

June 2016



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

the Virtual View

Another Great Year!

Another school year ends... how do they pass so quickly? We know the past few months were so busy for districts and providers; we hope you are able to take some time off this summer to travel, enjoy family, and rest!

We've been busy too! With the Legislative Session wrapping up in early March, we were able to give Sally Roberts a wonderful retirement party the end of March. We were fortunate to scoop up Nicolle Tanner from the McKay Scholarship Program department and she will be fulfilling my old duties; virtual audits and the VIP and Course Provider Application processes. We remain committed to our district folk, providers and especially to the students in Florida.



From our staff to yours; thanks for all you do!!!

Sandy, Meagan, Pradeep, Nicolle and Lisa

DOE's Newest Virtual Team Member

Nicolle Tanner is our new Program Specialist, she has worked in the Department of Education's School Choice office since 2009. Nicolle will oversee the district VIP contract submission/tech tool process, monitor virtual operational audits, coordinate the VIP and Course Provider Approval process and provide information and technical assistance about virtual education program options, requirements and legislation to stakeholders. She can be reached at Nicolle.Tanner@fldoe.org

2016 Virtual Graduates

Broward- 70	Leon- 29
Collier- 1	Osceola- 25
FLVS FT- 620	Palm Beach- 16
Hillsborough- 37	Pinellas- 18
Lake- 19	St. Lucie- 9

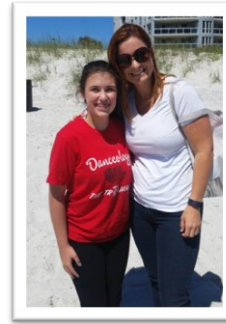
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“Great works are performed not by strength but by perseverance.”
Samuel Johnson

K¹² Families Celebrate End-of-Year Events

Our Florida families and students brought the school year to an end with multiple celebrations in their communities. As students wrap up another successful year, it is wonderful to hear their stories about the fun they had while getting together with other virtual students in their area. K¹² hosted a family fun night at Anastasia Bowling Lanes and students had a blast showing their competitive side. Social events are great for allowing students and teachers to get together face-to-face to foster a sense of community for students. Events are held year round, including multiple virtual field trip experiences.



K¹² Student Success Story

Carolina, Grade 12 Miami Dade Online student, writes about her online success:

“When I was four years old I touched the ice for the first time, ever since then it became my life. As I grew older it became harder to balance going to school all day and then having practice after or sometimes even before school. At the ending of my seventh grade year my parents and I decided I should start Miami Dade Online Academy. With doing school online I had a more flexible schedule to get in more practice hours, and complete my courses at any given time throughout the day. As my junior year came I had the opportunity to shadow a Dermatologist, which then became a part time job. Without the flexibility online school has given me I would not have been able to accomplish half of the things I have. In the fall I will be starting Miami Dade College to start my journey to Medical school.”



K¹² Clowns



Jacksonville Full Time Schools Staff showed off their silly selves in honor of **Red Nose Day**.

Left to right: Cynthia Webster, Natalie Wertz, Lesley Smith, Jodie Giardino, Traci Hill, Christina Cornelius

Submitted by Traci Hill

FLVS FT Graduates Largest Class to Date

FLVS Full Time graduated more than 620 students on June 2—the largest class to date. The FLVS Full Time Class of 2016 was awarded more than \$1.2 million in scholarships, and more than 70 percent of graduates plan to attend two or four year colleges or universities. About 330 students and their families attended the traditional ceremonial march held at the University of Central Florida. Many tuned in from around the state to watch it on live streaming. The live streaming videos, along with a video about FLVS seniors and their plans after college, can be found on: <https://www.facebook.com/flvsft>, <https://www.facebook.com/flvsft/videos>, and <https://www.periscope.tv/FLVS/>.



Submitted by Suzan Kurdak



Pinellas Virtual School Celebrates Graduates



Pinellas Virtual School was excited to graduate 18 seniors in June. On May 20th, the middle and high school students of Pinellas Virtual School met at the Sweet Peas Café in Dunedin to celebrate the accomplishments of the graduating seniors. It was a great time of fellowship and interacting for parents, students, and staff.

Seniors: Kincaid M., Amira A. and Jessica

Pinellas Virtual School Elementary Students Celebrate, Too!

Pinellas Virtual School's elementary students joined their teachers for a picnic at Eagle Lake Park in Largo to celebrate the end of the school year. It was a great time for students, parents, and teachers to interact and celebrate the close of another successful school year. Jordyn H., 3rd Grade PVS student, was also recognized for her high ELA FSA score for the 15-16 school year.

Submitted by Mandy Perry



Bay Students Set Their Sights on the Sea

Bay Virtual School (BVS) students met at the Panama City Marina to tour replicas of the Niña and the Pinta on May 9th. The students and parents gathered to hear a lecture by history instructor, Dr. David Schwartz, before boarding. Bay families are fortunate to be located in Panama City to see these living history museums.



BVS students toured the Spanish vessel, El Galeon, when it was docked at the Panama City Marina on March 16th. The Spanish tour guides shared stories about their adventures at sea. Hands-on learning aboard the ship was followed up with collaboration projects once students left the marina.



