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## Chapter VI

# Teaching Any Time, Any Place, Any Pace

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## Abstract

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*With the launch of six courses in January 1997, Florida Virtual School (FLVS) became a new resource for all students in Florida. FLVS teachers, developers of the online curriculum, experimented with innovative ways of encouraging students to be responsible learners. In the virtual classroom, teachers soon discovered that frequent communication with students and parents reaped tremendous rewards. In this chapter, the reader will see inside the teaching process at Florida Virtual School as the following essential characteristics of online teaching are highlighted: communication, teamwork, flexibility, student-centered learning, and love of students. Using technology as a tool to design and deliver curriculum and instruction, the virtual learning environment mirrors the technological world that*

*students live in today and will work in tomorrow. Virtual education changes the way teachers teach and interact with each other, with students and with parents. Virtual educators are reshaping the routine learning modes of the traditional school day to a dynamic, interactive real-world learning environment that presents choices to parents and students and requires students to take ownership of the learning process.*

## **Teaching Any Time, Any Place, Any Path, Any Pace**

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Teacher performance is a major reason for the success of Florida Virtual School (FLVS), which was noted as being “the largest and most well-established state-supported virtual school in the nation” in *Education Week’s Technology Counts* edition (Doherty, 2002, p. 19). With a mission to give students choices in how they learn, when they learn and where they learn, FLVS provides a learning environment that serves all learners. Home schoolers, athletes, performers, and students with scheduling conflicts or medical problems benefit from the “any time, any place, any path, any pace” motto. FLVS takes full advantage of its electronic environment. A sample page from the website (<http://www.flvs.net>) showcases our services:



- *Welcome to FLVS* from your Executive Director, Julie Young
- **Attention Students:** Spring 2003 registration is now open. Click [here](#) to view the *Spring 2003 course list* (PDF). Please note space in full credit courses is limited.
- Need to know when the next progress report is due out? Check out the *FLVS calendar*.
- Request a copy of your transcript when you receive a final grade in your course using our *Transcript Request Form* (PDF file)

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