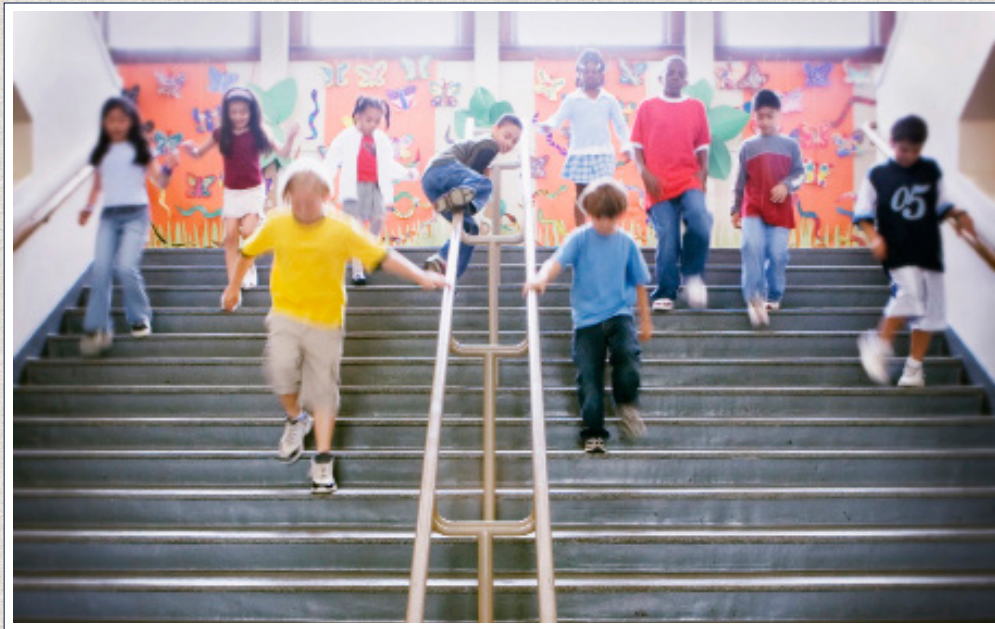




global learning for all



VIF International Education

Board of Directors Report - September 2014

About VIF
Programs at a Glance
Impact and Highlights

About VIF

Designated by the U.S. Department of State as an exchange visitor program sponsor for teachers since 1995, VIF International Education builds global education and cultural exchange programs that prepare students for success in an interconnected world.

Our team

Our team offers decades of experience in cultural exchange, teaching, education administration, language acquisition, curriculum design and product development and is dedicated to providing successful and rewarding classroom experiences to our teachers and their students.

Our values

Global perspective

All students deserve a comprehensive education that prepares them for success in our interconnected world. Global-ready students are formed by globally competent teachers, school and district leaders, and supportive communities.

Impact

Widely adopted professional development, globally infused curriculum, language acquisition and cultural exchange programs improve the lives of students around the world, affecting scores of people, communities, economies and futures.



On average, each staff member has lived in

2.2

different countries.



We've traveled to

79

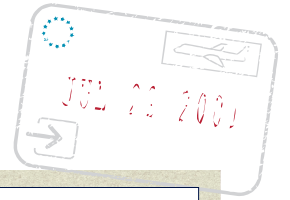
different countries...



...at an average of

different countries per staff member.

David Young, Chief Executive Officer



"I'm passionate about international education. I love going into VIF partner schools and seeing firsthand how global education makes the classroom walls disappear. It sparks a love of learning and a new curiosity about the world and people - and it's fun. VIF partners with schools to leverage technology and international exchange to provide teachers and students with global understanding and perspective. I'm proud that I've made this quest my career."

-- David Young, Chief Executive Officer

Certified



VIF is a certified B-corporation, and part of a growing community of more than 1,000 Certified B Corps from 33 countries and over 60 industries working together toward one unifying goal: to solve social and environmental problems. B Corps are certified by the nonprofit B Lab (bcorporation.net) to meet rigorous standards of social and environmental performance, accountability and transparency.

Spotlight

VIF partners on first K-8 whole-school global models

Edgecombe County Schools (N.C.) and Beaufort County Schools (S.C.) have both partnered with VIF to implement whole-school global models. Martin Millenium Academy in Tarboro, N.C., former turnaround school, was rebranded and reopened as a K-8 global school providing access to VIF international teachers, Splash language immersion and Passport global curriculum. The model was chosen to combat student attrition, caused by influx of charter and private schools, and reached its enrollment goal well before the school's deadline. Robert Smalls International Academy is VIF's first Passport school in S.C. The pre-K-8 school is located in Beaufort, S.C. and boasts a robust global curriculum as well as school-wide access to Global Gateway.

VIF secures first non-teacher agreements outside of N.C.

In August 2014, the Houston Independent School District (HISD), under the leadership of Dr. Terry Grier, contracted with VIF for dual language services and support, including Global Gateway access for all teachers within HISD's dual language schools. The multi-year contract also calls for VIF's provision of teacher recruitment, selection, screening and support services for HISD's international bilingual teacher recruitment efforts. Kentucky's Department of Education, led by Dr. Terry Holliday, contracted with VIF to support a state-level Education Innovation grant whereby schools could apply for funding to cover school-wide access to Global Gateway. The deadline for grant application passed in late August with more than 18 schools vying for 13 funding spots.