Submitted by Diane Fields



Congrats Broward Grads!

Broward Virtual School's Class of 2016 graduated on June 3rd. Seventy career and college ready Broward County seniors earned their diplomas at Broward Virtual School this year. Graduates will attend nearly every state university and college in Florida as well as private and out-of-state universities. Three graduates earned their Associate of Arts (AA) degrees in addition to their high school diplomas this school year. BVS is thrilled to send their students into the world well-prepared for future success. Congratulations, BVS Class of 2016!

Submitted by Chris McGuire

Lake County Virtual School Gets the Word Out



Lake County Virtual School (LCVS) teachers are using newly acquired banners to attract students to their program. They have been busy visiting the middle and high schools in Lake. The lunch-time visits are to inform students about what Lake Virtual has to offer and allows teachers to answer questions and distribute an informative pamphlet with information about LCVS. Students and parents can find recent passing grade stats, tips about online education, and quick facts about LCVS.

Read the pamphlet [here](#).

Submitted by Mike Elchenko

Keeping Busy Around the Community

Orange County Virtual School (OCVS) students and families worked hard collecting items to be donated to the Ronald McDonald House, a charity dedicated to providing a home away from home for families of children receiving treatment at Central Florida hospitals and health facilities. The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) assembled the donations per the charity's directions and under Ms. Harry's guidance, NJHS Sponsor. The process of sorting and bagging the items was well organized and went very smooth. Afterwards, a few students along with Mrs. Lyons, Do Something Club sponsor, dropped off the donations. OCVS students took a tour of the house and learned about the charity's mission. Participants felt very touched and honored to be able to drop off the donations on everyone's behalf. Donations were an estimated \$250 and OCVS hopes to make it an annual event.

An end of the year putt-putt golf celebration and fundraiser also took place in which OCVS staff, students, and families were also able to participate. Students and parents had fun interacting with their OCVS teachers.



OCVS Receives Top Honor

OCVS has been awarded the BRONZE MEDAL by US News & World Report on its exclusive list of Best High Schools. OCVS earned the Bronze level of recognition for their placement in the top third of the country. The honor was received based on their ability to serve all students, catapult students to postsecondary success, and the demonstration of high performance in measurable outcomes. This is an awesome achievement and recognition. Congratulations to the parents, students, teachers and staff! Together they made this happen!



#DestinationGraduation2016

Mosaic Digital Academy had 9 graduates at the 2016 Commencement Ceremony held in St. Lucie on May 24th. Notable accomplishments for this graduating class of 2016 are: 4 Graduates earned Bright Future Scholarships, 1 earned Associates of Arts degree from Indian River State College, and 2 earned Scholar Designations. The students pictured were awarded the Superintendent's 'A Promise is a Promise' certificate, inviting them to teach in St. Lucie when they become highly qualified instructors. A total of \$199,392 in scholarships were awarded, 52 dual enrollment courses were completed, 943 volunteer hours were logged, and 100% of our grads college bound! Mosaic Digital Academy is so proud of our graduates!!!



(Pictured above left to right: Alexis Frey, Dr. Jonathan Prince (Deputy Superintendent), Jeanne Ziembra (Principal), Kaitlyn Britton (Valedictorian), Alyssa Booher).

Submitted by Jeanne Ziembra

News from the Tower

Florida Online Course Catalog:

*Over 12,600 courses in catalog/ 393 unique courses

Did you know that The Florida Online Course Catalog now has a method to report completion and passage rates for each course? We have been working diligently to make this happen in Phase 2. We can also send each district an excel spreadsheet with all the unique feedback codes attached to each course for each district so districts won't have to find each course/ feedback code in the catalog one by one.

We hope that you are finding the catalog to be useful and that you will add the link to your website. It's a great opportunity to showcase your courses!

<http://app4.fldoe.org/coursecatalog/>



VIP/Course Provider Application Process

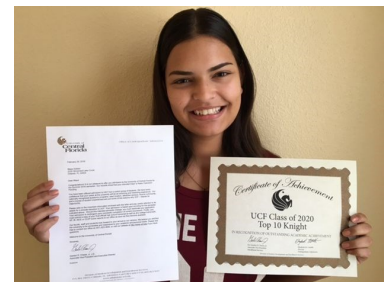
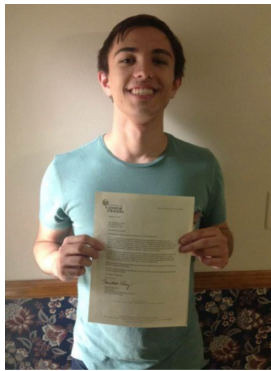
*Applications have been revised for clarity and efficiency

*Registration for applicants will open August 15, application process will begin September 1

Graduating Classes of 2016



Leon County Virtual School



Osceola Virtual School



Collier Virtual School



FLVS Full-Time

Graduating Classes of 2016



Mosaic Digital Academy (St. Lucie)



Palm Beach Virtual School



Broward Virtual School



Hillsborough Virtual School



The next issue of the Virtual View will be the Welcome Back to School issue in September. Let us know the innovative and exciting opportunities your virtual students will have in 2016-17! Send all articles and pictures to virtualeducation@fldoe.org