



any time, any place, any path, any pace™

FLVS Mission

Our commitment is to deliver a high quality, technology-based education that provides the skills and knowledge students need for success in the 21st Century.

FLVS Vision

Transforming education and creating possibilities for learners worldwide.

FLVS Credo

- The student is the driving force behind every decision we make.
- We never lose sight of the student and the individuals who support our students.
- We are an educational organization that maximizes learning.
- Our primary measures of success are customer loyalty and student achievement.
- We operate as a visionary, entrepreneurial organization with minimal infrastructure.
- Integrity and trust are at the heart of the organization.
- We plan ahead for the future rather than becoming comfortable with the present.
- Outstanding teamwork is the foundation of our success.
- FLVS is an organization devoted to providing an empowering environment for educators and encourages life balance and professional growth.

"I am a proud student at Florida Virtual School. This is my third year with FLVS, and I am loving every minute of it. I have been on student panels, a focus group, and have spoken to legislative representatives to support my school. I have done all of this with honor and pride, as FLVS deserves it. My teachers do not care if it's eight in the morning or ten at night. They will stay with me on the phone until I understand the curriculum or a certain problem. Being able to work at my own pace whenever I want is wonderful. Mrs. Young has created the school of the future. She has enabled a way for students of all scenarios to go to school with the best education, hand-picked teachers, and a flexible school schedule. But most of all, Mrs. Young has made it so school isn't something I have to do, it's something I want to do. Florida Virtual School is MY school."

- *Angel, student*

"Improving public schools and giving students opportunities to expand and enhance their skills are equally important goals for the State Legislature. Florida Virtual School is an example of how we can more efficiently give all students a high quality education."

- *President of the Senate Jeff Atwater*

Florida Virtual School - Mission Statement

Our commitment is to deliver a high-quality, technology-based education that provides the skills and knowledge students need for success in the 21st Century.

A Winning Program

- Recognized national online learning leader
- Winner of numerous national and international awards
- Public education expertise and accountability
- One of the highest completion rates in the industry
- Funded only when student successfully completes course
- Belief in content and concept mastery - each student learns differently at varied paces
- Students consistently earn higher grades, receive better FCAT scores, and achieve higher marks on AP exams (Florida TaxWatch 2005-06, 2006-07)

Why Students Take FLVS Courses

- Courses not available at brick and mortar schools
- Learning recovery
- Hospital/homebound
- Personal preference
- Schedule flexibility
- Senior graduation needs/accelerated graduation
- 7th period course credit
- Earn college credit
- Individualization
- Work at own pace
- Gain 21st Century/global learning skills

Student Enrollment

- Enrollment is open to public, private, and homeschool students
- Each student averages 2 enrollments per year

Course Offerings

- FLVS offers over 95 courses, including core subjects, world languages, electives, honors, and Advanced Placement
- Conspiracy Code - the first immersive, 3D game series teaching core subjects (developed with 360Ed)
- Courses are accepted for credit and are transferable

Delivery of Instruction

- Courses delivered over the Internet
- Variety of web-based, technology-based, and traditional resources
- Teachers communicate with students via phone, email, online chats, instant messaging, and discussion forums

FLVS Instructors

- Possess valid teaching certificate
- Certified in subject matter
- Work one-on-one to personalize each student's learning experience
- Available from 8am-8pm
- Trained by the country's most seasoned online learning experts
- Over 100 National Board Certified Instructors

Academic Integrity

- Work submitted to TurnItIn.com
- Multiple discussion based assessments conducted
- Teachers have option of conducting face-to-face exams
- Courses contain test banks, questions rotate for each measured standard
- Individualized instruction allows teachers to get to know students and their caliber of work
- Proactive Academic Integrity education for parents and students

Florida Virtual School - any time, any place, any path, any pace™

Florida Virtual School (FLVS) is an established leader in developing and providing virtual K-12 education solutions to students all over Florida, the U.S. and the world. A nationally recognized e-Learning model and recipient of numerous awards, FLVS was founded in 1997 and was the country's first, state-wide Internet-based public high school. Today, FLVS serves full-time and part-time students in grades K-12 and provides a variety of custom solutions for schools and districts to meet student needs.

