



irtual Loudoun

Stacie Ahrens Mininberg

Virtual Loudoun Supervisor

Stacie.AhrensMininberg@lcps.org

571-252-1854

The logo features a green Wi-Fi symbol with three curved lines above a solid green circle.

irtual Loudoun

LCPS's Supplemental Online Program
Students in need of an online course can see their School Counselor to register and be approved for an online course. They are then scheduled to "Virtual Loudoun" in our student information system.

1. Virtual Loudoun
2. Virtual VA

Reasons for online courses vary by student



Virtual Loudoun

- ▶ Launched in summer 2014
- ▶ The program has served over 6,000 students since inception
- ▶ Presently, there are over 700 enrollments this fall
- ▶ We offer **three terms** each school year (students complete FULL-Credit) courses in a “term”
 - ▶ Two 15 week terms each school year (Terms 1 and 2)
 - ▶ One ten-week spring/summer term (Term 3)
- ▶ We serve high school students during the school year and both middle and high during Term 3
- ▶ NCAA approved



irtual Loudoun





Virtual Loudoun

- ▶ 36 courses are currently offered
- ▶ Courses are provided through
 - ▶ VISION-The Learning Management system (LMS) for LCPS(Moodle Product).
 - ▶ Courses are owned by LCPS and taught by LCPS teachers (Purchased from WHRO, state and district aligned LCPS specifics)
 - ▶ We do not currently offer any courses that were built by LCPS staff.
 - ▶ Example Course



Virtual
Loudoun

- ▶ 36 courses are currently offered
 - ▶ *Vendor Company-Currently using Edgenuity.*
 - ▶ Courses are owned and taught by Virginia Certified teachers in Edgenuity's LMS
 - ▶ *Looking at other possible vendors for high need areas in LCPS- i.e. American Sign Language (ASL)*



- ▶ Is used in Loudoun for students who need an online course, but **Virtual Loudoun** does not offer the course needed
- ▶ Students are registered by individual school counselors, but are scheduled to **Virtual Loudoun** by **Virtual Loudoun's** school counselor.

Teacher Selection

- ▶ LCPS teachers in the content they teach
- ▶ Teachers are trained in **Online Teacher Methodology** prior to applying for online teaching with Virtual Loudoun
- ▶ Teachers apply for positions with Virtual Loudoun, but we have a base group of teachers. (Summer results in increased enrollment, so we hire additional teachers).
- ▶ We utilize the iNACOL Online Teacher Quality Standards as a way of setting expectations for teacher performance. [Performance Appraisal Instrument](#)
- ▶ We offer continued professional development opportunities

Delivery Model

We are a completely online and supplemental

- ▶ Our courses are asynchronous - no required specific times to be online with teacher and students
- ▶ Some students take a course within the school day at his/her home school
- ▶ Others take the course outside of the school day
- ▶ Teachers are expected to provide timely feedback regarding questions, grading, and support

Enrollment Statistics

SY 2014	990 (summer only)
SY 2015	1,132
SY 2016	1,192
SY 2017	2,158
SY 2018	Over 2,500

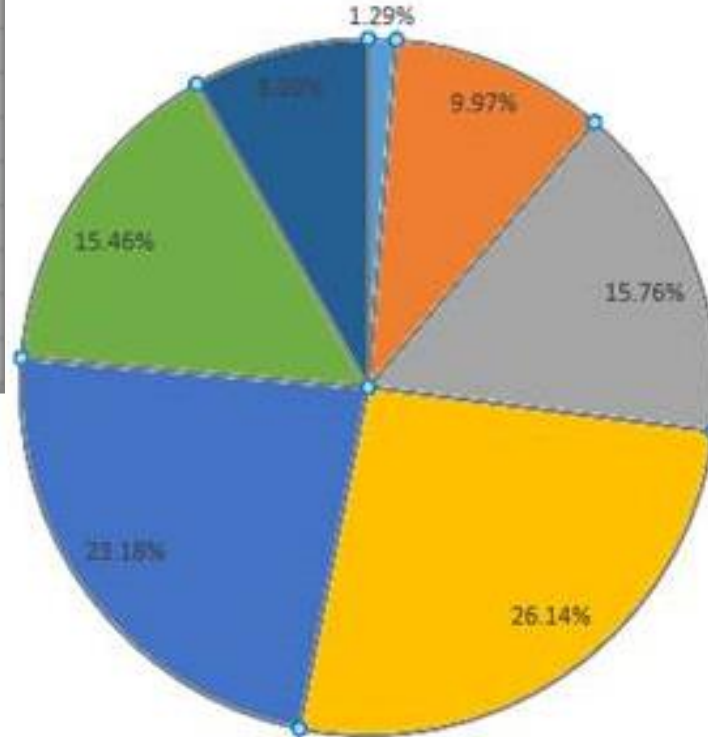
Demographics

Grade

Count of LastName

Total

Row Labels	Count of Last Name
6	1.29%
7	9.97%
8	15.76%
9	26.14%
10	23.18%
11	15.46%
12	8.20%
Grand Total	100.00%

