



the Virtual View | Fall 2020

Welcome Back!

Our newsletter looks different as we're sure your new school year does too. We know most of you did not get the restful summer that you were expecting. As COVID-19 continues to shadow our everyday life, you have been inundated with families that have chosen to turn to virtual education programs/schools to keep their children safe. We appreciate all the hard work and long hours that you are willing to put in to make sure our Florida students to continue to have the best education possible.

We would like to take a moment to welcome Dr. Dre Graham, the new Executive Director of the Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice. He is the 2020 Florida Teacher of the Year. He oversees charter, home education, scholarship programs and virtual education. Dr. Graham can be reached at Dakeyan.graham@fldoe.org for any questions or assistance you may need.

Our office has hosted Meet and Greet calls with the virtual coordinators in a few districts. If you are interested in chatting with us, please email Lisa Luna at lisa.luna@fldoe.org. Always know that we are an email or phone call away to assist you.

Sandy, Stephen, Lisa and Lilly

Education is the difference between wishing you could help other people and being able to help them.—Russell M. Nelson



Florida Virtual School (FLVS)

Florida Virtual School has been supporting Florida school districts for more than 23 years, and this year is no exception. Welcome to the 2020-21 school year! This has been a challenging year and to help parents and families, as well as administrators and school districts, FLVS created the award-winning [Online Learning Community](#) as an educational resource. Need some back to school fun? Check out some free coloring and activity pages and back to school tips at <https://blog.flvs.net/>.

FLVS Launches 2 CTE Programs of Study & 5 New High School Courses

Florida Virtual School proudly launched two new Career and Technical Education Programs of Study, Agricultural Communications and Applied Cybersecurity, for high school students this year along with five new courses:

- American Sign Language 2
- Agriscience Foundations 1
- Computer & Network Security Fundamentals
- Meteorology Honors
- Environmental Science Featuring Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation (Coming Summer 2021)

To learn more about “What’s New” at FLVS, families should visit <https://www.flvs.net/new-courses>.

FLVS Connects Students with Club Activities

While this school year looks different for many, FLVS students—whether in elementary, middle, or high school—can join a virtual club to explore their extracurricular interests outside their classes. FLVS is hosting two Virtual Club Rush events in September to showcase the 53 clubs it offers. To learn more, visit <https://www.flvs.net/student-resources/clubs-activities/clubs>.

Submitted by Suzan Kurdak



K12: Virtual Instruction – The New Normal

COVID-19 has changed how we work, play, make purchases, and of course, families' decisions on education; therefore it is no surprise that we have seen great enrollment growth in our Florida K12 program.

In order to help families who are new to virtual education, we have provided various opportunities to attend live sessions and learn how to maneuver through our platforms. Families also have had the opportunity to ask questions regarding the virtual school process. We call these Engage Sessions. Parents and students alike are invited to attend and obtain a clearer picture regarding what virtual education has to offer.

Although this school year looks a bit different, we are full steam ahead and looking forward to a great year!

Submitted by Odalys Rodriguez

What The First Day of School Looks Like for FLVS Students





Resources for School Districts

The Virtual Education Office continues to support the virtual education administrators throughout the state. A great repository of resources specifically tailored to district administration can be found at this web address: <http://fldoe.org/schools/school-choice/virtual-edu/district-resources/> .

You can find general FAQs most commonly asked by administrators, Online Course and Virtual Instruction Program provider related topics, database manuals, memos sent out by the Florida Department of Education related to virtual education, and much more! There is a wealth of knowledge found here to help you in your endeavors to serve your students and their families of Florida. We encourage you to bookmark this webpage for ease of access in the future.

Information on the FOCC

Happy Fall to Everyone!

The FOCC continues to be a valuable tool for teachers, students and parents to find courses they are looking for with the filters that make it very user friendly! I hope you are all using the catalog as well as updating it when you add/edit your course offerings and/or providers throughout the year. We have done an amazing job to make it the catalog that it is today! We will be communicating with you in the near future for completion and passage rates as well as for evaluative feedback codes for students and teachers to rate their course experience as both of these functions are statutorily required.

Thanks to all of you for everything you do every day for our students!