VIBE
VIRTUAL INSTITUTE FOR BELONGING AND EQUITY

MADE POSSIBLE BY

Atlantic Union Bank

R.E.B. Foundation

A PROGRAM OF

VIRGINIA CENTER FOR INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

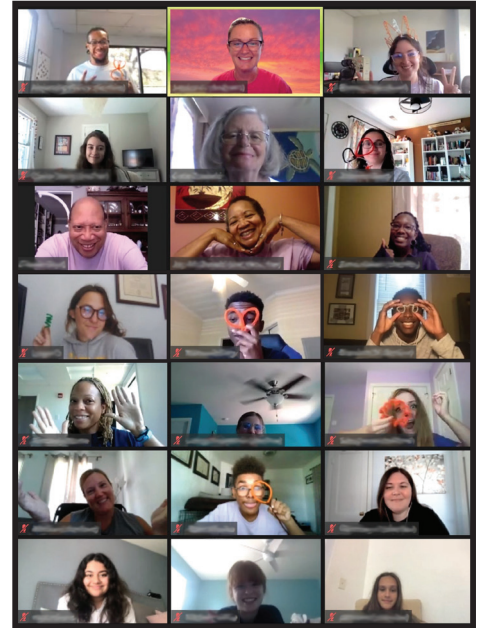**FINAL REPORT AUGUST 4 - 6, 2021**

OVERVIEW

The Virtual Institute for Belonging and Equity (VIBE) is designed to facilitate a process through which participants are invited and challenged to:

- <u>Learn</u> about prejudice, bias, and discrimination, and their effects on others and ourselves within society
- <u>Raise</u> awareness about the role their identity plays in the way they see and experience the world
- <u>Encourage</u> a heightened awareness of the experiences and perspectives of people with different backgrounds
- <u>Develop</u> personal skills needed to help solve individual and group problems in human relations
- <u>Improve</u> leadership skills in order to positively impact their school climates and communities.

WHO

31 students and volunteers participated in VIBE. Students in the following communities were in attendance: Chesapeake, Chesterfield, Farmville, Goochland, Hanover, Harrisonburg, Henrico, Middleburg, Powhatan, Richmond, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and Williamsburg-James City County.

EVALUATION HIGHLIGHTS

100% of students said they developed new skills to help them create a more inclusive school

100% of students indicated having a better understanding of the experiences of people who are different than them

100% of students said they developed new skills that will help them to work for causes & issues in which they believe

94% of students agreed that they have the skills to stand up to people who are making prejudiced comments

FROM OUR STUDENTS

VIBE is ...

- "one of the best experiences I have had. It was fun, knowledgeable, informational, and it gave me a place to release my voice and listen to others"

- "an absolutely amazing experience that taught me so much about how to make my school and community more inclusive and equitable. It also gave me a lot of resources that I can continue to use"

- "a helpful, accessible experience to keep pushing oneself to become a better upstander and ally."

- "a safe and inclusive space where students of all backgrounds can come together to share experiences and better themselves as leaders."