



**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Contact:** Jonathan C. Zur  
President & CEO  
(804) 515-7950  
jzur@inclusiveVA.org

**HENRICO COUNTY ADMINISTRATORS & EDUCATORS TO  
PARTICIPATE IN VCIC EDUCATIONAL EQUITY RETREAT**

For the second consecutive year, teams of educators from Henrico County Public Schools (HCPS) will participate in the Henrico Educational Equity Initiative (HEEI). Representatives from Glen Allen Elementary, Holman Middle, Moody Middle, Short Pump Middle, and Glen Allen High Schools will represent HCPS at this year's event, scheduled to take place from June 25-28 at Sweet Briar College.

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 develop more inclusive and equitable learning communities. HCPS educators will learn about how bias and prejudice can affect learning and teaching. Through interactive workshops and small group discussions, participants will design different approaches to creating a supportive learning environment. At the conclusion of the retreat, educators will design action plans for schools, focusing on closing gaps in opportunity and achievement, and on creating an inclusive school atmosphere.

Along with this retreat, VCIC will provide additional support to participating schools throughout the 2018-2019 school year. Past participating schools have seen significant reductions in discipline referrals, increases in family engagement, and improvements in school climate.

The Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities works with schools, businesses, and communities to achieve success by addressing prejudices, in all forms, in order to improve academic achievement, increase workplace productivity, and enhance local trust. Through workshops, retreats, and customized programs that raise knowledge, motivation, and skills, VCIC develops leaders who work together to achieve success throughout the Commonwealth.

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