

Virtual Instruction Program

Gulf District Schools offers both a part-time and a full-time virtual K-12 instructional program to its students. This program provides parents and students an educational opportunity that uses an interactive learning environment created through technology and the Internet in which students are separated from their professionally certified teachers by time and/or space.

We are committed to providing educational excellence for all virtual students anytime, anywhere, at any pace, and at any level for any student. We provide the highest quality education so that all students are empowered to choose to lead productive and fulfilling lives as lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

All students are eligible to participate in the district part-time or full-time kindergarten through grade 12 virtual instruction program under Florida Statute 1002.45(1)(b). Each student enrolled in a virtual instruction program must comply with compulsory attendance requirements for Florida Statute 1003.21, and take statewide assessments pursuant to Florida Statute 1008.22.

Students and parents will be made aware of these Virtual Instruction Program Policy & Procedures in writing during the school enrollment process, at Open Houses, Parent Meetings, Kindergarten Round-Up/Registration, and when registering for classes each semester. As a part of the Student Progression Plan, these policies and procedures may also be found online at the district website.

Because of the unique nature of the program, approval of the principal or guidance counselor is required to ensure that the courses meet the student's expectations, academic needs and/or graduation requirements. Students may take courses from the virtual school on campus during school hours or after school hours in addition to the regular school day. Initiating enrollment in virtual coursework is done through www.FLVS.net. Enrollment opens March 1 of each year and closes 30 days prior to the beginning of the school year. The same grading scale applied to traditional classes also applies to virtual coursework.

In lieu of the daily presence of a face-to-face teacher, parents are encouraged to take the lead in guiding the students through the curriculum, submission of work samples, assignments, online class sessions, producing products, and reviewing for quizzes and tests. The student must demonstrate continuous progress and pass all courses each semester in order to continue enrollment. Progress will be considered adequate if it mirrors the school calendar. For example, a student should be 25% complete with a year-long course by the end of the first nine weeks and 50% complete by the end of the first semester. Students who do not maintain this pace may be withdrawn from the course.

Students may register for only one (1) course the first time he/she enrolls in a virtual class and may register for no more than (2) during any semester unless granted permission from the principal.

All Virtual Instruction Program instructors serving Gulf District Schools have met all required background screening requirements. Documentation of those screenings is kept on file at the District Office.