Student Quotes from the Early 2020s

*Selected Student Comments about the Retreat (both campuses)*

[I was] able to learn and have conversations about race that I never had the opportunity to before.

[It was an] open community and safe environment.

[I was] able to learn and interact with others from different backgrounds.

[I was] able to get the perspectives of the others point of view.

The strongest aspects of the TRUE retreat were… The REAL Talks and us talking about our [student-led campus education] event. You got to see everyone’s point of view on life and learn about people as individuals instead of looking at them pertaining to their race. I like planning the event with them because we got to see our vision come to life...

*Selected Student Comments about the Entire TRUE Program (both campuses)*

I learned about the diversity that exists within the white community, and I learned that the younger generation has become more open to change and aware of their privilege/impact on the world.

[I valued] being able to visit and gain information about rural schools while gaining DEIB training [Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging].

I learned more about my identity.

I’ve learned that I have little knowledge of how different schools are set up. I thought everywhere, everyone was getting the same school environment I was getting.

[I valued] learning how to be culturally responsive for all students.

The strongest aspects of my week-long campus visit were the school visits and being able to have conversations with the administration and other staff members. It allowed us to gain a deeper insight into the community the school resides in and how they intertwine and affect one another.

I learned about what type of school environment I would like to work in and where I would thrive best.

[I valued] going to the different elementary schools. Seeing the way other people receive schooling when compared to mine was really eye opening and made me really consider where I want to teach.

I learned that I was very biased and had a strong negative feeling towards white people. I also learned that I might not know myself as much as I thought I did until I started doing activities in TRUE.

TRUE has made me want to do research about many cultures so I am competent to the needs of my students.

I now know that it is important to learn your school’s community on a personal level in order to understand my student’s and ways to incorporate this into my classroom.