



COVID Education Innovation in Florida

Virtual Services (Osceola County)

Like all school systems, all education foundations had to re-imagine how they serve students to meet needs in the new digital world. As a result, the Education Foundation Osceola County turned to different mediums when fulfilling program services offered to students, and most programs turned virtual in every aspect possible.

A Gift for Teaching, the Foundation's teacher supply store, turned to online orders and deliveries to keep everyone safe. The Foundation's Career Pipeline program held Zoom conferences in place of speakers travelling to the classroom, recorded field trips on job sites and uploaded for students to view, took fairs and mentoring to online platforms, and completed surveys via QR codes. The Foundation's Take Stock in Children program became completely virtual.

It is the goal to combine "COVID practices" with traditional program plans, by continuing to build a virtual field trip library, continuing to make deliveries to the classroom, and continuing to host mentor opportunities online and in-person.

As Samantha Giel, Grants Manager for the Foundation observed, *"The needs of the students did not stop, if anything they grew greater."*

Submitted by:
Samantha Giel
Grants Manager, Education Foundation Osceola County
samantha.giel2@osceolaschools.net

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