



Happy Holidays!

Do you feel the years fly by as fast as we do? As another year comes to a close, we are grateful for each of you and your commitment to the students in Florida. Each newsletter is a testimony to the great work you do each day and we are inspired by the creativity and collaboration that you do with your virtual students and their families. Thank you for a job well done!

We hope you take some time to be with family and friends. May the joy of the season be remembered in the memories you make. Have a blessed holiday season and a Happy New Year!

Sandy, Nicolle, Lisa and Savannah

Fuel Ed Sponsors FLDVIPN

Fuel Education is happy to be a sponsor of the Florida District Virtual Instruction Program Network (FLDVIPN) conference for 2018! The three day conference hosted at The Florida Hotel and Conference Center will be an event featuring exhibitors, speakers, and participants that are excited about virtual learning and the impact it is having in the world of education. FLDVIPN's motto is "Excellence Through Innovation." Fuel Education is proud to partner with FLDVIPN this year to share practices, teacher experiences, and successful resources to be a part of the future of education. Fuel Education looks forward to learning from many colleagues throughout the virtual education world to gain a greater knowledge to share with students and staff!

Submitted by: Kristen Randolph

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Leon #WFSUVoicesThatInspire



Annie Pham is a senior at Leon County Virtual School and is dual-enrolled at Tallahassee Community College. Annie was invited to participate in an NPR radio spot. Her faith and experience have instilled in her a sense of need and love to help other people! For more voices visit: wfsu.org/radio/voices-that-inspire/
Submitted by: Jessica Lowe

Clay Welcomes New Members!



Clay Virtual Academy inducted 12 new members to the National Honor Society and 11 new members to the National Beta Club in a candlelight ceremony. Congratulations to the students who were selected for their academic achievement and their desire to lead by serving others!

Submitted by: Lori Theus

St. Johns Had A Day Of Fun!



St. Johns Virtual School students were treated to a day of fun at Sykes and Cooper Farms where they participated in a corn maze, tractor rides, and bounce house activities! They were also able to visit the animals, learn about the importance of the farming community, and the benefits of using locally produced resources. St. Johns Virtual School students will be participating in Game Day and a Winter Celebration!
Submitted by: Michael Eisen

PAEC Instructs Puerto Rico Students!



PAEC Virtual Teacher, Jorge Bauzo, instructs 80 Puerto Rican students that were impacted or displaced by Hurricane Maria, which struck the island in September. As a volunteer teacher for the hurricane relief project, Bauzo is instructing his virtual class in Spanish for Spanish speakers!
Submitted by: Bonnie Wertenberger

Lee's First Semester Success!

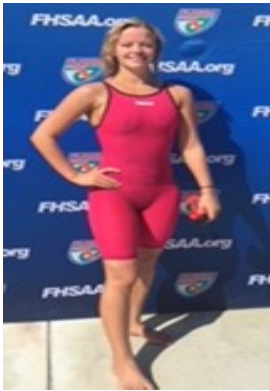
The 2017-2018 school year at Lee Virtual School started with a packed agenda which continued throughout the first semester! In August, new and returning students attended two First Day activities – one “how to” session and a check point a few days later to ensure everyone was off to a great start! Parents and students were invited to an Open House during the second week which provided opportunities to meet with teachers.



The addition of a designated activities time during the month has increased participation in all clubs. Students participate in board games club, art club, Spanish club, digital design club, and honor societies meetings once a month. Academic Days provide students the opportunity to work with teachers according to subject area.



This is the first year that ALL Lee Virtual School students, from Kindergarten to 12th Grade, received Chromebooks to facilitate learning! While online learning is challenging, having equipment provided for every student can amplify the potential for student success!



Phoebe Langius

Lee Virtual School's first semester also included accolades for three students. Senior Kaela Ruby was the 8th top bowler in the state tournament and led her team to 19th place out of 226 teams. Junior Phoebe Langius placed 19th in the state in the 500 freestyle swim. The third student earning praise is Senior Kaitlyn Calcagino, who received a “Do the Right Thing” award from the Lee County Sheriff's Office for her work with special needs adults at an East Lee County Hurricane Shelter. Congratulations to all three stars!

Osceola Celebrates Art Winner!



Osceola Virtual School celebrates their K¹² National Art Winner! First grader Bayan M. won second place with a wonderful drawing called My Two Cultures! Congratulations!

Submitted by: Enid Rentas



St. Lucie #VirtuallyUnstoppable

The core of St. Lucie’s mission is to engage all students by enhancing learning through a variety of virtual and live experiences! Instructors are keen on tracking and monitoring student progress and are ready to encourage students toward their academic goals. With engagement as the focal point, instructors interact with students through phone, email, instant messaging, and web conferencing.



Mosaic Digital Academy also provides in-person opportunities for full-time students. The OWL Team found a unique "Live Day" to be an essential element in student success. With seven highly qualified full-time instructors rotating on each live day, the focus is on providing goal setting, tutoring on demand, and standards-based instructional lessons, personalizing OWL students' learning experience for optimum success!

St. Lucie is seeing a rise in live day attendance as they near the final days of semester one. OWL students are polled at the end of each Live Day on campus. There is a consistent rating of 4.3 out of 5 stars (266 polled to date). The continued positive rating is reassuring to the OWL Team!