Accreditation/Standards

- The Commission on International and Trans-Regional Accreditation
- The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
- All courses are NCAA approved
- All courses meet or exceed Florida Sunshine State and National Standards

Awards

- 2009 CODiE Award
- 2009 USDLA Best Practices Award (also awarded in 2000, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2007)
- 2008 Better Government Award
- 2007 EdNET Impact Award
- 2006 EdNET Pioneer Award
- 2004 Excellence in IT Leadership from IT Florida
- 2003 Business Week "Top 50 WebSmart Organization"
- 2000 Canadian Association Distance Education

Custom Solutions

- Florida Virtual School (FLVS): 6-12 traditional supplemental model, available worldwide
- Florida Virtual School Franchise: District partnership, available in FL
- Florida Virtual School Full-Time (FLVSFT): Full-time 6-12 program, available in FL
- Florida Virtual School's Connections Academy (FLVSCA): Full-time K-8 program, available in FL

Services for Schools & Districts

- Comprehensive program allows easy implementation
- Consultants that are experts in your area's specific needs
- Craft a long-term plan to grow virtual and blended learning options
- State-of-the-art content, engaging multi-media lessons
- Lessons developed by professional curriculum specialists
- Program management
- Ongoing professional development
- Fill gaps with FLVS teachers and courses
 - Honors/AP courses
 - Avenues for learning recovery
 - Solutions for alternative schools and homeschool students

Customers

- 67 Florida districts
- 45 states
- 34 countries

**For Fiscal year 2008-2009
(07/01/2008 through 03/31/2009)
Through 3rd quarter**

Half-Credit Course Completions	96,398
Physical Students Completed	52,545

Student Enrollments by School Type:

Public & Charter	64%
Home School	29%
Private	7%

Student Enrollment by Race

Caucasian	64%
Minority	36%

Student Enrollment by Gender

Female	58%
Male	42%

Enrollments in Priority Schools

Rural	8%
Low-Performing	16%
High-Minority	17%

**Average # of Online Enrollments
per Student**

2

Advanced Placement Course Enrollments

Total AP enrollments	1,772
Minority student enrollments	43%

AP Enrollments in Priority Schools

Rural	3%
Low-Performing	16%
High-Minority	27%

Top Courses by Enrollment

Personal Fitness	6%
Algebra I	5%
Life Management Skills	5%
English I	5%
Spanish I	5%
Driver Education /Traffic Safety	4%
Geometry	4%
World History	4%
American History	4%
Biology I	4%

Top District Participation by Enrollment

Orange	9%
Hillsborough	9%
Palm Beach	8%
Miami-Dade	6%
Broward	6%

Number of Enrollments

Served to Date by FLVS Franchises	6,886
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**Number of Out-of-State
Students Served to Date
(Florida Virtual Global School)**

834

Staff Demographics

Total number of staff	1104
Who live outside FL	74
Who live in FL	1030
Full Time teachers	764
Adjunct teachers	57
Staff with National Board Certifications	113

* Enrollments are measured in half-credits that have successfully completed

* Based on fiscal year and final status date

**For Fiscal year 2007-2008
(07/01/2007 through 06/30/2008)
Through 4th quarter**

Half-Credit Course Completions	116,041
Physical Students Completed	54,402

Student Enrollments by School Type:

Public & Charter	66%
Home School	27%
Private	7%

Student Enrollment by Race

Caucasian	66%
Minority	34%

Student Enrollment by Gender

Female	58%
Male	42%

Enrollments in Priority Schools

Rural	9%
Low-Performing	16%
High-Minority	17%

**Average # of Online Enrollments
per Student**

2

Advanced Placement Course Enrollments

Total AP enrollments	2,519
Minority student enrollments	38%

AP Enrollments in Priority Schools

Rural	5%
Low-Performing	14%
High-Minority	26%

Top Courses by Enrollment

Personal Fitness	6%
Life Management Skills	6%
Spanish I	5%
English I	4%
Algebra I	4%
World History	4%
American History	4%
Biology I	4%
Fitness Lifestyle Design	3%
Driver Education /Traffic Safety	3%

