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**Florida Virtual School Teacher Receives Nation's First Online K-12
Teacher of Year Award**

Orlando, FL — (September 9, 2010) Florida Virtual School teacher, Teresa Dove, received the first **National Online Teacher of the Year Award** for K-12 education last night from the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) and the International Association for K-12 Online Learning (iNACOL).

The 2010 SREB/iNACOL **National Online Teacher of the Year Award** recognizes an outstanding online teacher for exceptional contributions to online K-12 education. The judging committee selected Dove and two other finalists from more than 50 nominations of online educators in public schools and state virtual schools in 24 states.

"It is truly an honor to be chosen by SREB and iNACOL for the National Online Teacher of the Year award. Online I can work with students one-on-one more often, get to know them better, and ensure they have both the math and life skills to be successful in college and/or the work force. It's empowering as a teacher to know that when students leave your classroom, they have received more one-on-one time with you than they may have received in all four years of math classes in the traditional setting," said Teresa Dove.

For the past four years, Dove has been an online mathematics/Algebra II teacher for grades 6-12 at Florida Virtual School, which serves more than 125,000 students and employs more than 1,100 educators. Dove is a mentor, a member of the Reading Leadership Team, and was the first Algebra II teacher at Florida Virtual to create a Model Literacy Classroom.

"Teresa's commitment and passion toward helping students is indeed deserving of this prestigious award. We are proud of her accomplishments and look forward to continuing to support teachers like Teresa, who are changing the fabric of public education," said FLVS President and CEO Julie Young.

The award winner and two other finalists were recognized during a dinner during SREB's joint annual meeting of its Educational Technology Cooperative and *Electronic Campus* state representatives. The meeting brings state officials from the 16 SREB states together to expand and improve the use of technology in education.

The other finalists were Gabrielle Bray from the Gwinnett County (Georgia) Online Campus and Steven Sproles from Virtual Virginia.

"Teachers are the common denominator of instructional quality, whether in the classroom or online. As Web-based learning continues to expand, SREB and iNACOL are proud to honor Teresa Dove and the

two other finalists as outstanding K-12 online teachers of America's students," said Myk Garn, the director of the Cooperative.

"These teachers have risen to the top of the online teaching field and are making strong contributions to creating a 21st century learning experience for every one of their students. We are grateful to them, and we hope this award captures the spirit of the community," said Susan Patrick, president and CEO of iNACOL.

iNACOL is the International Association for K-12 Online Learning, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) membership association based in the Washington, D.C., area with more than 3,100 members.

The Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), based in Atlanta, was created in 1948 by Southern governors and legislatures to help leaders in education and government work cooperatively to advance education and improve the social and economic life of the region.

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About Florida Virtual School

Florida Virtual School (www.flvs.net) is an established leader in developing and providing virtual K-12 education solutions to students in Florida, the U.S., and the world. A nationally-recognized e-Learning model and recipient of numerous awards, FLVS was founded in 1997 and was the country's first, state-wide Internet-based public high school. Today, FLVS serves students in grades K-12 and provides a variety of custom solutions for schools and districts to meet student needs.