

Gulf District Schools

Virtual Instruction Program Policy & Procedures

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.

Students are eligible to participate in the district virtual instruction program if they are legal residents of Gulf County and also meet at least one of the following conditions as specified in Florida Statute 1002.455:

- The student is eligible to enter kindergarten or first grade per Florida Statute 1002.455(2)(e)
- The student is eligible to enter grades 2 through 5 and is enrolled fulltime in a school district virtual instruction program, virtual charter school or the Florida Virtual School per Florida Statute 1002.455(2)(f)
- The student entering into 6 through 12 has spent the prior year in attendance at a State of Florida public school and was enrolled and reported by a public school district for funding during the preceding October and February Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) surveys per Florida Statute 1002.455(2)(a)
- The student entering into K-12 was enrolled during the prior school year in a Florida school district virtual instruction program under this Florida Statute, a K-8 Virtual School Program under Florida Statute 1002.415, a virtual charter school, or a full-time Florida Virtual School program under Florida Statutes 1002.37(8)(a) or 1002.455(20)(c)
- The student is a dependent child of a member of the United States Armed Forces who was transferred within the last 12 months to the State of Florida from another state or from a foreign country pursuant to the parent's permanent change of station orders per Florida Statute 1002.455(2)(b)
- The student has a sibling who is currently enrolled in a school district virtual instruction program that sibling was enrolled in such program at the end of the prior school year per Florida Statute 1002.455(2)(d)

Students and parents will be made aware of these Virtual Instruction Program Policy & Procedures during the school enrollment process, at Open Houses, Parent Meetings, Kindergarten Round-Up, and when registering for classes. 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 (F.S.1002.45). 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.

Accessing the Internet using District equipment or personally –owned equipment and/or the District’s network is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in the revocation of the privilege. Use of the network must support and be consistent with the educational objectives of the District. In using personally-owned equipment, users are responsible for ensuring their devices use security applications to protect the devices from infection and prevent spreading infections from the devices. The District has the right to review any material on user accounts to maintain adequate fileserver space and monitor appropriateness of material transmitted through the network. All users are expected to follow the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. All students and parents must sign an Internet User’s Agreement prior to the use of equipment and the District network. The District prohibits the transmission of materials such as copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret, which violate local, state, or federal law or regulation, as well as the use of the Internet for product advertisement, commercial activities, political campaigning or solicitation.

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.