Top District Participation by Enrollment

Orange	9%
Palm Beach	8%
Hillsborough	7%
Miami-Dade	7%
Duval	5%

Number of Enrollments

Served to Date by FLVS Franchises 10,672

**Number of Out-of-State
Students Served to Date
(Florida Virtual Global School)**

1,963

Staff Demographics

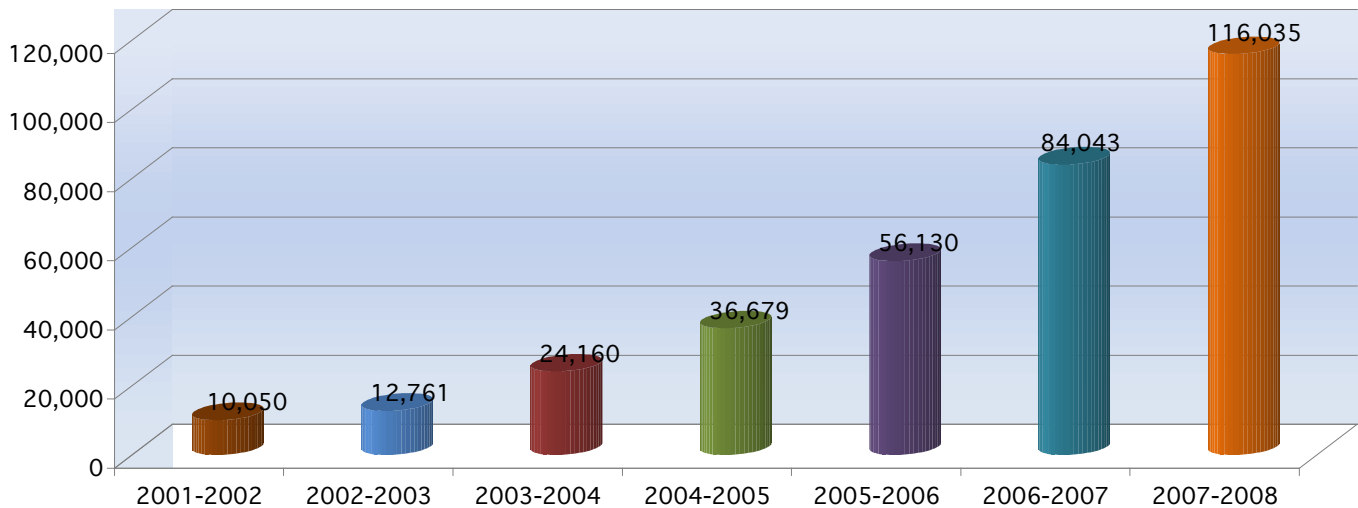
Total number of staff	766
Full Time teachers	529
Adjunct teachers	29
Staff with National Board Certifications	82

