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## For Immediate Release

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## Florida Virtual School® Launches New American Sign Language Course



**Orlando, FL (April 15, 2019)** – In celebration of National American Sign Language Day (April 15), Florida Virtual School (FLVS<sup>®</sup>) announced the launch of a new course for the 2019-20 school year, American Sign Language (ASL) 1. The full-credit, high school course counts as a world language credit.

This elective introduces students to the basic elements of ASL and broadens cross-cultural understanding of the language and Deaf culture. Students will develop communicative skills in interpersonal, presentational, and interpretive communication, as well as learn all about glossing.

"The American Sign Language course offered at FLVS is unique and we are thrilled to add it to our curriculum," said Martin Kelly, executive director of Digital Publishing. "This course is an enriching learning opportunity, where emphasis is placed on proficient ASL communication with introductions to culture, connections, comparisons, and communities."

FLVS partnered with multiple subject matter experts in developing the course to ensure it is a high-quality product for students. The FLVS Digital Publishing team created a video practice tool that is embedded throughout the course for students to have the ability to practice their ASL skills.

In addition to the video recording practice tool, course highlights for ASL 1 include 800 custom vocabulary and dialogue videos created for use in Instruction and Assessment, and interactive vocabulary practice. Below are images from the course.



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Students are able to enroll in the American Signage Language course today for a start date in August. To learn more and to enroll in the ASL course and others offered at FLVS, students should visit <u>www.flvs.net</u>.

## **About Florida Virtual School**

<u>Florida Virtual School</u><sup>®</sup> (FLVS<sup>®</sup>) is a fully accredited, statewide public school district offering more than 180 courses to Kindergarten-12 students. Its certified teachers use a variety of personalized instructional programs to create individualized educational plans for every student. Since 1997, FLVS students have successfully completed more than 4.1 million semester enrollments. FLVS also provides its courseware and expertise to online and blended learning programs across the nation. Services include content licensing, FLVS Global School, District Virtual Schools, digital learning labs, and professional development. As a not-for-profit, FLVS reinvests revenue into the development of new educational technologies and the creation of the highest-quality courses, benefiting students in Florida and beyond. To learn more, visit <u>www.flvs.net</u>.

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