses is no more*
- *Communities are more resistant at the very time expectations are at their highest*
- *Past 15 years (95/96-09/10) WI saw*
 - *50.42% increase in levy - CESA 6: 36%*
 - *39.25% decrease in tax rate - CESA 6: 39.4%*
- *WI ranks 18th in the nation for per-pupil funding (2009)*
- *Wisconsin's next biennium to see a shortfall in excess of \$2 billion, the largest deficit per capita in the nation*

Plan or Be Planned For...



Four Design Keys





FUTURE AHEAD

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