* Enrollments are measured in half-credits that have successfully completed

* Based on fiscal year and final status date

FLVS Completion History

As of April 9, 2009



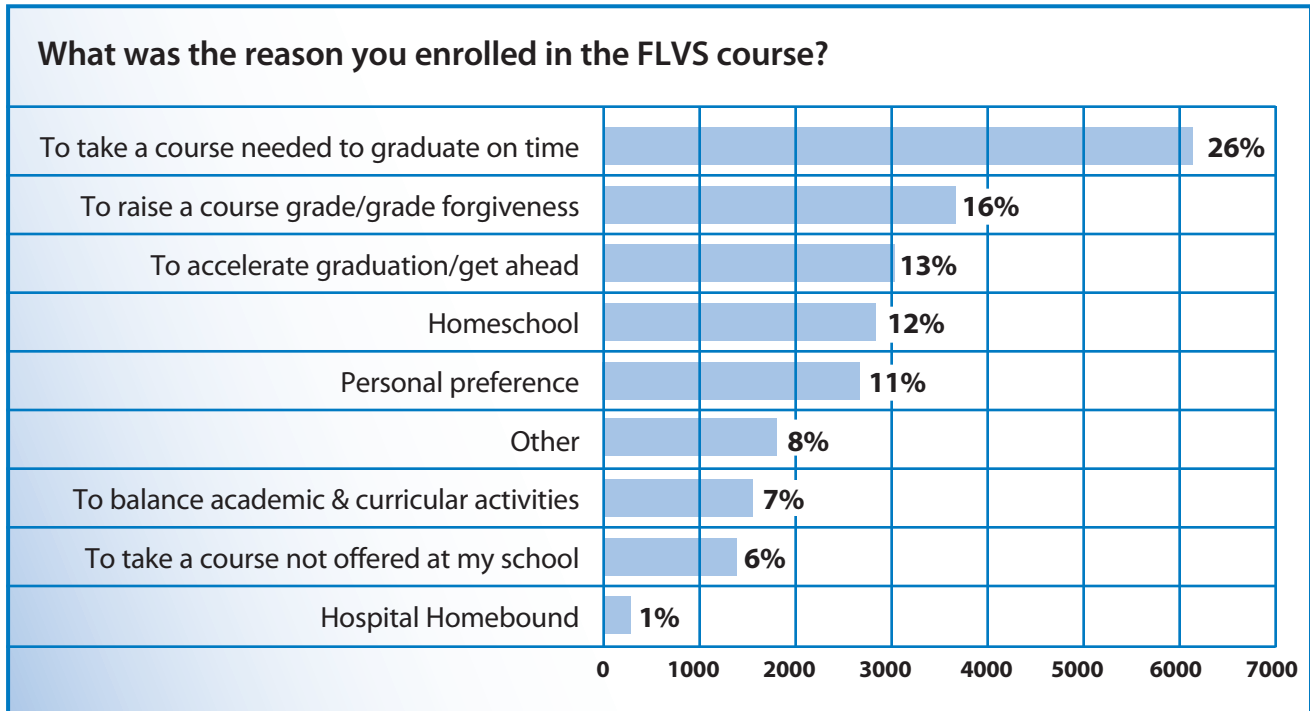
FLVS completions are measured as half-credit enrollments each school year.

"My name is Juan and I just finished taking AP Macroeconomics with FLVS. FLVS instructors are characterized by excellence, and Mrs. Miller is not an exception. Not only did she greatly assist me while I was taking the course, but she also provided me with help with non-course related questions. She gladly helped me when I asked for information about colleges and tips for getting a job. Furthermore, Mrs. Miller's comments on my assignments helped me prepare for the AP exam. She truly understands the online academic environment."

- Juan, student

"As a parent and fellow educator, I want to express my profound appreciation regarding the exceptional quality of my daughter's FLVS learning experience. Dana's enthusiasm for formal education has returned after several years absence. During these months enrolled in this unorthodox, but supportive, institution, my daughter has worked the hardest she has ever had to work. All of her classes have presented thoroughly challenging and creative curriculum, and the support of this curriculum includes not only 'best practices' instruction, but some of the most attentive and positive teachers!"

- Frances Havey, parent



Twenty-six percent (26%) of students indicated that they enrolled in a FLVS course to graduate on time, while sixteen percent (16%) needed it to raise a course grade or for grade forgiveness. Thirteen percent (13%) wanted to accelerate their graduation. Homeschool students, students who struggle with hectic schedules, students whose schools don't offer certain courses, and hospital homebound students are other examples of how FLVS caters to students with different needs.

