

Julie Young

President, CEO, FLVS

Julie Young's journey to her present position as President and CEO of the nation's largest and most influential virtual program began with a love for teaching and learning that goes back to childhood. Today, she is passionate about the positive impact that Florida Virtual has on thousands of families, "The ability to truly create change that you can see making a difference in kid's and family's lives...that's really empowering."

Julie's interest in combining technology and learning began when she served as a teacher trainer for a partnership between her district and IBM. That experience also ignited her with the vision to apply proven business principles to education. She interacts regularly with business, educational, and policy leaders across the nation to shape the future of learning—and she sees FLVS as playing a significant role. "We've provided the model to show that instruction truly can be personalized in a school environment and can be designed around what is best for kids versus the agrarian calendar, sports, summer jobs, and adult schedules."

Julie is also excited about the opportunities online and blended learning models have provided for the profession, thus retaining great teachers who might have otherwise left the field. She takes particular pleasure in identifying and growing leaders. "I had outstanding and supportive leaders along the way and I feel like it's a gift to have someone who takes a special interest in developing you. That's one of the most rewarding things I do."

In addition to directing the work of 1500 employees, Julie is a frequent national speaker. She serves on the Board of the United States Distance Learning Association, International Association for K12 Online Learning, Florida Learning Alliance, Florida TaxWatch Center for Educational Performance and Accountability, Florida Sterling Council Board of Directors, K-12 Blackboard Advisory Council Member, and Microsoft K-12 Advisory Council Member Assistant. She was also recognized by Technology & Learning Magazine as one of the Top 30 influencers in Ed Tech, along with Bill Gates and Steve Jobs. In 2003, she was inducted into the USDLA "Hall of Fame."



Fun "Julie" facts

What is your favorite bad-for-you food?

Crisco-laden Publix birthday cake—white frosting on white cake. I can never have it in my house because I'll eat my way through it and be sick as a dog for days. Oh...and I love to dance!

What is your pet peeve? When my kids put empty boxes back in the cabinet. At work, it's when people assume without asking for feedback or clarification.

What is your worst habit? I'm always rushing to get out the door. This morning I got up at 6:30, so I didn't have to rush, and what did I end up doing? I watered the flowers. There's something enjoyable about doing these little things in the morning.....but then I end up rushing!

How did you meet your husband? I met him playing football when I was 13.....I tackled him.

What would we find you playing at when you were a kid? School. I used to line up my dolls and write on my pink wall with yellow chalk and think that my mother never noticed. I went to a Catholic school, so I used to put towels around my head and dress up like a nun.

The one thing your family always teased you about but you deny. They used to say I'm the baby and I got the easy route, and I don't deny it.

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Resumé

Education:

University of South Florida, MA Ed, Administration and Supervision

University of Kentucky, BA, Elementary Education

Leadership Experience:

In addition to her service as President and CEO of Florida Virtual School, Julie Young serves on several national boards, including:

- International Association for K12 Online Learning
- Southern Regional Education Board's Distance Learning Task Force
- Florida TaxWatch Center for Educational Performance and Accountability
- Florida Sterling Council Board of Directors
- K-12 Blackboard Advisory Council Member
- Microsoft K-12 Advisory Council Member Assistant

Principal, Tildenville Elementary, Orange County, FL & Pinewoods Elementary, Lee County, FL

IBM - Education Instructional Specialist, Staff Development/IBM Trainer

Curriculum - Technology Specialist, Lee County, FL