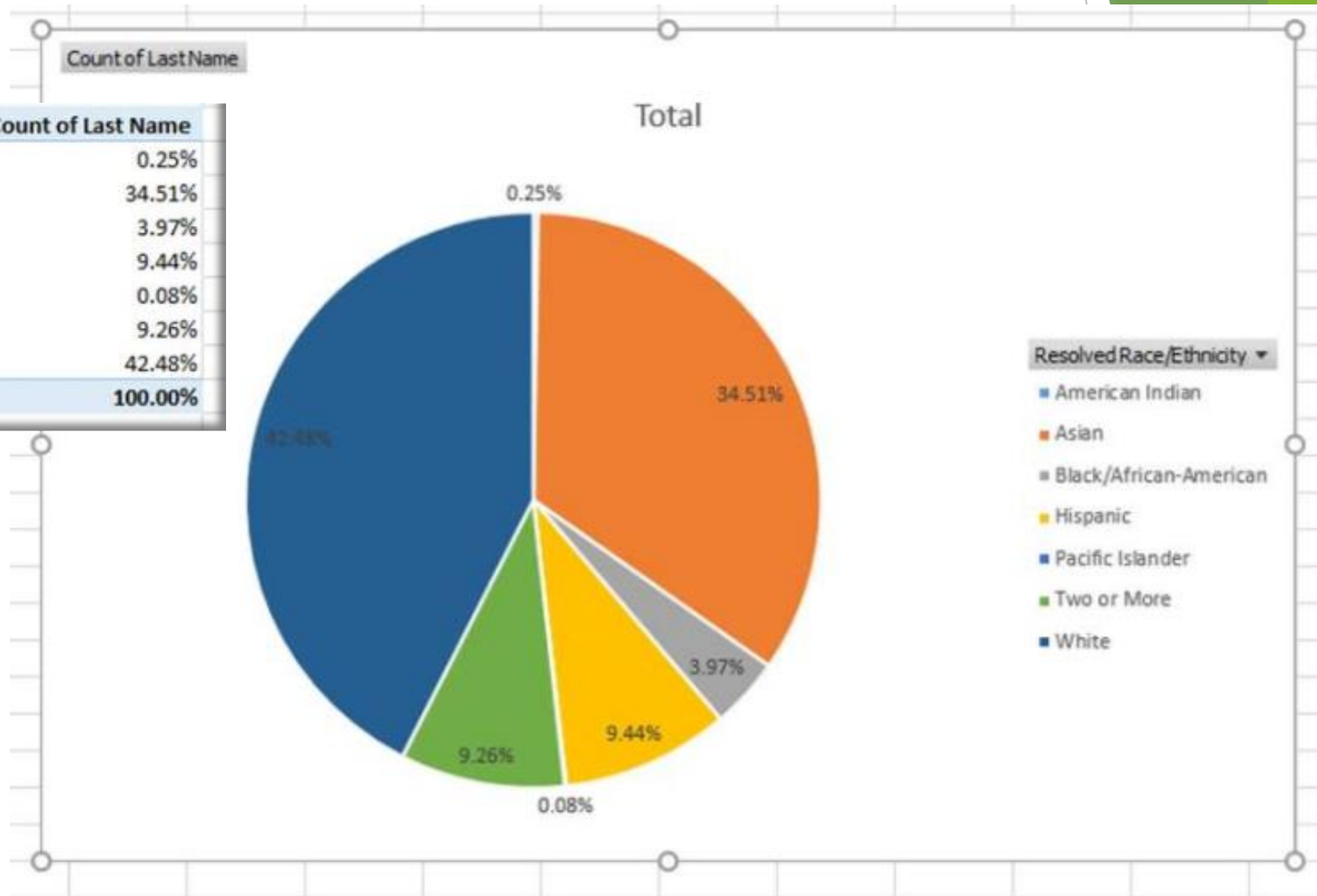


Grade

- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12

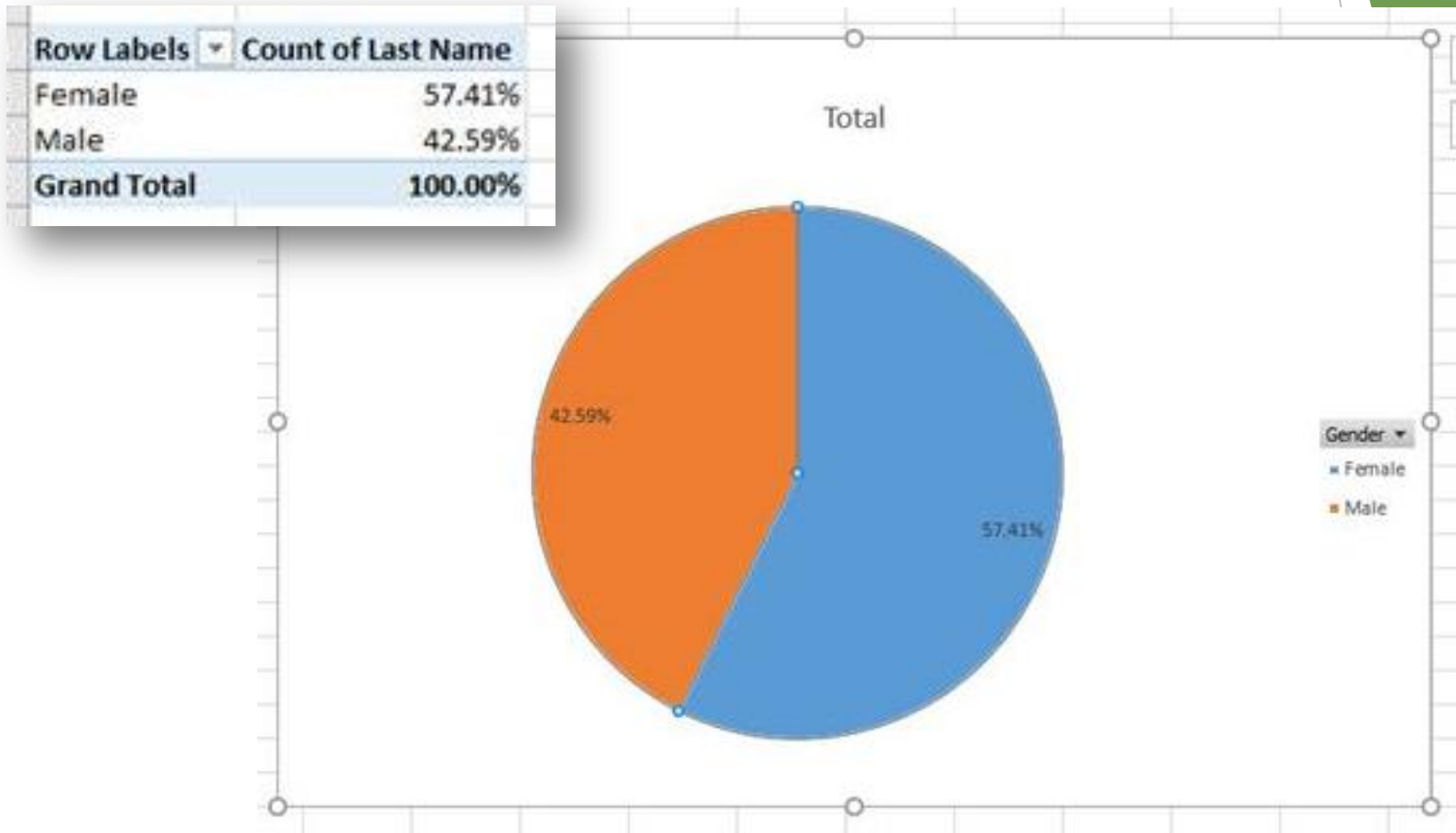
Demographics

Ethnicity



Demographics

Gender



Important Considerations for Engagement

What is in place for students?

- ▶ Contact with teachers, counselors, and virtual staff:
- ▶ Online/phone support from all VL staff
- ▶ Face to face support from Virtual Loudoun staff (Supervisor, Instructional Designer, or Counselor)
- ▶ The opportunity to try and drop a course without grade penalty within the first 4 weeks (grace period).

Special Education Services

Carried out by teachers and home schools:

- ▶ If academic support is necessary for students, it is provided through resource support at the student's home school staff
- ▶ Most student accommodations can be carried out in the virtual environment and with support from resource staff at schools if need be
- ▶ Consideration by the IEP and other intervention teams will determine appropriate placement for students in any course (brick and mortar or virtual).

General Information

- ▶ Many of our students in special circumstances (athletes, performers, etc.) will take courses with us each year. Attendance to school is expected-but can be waived through or Director of School Administration.
- ▶ SOL outcomes are aligned to the county's overall student achievement.
- ▶ Virtual Loudoun is funded through the traditional budgeting process for operations, maintenance and staffing. We serve as many students as we can within that allotted amount.

Parental involvement

- ▶ Parents discuss course planning either with home School Counselor, or if not LCPS, the Virtual Loudoun School Counselor to ensure proper placement
- ▶ Parents register students during open registration
- ▶ Parents receive bi-weekly progress reports from virtual instructors via email
- ▶ Parents receive phone contact from virtual teachers and can call/email at any time during a virtual term with questions/concerns

Parental involvement

- ▶ Phone conversations also take place often between parents, the VL supervisor, and/or counselor (In some cases, face to face meetings are arranged).
- ▶ Parents/students receive a final grade report at conclusion of virtual term from instructors via email
- ▶ Parents can request official transcripts through form on the VL website
- ▶ Best advertisement- when students have great experiences, the parents talk!

Challenges

- ▶ Making sure that school counselors do not pre-judge student candidates (making assumptions about a **who** is a good fit for online learning)
- ▶ Striving to ensure that all processes are scalable to accommodate large growth with program expansion each year
- ▶ Developing solid collaborative relationships with home school counselors to foster effective communication and support for students who may have difficulty with virtual learning experience

Thank you for including us!



QUESTIONS?