“Our schools are a critical component to our state’s long-term economic growth. Leveraging technology and certified, committed teachers, Florida Virtual School is providing all students with access to a high-quality education.”
- Senator JD Alexander

“After two years and two children in your courses, I find you to be an excellent motivator and a true educator. I am convinced, without reservation, you symbolize the purpose of education. At FLVS, I have experienced educators dedicated to the passion of transferring big concepts to kids. Concepts like time management without hassle, pace and development without pressure or stagnation, and self generation without bombardment. These seem to be the necessary ingredients in creating kids who are capable of becoming their ‘greatest selves.’ I love it, respect it, and want everyone to know that you helped my kids help themselves to learning. I can see it, feel it, hear it . . . their ‘greatest selves’ are emerging.”
- Leigh, parent

// FLVS students consistently perform at or above their counterparts on the FCAT and on AP exams.//

Florida TaxWatch Report on Florida Virtual School, 2007

In the 2007-2008 school year, Florida Virtual School served over 63,675 completed students, and successfully delivered over 137,450 half-credit course completions.* We serve every kind of student imaginable, yet, our completion rates remain between 80% and 90%, proving that a wide variety of students can succeed with individualization, personal care, and a flexible pace.

For instance, in 2006-2007, FLVS students who self-reported taking courses for credit recovery had a passing rate of 90.2%, similar to the 92.1% passing rate for the entire FLVS student population.

At the same time, minority students accounted for 39% of all AP enrollments. FLVS is dedicated to providing open doors and abundant support, including exam fee payment, to all students interested in AP.

No matter what the student’s level, the learning experience captivates their interest, giving them a reason and desire to keep coming back. A first-rate staff and engaging curriculum are at the core.

* FLVS does not follow a traditional school calendar. As of October 1st, 2008, over 60,000 half-credit enrollments are still active from the 2007-2008 school year.

Algebra I	43%
Algebra I A	43%
Algebra I B	38%
Algebra II	39%
Biology I	37%
Chemistry I	35%
English I	43%
English II	33%
Geometry	37%

“During the school year of 2007-08, Dunedin High School graduated 405 students. We believe that this number is a direct reflection on the services you provide our students and the students across the world. Throughout their senior year, 87 students took a total of 151 courses through FLVS. By having this option, many more students graduated with their class then would have been able to through ‘conventional’ methods. As an Instructional Leader, I work with students on a daily basis that, for one reason or another, fall behind in credits. FLVS provides these students with the hope and chance to graduate with their classmates. Thank you for what you do for the students of Dunedin High School!!”

- Pinellas County Assistant Principal

“The wave of the future for education is going to be virtual education in America, and I want Florida to be one of the leaders. FLVS is probably the best delivery system in the U.S. for virtual education.”

- Senator Stephen Wise

Proven and Engaging Curriculum & Instruction

To help every student achieve, we provide—

- Remarkable choice in time, pace, and place of learning
- Diagnostics to determine prior knowledge
- “Chunked” content
- Discussion based assessments
- Wide choices in assessment options
- Bank of enrichment and alternative activities for teachers
- Rigorous, media-rich environment
- Individualized, high-touch engagement

Look at the many ways FLVS students collaborate -

- Eight online clubs, including honor societies
- Peer tutoring
- Online fairs on everything from Shakespeare to world hunger, literacy, and global economics
- The College Hub: a place to meet with admissions experts and prepare for college

How FLVS AP Students Fare Online

AP COURSE	NATIONAL	STATE	FLVS
AP Art History	61.2 %	46.2 %	75.4 %
AP Biology	60.8 %	45.4 %	69.6 %
AP Calculus AB	58.8 %	52.8 %	68.0 %
AP Computer Science A	56.6 %	41.5 %	86.7 %
AP Eng. Lang. & Comp.	58.8 %	52.5 %	54.0 %
AP Eng. Lit. & Comp.	61.1 %	51.9 %	59.6 %
AP Macroeconomics	55.0 %	33.3 %	50.7 %
AP Microeconomics	64.6 %	36.0 %	53.9 %
AP U.S. Government & Politics	51.8 %	35.1 %	61.0 %
AP U.S. History	53.2 %	40.5 %	32.5 %
Overall Averages	58.1 %	43.5 %	61.1 %

“A student’s score on an Advanced Placement (AP) exam is a strong, independent indicator for determining comparative effectiveness between instruction in virtual and traditional school environments.”

Florida TaxWatch Report, 2007



In November 2007, funded through BellSouth Foundation, the Florida TaxWatch Center for Educational Performance and Accountability issued “Final Report: A Comprehensive Assessment of Florida Virtual School.” This was an in-depth examination of the viability of Florida Virtual School as a credible alternative to traditional schooling with regards to both student achievement outcomes and cost-effectiveness.

