

Tampa Tribune

Protests planned for virtual school cutbacks

Published: April 20, 2009

Students and parents enrolled at the Florida Virtual School plan to gather Tuesday morning at the Capitol in Tallahassee and protest the budget cuts the Legislature has planned.

Lawmakers are weighing millions in cuts that could strip away as much as 15 percent of the school's funding. One pot of money the Legislature has aimed at: \$13.8 million in money available to reduce the size of crowded classrooms. Legislators question why a school with no classrooms needs that money.

But officials with the Virtual School say families will gather at 10 a.m. Tuesday to talk about how losing that and other funding will limit their opportunities and take away the electives they've enjoyed.

They'll have a petition, which reads, "The cuts [to FLVS] are more drastic than other proposed cuts to other Florida school districts."