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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Three Richmond Public Schools to Participate in Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities' Annual Summer Training Retreat**

**RICHMOND, Va.** – For the fifth consecutive year, teams of educators from Richmond Public Schools (RPS) will participate in the Richmond Educational Equity Initiative (REEI). Representatives from Redd Elementary, Boushall Middle, and George Wythe High schools will represent RPS at this year's event. The four-day summer retreat was created by the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities (VCIC) to provide a forum for sharing strategies on how to support the development of inclusive learning communities.

Throughout the four-day program, which will be held June 19-22 at Sweet Briar College, RPS educators will participate in interactive workshops and small discussion groups focused on eliminating racial, cultural and socioeconomic disparities. Along with this training and leadership development, additional support will be provided to the participating schools throughout the 2017-2018 school year in the form of professional development, coaching, school and classroom observations, and customized programming.

The REEI program is a multi-year partnership with RPS designed to complement VCIC's ongoing work with the district's middle and high schools. In previous years, VCIC has supported equity initiatives at Fox Elementary, Greene Elementary, Elkhardt-Thompson Middle, Lucille Brown Middle, and Huguenot High schools. Funded by The Community Foundation Serving Richmond and Central Virginia, REEI focuses on reducing achievement gaps through inclusive curriculum, classroom management, family outreach and community engagement.

For more information, contact the Office of Communications & Media Relations at 804.780.7100.

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