The report presents key findings from TaxWatch’s research and comprehensive analysis, completed in order to answer two fundamental questions about FLVS’ efficacy:

- **How does student achievement by FLVS students compare with that of students in traditional brick-and-mortar schools?**
- **Is instruction via FLVS a cost-effective approach?**

After looking at multiple data sets, the group concluded, “Florida Virtual School earned high marks in both.”¹

According to TaxWatch’s research, Florida Virtual School (FLVS) students have had high academic success in two critical areas of measurement: Test scores and grades earned in courses. Their study found that over the years, FLVS students performed higher than the state average in both reading and math.²

2006 Performance on Math					
	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10
FLVS	70%	79%	87%	86%	82%
State Avg	53%	55%	60%	59%	65%

2005 Performance on Math					
	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10
FLVS	63%	73%	85%	83%	87%
State Avg	47%	53%	59%	59%	63%

2006 Performance on Reading					
	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10
FLVS	80%	83%	81%	74%	49%
State Avg	64%	61%	46%	40%	32%

2005 Performance on Reading					
	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10
FLVS	72%	75%	76%	63%	57%
State Avg	56%	53%	44%	36%	32%

When surveyed, 63% of students perceived their FLVS course to be at the same or at an increased difficulty level from traditional coursework. Despite the increased difficulty, the study found students earned higher grades in the online courses.³

Recent national research has indicated that students earning a score of 3 or higher in one or more of the AP exam core course areas of English, mathematics, science, or social studies were more likely to graduate from college in five years or less when compared to non-AP students.⁴ FLVS students consistently outperform peers on AP Exams, which are scored on a five-point scale:

...In 2004-2005

FLVS Students: 2.89

Public School Students: 2.54

State Average for all FL students: 2.61

And...in 2005-2006

FLVS Students: 3.05

Public School Students: 2.49

State Average for all FL Students 2.56⁵

The success of FLVS students on FCAT scores, AP Exams, and in regular courses can be attributed to the quality of FLVS teachers as well as the school's instructional approach. All FLVS teachers are Florida certified in the area in which they provide instruction. In 2007-2008, more than 64% held advanced degrees, and 82 held a National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) credential.⁶

"FLVS gets solid student achievement results at a reduced cost to the State." On average, FLVS saves Florida taxpayers an average of \$1,000 per student each year.⁷

1 Florida TaxWatch Study, "Final Report: A Comprehensive Assessment of Florida Virtual School," pages 1

2 Florida TaxWatch Study, "Final Report: A Comprehensive Assessment of Florida Virtual School," pages 17 - 18

3 Florida TaxWatch Study, "Final Report: A Comprehensive Assessment of Florida Virtual School," pages 14 - 15

4 Dougherty, Chrys, Lynn Mellor, and Shuling Jian. The Relationship Between Advanced Placement and College Graduation. National Center for Educational Accountability, 2006. 13 Sept. 2007 <http://www.just4kids.org/en/files/Publication-The_Relationship_between_Advanced_Placement_and_College_Graduation-02-09-06.pdf>

5 Florida TaxWatch Study, "Final Report: A Comprehensive Assessment of Florida Virtual School," pages 19 - 20

6 Florida TaxWatch Study, "Final Report: A Comprehensive Assessment of Florida Virtual School," page 31

7 Florida TaxWatch Study, "Final Report: A Comprehensive Assessment of Florida Virtual School," Page 79

"The individualized instruction students receive when taking a class with Florida Virtual School not only helps build upon their strengths, but it allows students to learn core concepts and lessons in a fashion that may better suite their learning style. By leveraging technology and working in concert with traditional schools, FLVS has been able to help students in urban and rural communities meet their educational goals."
- Representative Anitere Flores

"More than twenty-five states have supplementary virtual schools. Florida Virtual School (FLVS) is perhaps best known of these. Under the motto, 'any time, any place, any path, any pace,' FLVS has attracted students who otherwise would be non-consumers of various classes for a variety of reasons, from not being able to be in school during certain hours to having difficulty completing their full course load."
- *Disrupting Class* by Clayton Christensen, page 9

Academic Integrity: Focus on Students – Why do they Cheat?

