



FLORIDA VIRTUAL SCHOOL FULL TIME WELCOMES FAMILIES INTERESTED IN MID-YEAR SCHOOL SWITCH

Online public school offers tips for a successful second semester school transition

Orlando, FL (Nov. 1, 2017) – Florida Virtual School Full Time (FLVS Full Time), a statewide online public school, is currently enrolling students interested in making a mid-year schooling switch in time for the start of the second semester. Parents with students in grades Kindergarten–2 and 6–8 can begin the enrollment process online at flvsft.com.

As a fully accredited public school with a traditional academic calendar from August to June, FLVS Full Time offers a comprehensive, tuition-free online learning option for all Florida students. FLVS Full Time students receive an individualized approach to education through Florida-certified teachers, a proven curriculum, technology tools, and community experiences. Available courses include world languages, electives, honors, Advanced Placement and NCAA-approved core academics. In addition, FLVS Full Time offers dual enrollment opportunities, which allow students to take college courses and earn college credits while also applying credits toward high school graduation requirements.

"The format of online schooling eases the student's adjustment period, and because learning takes place at home, the physical transition is also easier for students and families," said Katie Santana, director of Instruction for FLVS Full Time. "We give families a flexible education option for academic and personal success."

To ensure a successful mid-year school switch, FLVS Full Time offers these tips:

- 1. Insist on quality:** Parents should do their homework on the school, district or online school their family is considering. Check on the school's test scores, AP courses, extracurricular programs and activities, and school counselor availability. Make sure the school offers an accredited program with a wide range of courses, and a proven curriculum developed by professional educators.
- 2. Plan ahead:** Think about the best time to make the school switch. For high school (and some middle school) students, it is ideal to finish out the quarter or semester and then start at a new school at the beginning of the next period. This way, the student will get a fresh start in new courses, and will have completed coursework from the previous semester. Parents should find out when finals and/or the next upcoming grading period

ends in their current school, as well as when the new one starts, and use this as the target start date for the new school. Of course, unexpected job changes or other sudden family matters seldom come with advance warning. In this case, parents should reach out to the school's guidance and enrollment staff as early as they can, and work with them to make the school switch is as smooth as possible.

3. Get your paperwork in order: It can take some time to complete the enrollment process at a new school, so parents should start sooner rather than later gathering all the necessary paperwork they'll need to enroll their student in the new school, including transcripts, birth certificates, immunization records, and other required documents. Parents can check with enrollment staff at the new school to get a list of required documents, and what, if any, submission deadlines might apply.

4. Transfer credits: Many schools don't mail home fall semester or second quarter report cards until well into the spring semester, making it tricky for some parents to show proof of course completion, and to get all the student's course credits transferred to the new school. Parents facing this situation should check with their new school's enrollment staff to find out what other alternative paperwork they can supply, and then request it from the previous school, to ensure credits are properly transferred before their student begins the new semester.

5. Maintain an open dialogue: The parents' role in ensuring a smooth mid-year transition doesn't end until their student is enrolled in the new school, has all their academic supplies, and has started classes. Parents should maintain open lines of communication with both their student and school administration to ensure the transition was successful and their student is adjusting to the new school.

FLVS Full Time serves a wide range of students, including those who are ahead or behind in the classroom, who learn at a different pace from their peers, or who want a more personalized approach to learning. Families interested in learning more about online schooling, and seeing if it is the right fit for their student, can visit flvsft.com for more information. Second semester enrollment for FLVS Full Time is currently open for students in grades Kindergarten–2 and 6–8. Grades 3-5 and 9-12 are closed for the 2017-18 school year.

About Florida Virtual School Full Time (FLVS Full Time)

FLVS Full Time is a statewide, online public school serving students in grades Kindergarten-12. As a fully accredited public school with a traditional academic calendar from August to June, FLVS Full Time offers comprehensive, full-time, tuition-free online learning for all Florida students. The school delivers a structured schedule with built-in flexibility through two options: FLVS Full Time Kindergarten-5 and FLVS Full Time 6-12. Courses are available online 24/7, allowing students the flexibility to study any time and any place. In addition, students meeting Florida graduation requirements are able to receive a standard Florida diploma. The combination of certified teachers, a proven curriculum, technology tools, and community experiences creates a supportive and successful online learning environment for families and students who want a personalized education. FLVS Full Time offers grades Kindergarten-5 in collaboration with Connections Academy. To learn more, visit www.flvsft.com.

Contact:

Media – J. Barnes (504) 897-6110