



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, Florida's children deserve access to the highest-quality education possible; and

WHEREAS, school choice allows families to explore and identify the best education options available to serve their child's needs; and

WHEREAS, in Florida, we recognize the essential role that an education plays in preparing children to become great citizens and successful adults, and we offer many types of public and non-public schools, as well as programs for families who educate their children in the home; and

WHEREAS, Florida ranks Number One in education in U.S. News & World Report's Best State Rankings for the second year in a row; and

WHEREAS, the Heritage Foundation ranks Florida first in the nation on the Education Freedom Report Card for the third year in a row, which ranks each state's level of education freedom; and

WHEREAS, Florida ranks first in the nation for parent involvement in education on the Center for Education Reform's Parent Power! National Overview; and

WHEREAS, Florida ranks Number One for education freedom on the American Legislative Exchange Council's *Index of State Education Freedom: A 50-State Guide to Parental Empowerment's Report Card on American Education*; and

WHEREAS, in the 2024-25 school year, more than 500,000 students have been awarded a Family Empowerment Scholarship or a Florida Tax Credit Scholarship, the greatest number of recipients in the state's history. This includes nearly 350,000 students on the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Educational Options and the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship, nearly 125,000 students on the Family Empowerment Scholarship for Unique Abilities, and 60,000 students in the Personalized Education Program; and

WHEREAS, 32,000 students are participating in the New Worlds Scholarship Program in the 2024-25 school year; and

WHEREAS, during the 2024-25 school year, there were more than 400,000 students enrolled in 734 charter schools throughout Florida; and

WHEREAS, Florida remains a nationally-recognized leader in K-12 virtual education, with all school districts offering full- and part-time programs and courses, and the largest virtual school in the nation, Florida Virtual School.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron DeSantis, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing January 26 – February 1, 2025, as *School Choice Week in Florida*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 27th day of January, in the year two thousand twenty-five.

A blue ink signature of Ron DeSantis, written over a horizontal line.

Governor