- Grades have become the focus instead of the education itself.
- Students are under pressure from themselves, parents, and society to have high grades to get into a top college. Students are willing to cheat to get the grades needed.
- Students don't tell the teacher when others are cheating; it would be viewed as "tattling."
- The non-cheating students feel they are at a disadvantage when the cheating students receive the high grades and accolades.

Academic Integrity: Focus on Facts

Fact: June 2000 - Cheating is a national epidemic in schools across the country at all levels.

The statistics are shocking:

- 80% of high school students admit to having cheated.
- 67% say they have copied homework.
- 98% say they have let others copy their work.
- 95% of those who cheated avoided getting caught.
- 34% said their parents never talked to them about cheating.

(Student Cheating and Plagiarism in the Internet Era: A Wake-Up Call <http://www.bookflash.com/releases/100285.html>)

"All of my political career, I've pushed for better efficiency and more accountability in government programs. Florida Virtual School is a prime example of a government program that has truly broken the mold by delivering high-quality instruction in an efficient, performance-based manner."

- Senator Michael Haridopolis

"Florida Virtual School offers students a unique program, and delivery system while also providing a savings for the state. It is my desire and hope the we continue to support FLVS."

- Senator Evelyn Lynn

"English II was the first course that I had ever taken with FLVS, and I have already found myself recommending FLVS to others. FLVS, in many ways, is better than conventional home schooling because I can keep track of my progress and grading far more easily. The ability to submit work at my own pace was also very helpful. I am exceedingly pleased with FLVS and I know you will be seeing my name pop up again."

- Brian, student

⚙️ Academic Integrity: Focus on Staff

- At FLVS, we are changing the focus to be on education, and not on grades.
- Maintaining academic integrity is a focus for all FLVS personnel.
- Each student signs an integrity agreement during the registration process.
- A full time Academic Integrity Manager oversees all issues relating to questionable academic practices, and is available to teachers to assist and coach teachers in academic integrity awareness.
- Schools, parents, and other staff investigate, track, and communicate with all stakeholders impacted by each incident.
- Rapport with students is established and maintained. Instructors who know their students and the caliber of their work will recognize discrepancies in student performance.
- Discussion based assessments are conducted periodically throughout all courses.
- FLVS staff randomly proctor face-to-face exams. Any student may be assigned to a proctored exam at any time.

⚙️ Academic Integrity: Focus on Technology

- Content specific to academic integrity is embedded in each course and discussed during the Welcome Call with the teacher.
- FLVS maintains an academic integrity database to track repeat offenders.
- All instructors use myriad technologies to check student work for authenticity.
- Courses contain test banks so that questions rotate for each measured standard. Two students taking a test at the same time have different versions of the test.
- Uploading student work to TurnItIn.com allows instructors to compare student work to previously submitted work, as well as to internet resources.
- Instructors may choose to conduct a discussion based assessment at any time.

Issues of academic dishonesty are addressed appropriately according to the severity of the violation. For a full description, visit: http://www.flvs.net/students_parents_integrity.php

“Bringing high quality, educational opportunities to all students in Florida was one of the cornerstones of my administration. I’m delighted that through FLVS students from every community – rural, urban, or suburban – now have access to a wide range of curriculum options and that our model of online learning is driving change across the country. A strong America starts with education and I believe a public education system that offers students choices, including online learning, will serve our future leaders best.”

- former Governor Jeb Bush

“Since its inception in 1997, the implementation of Florida Virtual School’s motto; ‘any time, any place, any path, any pace’ has brought both national and international accolades to this school. FLVS has become a model for virtual education. Their ability to tailor lesson plans around the needs of the student has helped many of Florida’s children receive a quality education. I want to commend Julie Young and the staff at Florida Virtual School for their dedicated work for Florida’s next generation.”

- Senator Daniel Webster

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