



COVID Education Innovation in Florida

Virtual School Choice Expo (Duval County)

In a year of pandemic and overwhelming choices, Duval County Public Schools streamlined and reimagined their School Choice Expo to make the decision easy for parents. With more than 2,000 students and families participating, the District worked with local Florida State College of Jacksonville and the Duval School Choice Office to move the event to an online venue so everyone could participate. With 160 public schools and 40 charters schools in the district to showcase for a wide audience, this was a Herculean task.

Each school was able to upload information, hold live chats, provide live tours of the school, share videos, and have veteran students available to chat with potential students and their families. Parents could easily peruse the choices from the convenience of their home with their child to pause and discuss the bevy of choices and what was a good fit for them.

This new virtual platform increased access, eliminated need for transportation to event, solved parking issues downtown at the convention center, and cost less than hosting at a physical location. In addition, financial aid sessions were held for graduating seniors, and there were sessions at school-based sites held in other languages to ensure access.

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The Consortium elevates the impact of Florida's local education foundations through advocacy and providing a collegial community for ongoing learning, shared resources and support. These nonprofit organizations are aligned with nearly every school district in our state and collectively they raise more than \$80 million annually to innovate learning, power potential and celebrate success.

We believe strong collaboration is essential to ensure school success. Our effort to capture, elevate and share education innovations discovered amid the disruption of the pandemic is offered in that spirit.

Our Top 10 Takeaways: COVID Education Innovation report can be accessed at educationinnovationspotlight.com