Submitted by: Jeanne Ziemba



LIVE DAY STATISTICS

Average # of students attending Live days weekly:	55
Top 4 reasons students attend live days (Ranked highest to lowest):	#1 Behind pace in 1 or more courses #2 Distraction-free environment #3 Instructional Assistance #4 To work alongside peers
Students set goals at the start of their live day sessions based on their pace guides for each course.	95% of those polled on Live days stated they met their goals for the day.
Live day attendees are more likely to attend due to being behind pace.	74% are behind pace when they attend live days. 26% are on pace when they attend live days.
On a scale of 1-5, Tell us how we did at giving you a good learning experience today. (1 "Not so Good"), 2 ("It was ok"), 3 ("Pretty good day"), 4 ("I felt successful") or 5 ("Excellent day"),	

FLVS Trips and Community Service!

Florida Virtual School (FLVS) Flex Elementary students from across the state enjoyed field trips at a variety of educational sites including the Orlando Science Center, WonderWorks, Kennedy Space Center, Tampa Glazer Museum, Jacksonville Museum of Science and History, West Palm Beach's Yesteryear Village, Pensacola's Naval Aviation Museum, Bok Tower Gardens, and the Gulf Specimen Marine Lab. FLVS thanks all the families and staff who made this such a fun day!



FLVS Full-Time had a great turnout at the recent community service projects held across the state! Students and their families met with classmates and teachers at 17 different locations to give back; washing cars for law enforcement, adopting a fire station, spending time at an assisted living facility, collecting food for local food pantries, cleaning up parks and beaches, and more!



FLVS Full-Time high school students toured colleges across the state for College Visit Week. Here are a few photos of the students visiting USF St. Petersburg, Florida Atlantic University, and Saint Leo University!



Submitted by: Diana Furey

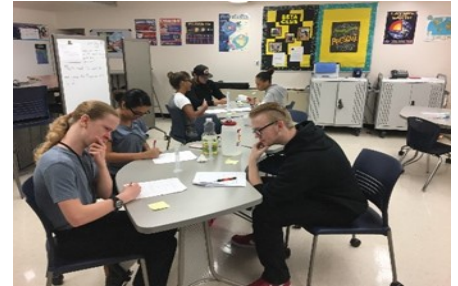


Duval Virtual Instruction Academy

The Duval Virtual Instruction Academy (DVIA) Beta Club volunteered with the North Florida School of Special Education's Berry Good Farms. Berry Good Farms has an extensive garden on the school's campus that markets its products at local supermarkets to raise additional funds for their school program. Students had the opportunity to work side by side with the North Florida School students, many of whom have profound exceptional education needs, to weed blueberry and ginger beds, trim mulberry trees, and plant onions. Community Service is an integral part of the Beta Club's mission along with participating in honors activities such as exploring college readiness activities.



Students from DVIA's Biology and Environmental Science classes came together at the live campus with their instructor, Mrs. Cecil, for a hands-on lab investigating the properties of water. Students practiced inquiry based learning by predicting the outcomes of various experiments showing cohesion, adhesion, and water's polar nature. Bringing students together for interactive activities can make the knowledge more 'real' for virtual students!



Duval Virtual held its fourth Elementary and Middle School Spelling Bee this fall. As always, families, staff, and participants thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the process! The spelling bee allows students to build confidence in speaking in front of a crowd and taking part in the competitive process. It also showcases the fantastic spelling skills that students are developing in their virtual curriculum platform. Many students were spelling words up to five grades above their current grade level! Way to go DVIA students!



Submitted by: Kristin Smith



K¹² Florida Virtual Instruction

K¹² Florida virtual instruction students, families, and staff have enjoyed a semester packed full of learning and fun! Face-to-face outings were held around the state to promote hands-on learning and provide real life experiences for students. These events carved out a time for learners to step out of their home classrooms and meet other virtual school students and their faculty. K¹² recently gathered in West Palm Beach, Tampa, St. Augustine, and Milton. Each quarter, teachers plan these events and look forward to meeting the students. Staff at K¹² know the importance of building a community of support for families. Providing regular events across the state is one of the ways to get families connected!



There is no doubt that arts in education is important, and that's why K¹² hosts an annual nationwide art contest that offers students a fun way to explore their creative side and an opportunity to be recognized for their talents! The Art Contest is hosted every year and this year's contest resulted in a number of impressive submissions all illustrating the theme of "Celebrate Culture." K¹² Florida Virtual Instruction is extremely proud of the winners and are very impressed with their artistic talents!

First Grade – Second Place

Bayan M., Osceola Virtual School, *My Two Cultures*



Second Grade – Third Place

Aminata A., Miami Dade Online, *For the Culture*



K¹² Florida Virtual Instruction was represented at the 2017 iNacol Symposium. They had opportunities to network with other leaders in the industry, experts, and educators that all contribute to transforming education. K¹² was able to meet with some Florida districts from across the state and gain insight into each program's unique model, and look for solutions and opportunities to improve student outcomes. K¹² is excited to continue a partnership with the Florida districts and to personalize learning for students across the state!

Submitted by: Kristen Randolph



Broward Makes Learning Fun!

It's a winter wonderland at Broward Virtual School (BVS)! BVS kick started writing and math workshops for the 2017-2018 school year. Full-time students arrive on campus once a month to experience face-to-face time with their teachers and peers. The teachers have planned activities that allow students to practice writing and math skills to prepare them for the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA). This day of learning is also a day of fun! After the October workshop, the Science Department offered a live lab on chemical reaction and for the month of November, and the World Language Department celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month. The students had the opportunity to learn about 21 Spanish-speaking countries, enjoy a wonderful Mexican lunch, and learn about holidays and crafts in Mexico. Teachers, students, and parents are looking forward to continuing fun activities after the holidays! From the BVS family to yours: Have a Happy New Year!!



Submitted by: Antonette McGinty



The next newsletter will be published in March. Please submit articles and pictures to VirtualEducation@fldoe.org