P21 adopts global competency indicators developed by VIF

Working with leading experts in the field of international education, VIF has developed a comprehensive set of indicators to measure the attitudes, skills and knowledge that K-12 teachers and students require for success in the 21st century. In September 2014, VIF's competencies were licensed by the Partnership for 21st Century Skills (P21) to serve as the foundation for their Framework for State Action on Global Education. P21's Framework provides a series of essential elements and actions that support teachers in reaching levels of global competence that enhance students' preparation for college, careers and life. The Framework is intended to serve as a starting point or template for state leaders to build their states' respective strategies and sets of actions on global education.

Spotlight (cont.)

VIF supports the North Carolina-Moldova Partnership

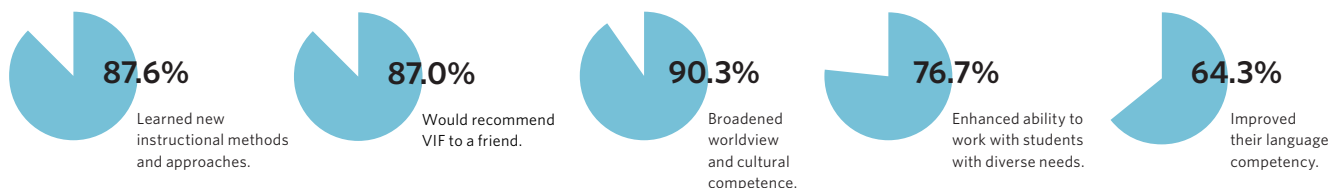
In the Spring of 2014, VIF announced that it will provide access to professional development and curriculum resources in support of international education collaborations between the State of North Carolina and Moldova. **Read more** at <http://bit.ly/1qAZkgd>.

N.C. State Board of Education adopts formal global education plan

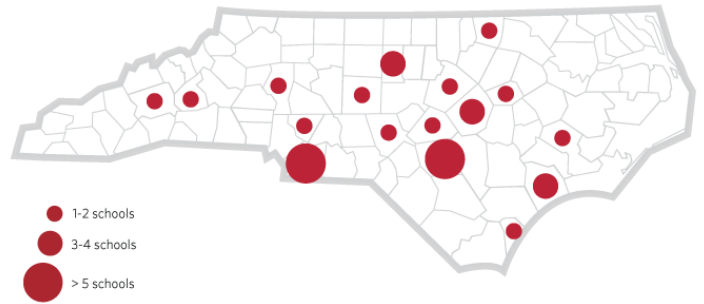
The North Carolina State Board of Education (SBE) formed a Task Force on Global Education to assess the state's effort to produce "globally competitive" graduates ready to live, work and contribute in an interconnected world. Based on feedback it received, the Task Force noted six major findings and made five commitments to take supporting action to ensure every public school student graduates fully prepared for the world. This effort focuses on assuring that students understand and appreciate other countries, languages and cultures. In 2013, North Carolina State Board of Education adopted the [Preparing Students for the World: Final Report of the State Board of Education's Task Force on Global Education](#).

VIF and American Federation of Teachers Survey VIF Alumni

VIF and the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) formed a partnership to survey alumni of VIF's cultural exchange program. Survey findings demonstrate the positive cultural impact and professional value of VIF's exchange program for teachers. Alumni responded that as cultural exchange teachers with VIF:



Programs at a Glance



Splash Language Immersion

Built on more than 20 years of dual language experience, Splash provides a comprehensive, turnkey framework for schools and districts to develop and maintain consistent, high-quality K-8 world language programs. VIF supports language immersion teachers with tools to promote academic achievement through enrichment rather than remediation, which enables students to excel in their core studies while becoming bilingual and culturally aware.

Program Components:

Immersion-specific instructional training, coaching and support.

Monitoring and one-on-one administrator support.

Native speaker teacher recruitment and placement in North Carolina.

Access to Global Gateway online professional development, lesson plans and classroom resources, digital badging and peer community.

Common Core-aligned content, grade-level materials selection and curriculum maps.

Parent and community outreach resources.

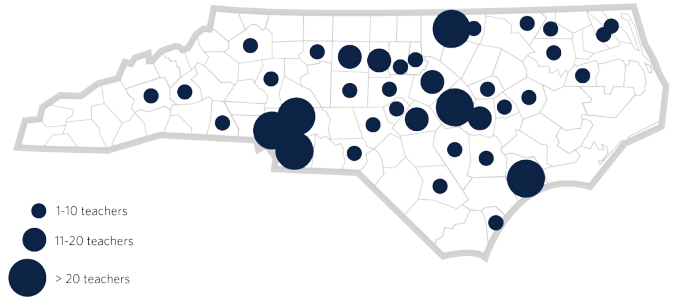
Learn more and read case studies at <http://vifprogram.com/splash-language-immersion.php>

你好





cultural exchange
HIGHLY EFFECTIVE
INTERNATIONAL TEACHERS



Cultural Exchange Teachers

VIF's international teachers inspire U.S. Americans to appreciate and accept other cultures, promoting a passion for global learning. Teachers are selected through a rigorous multistage screening and evaluation process, ensuring that every Cultural Exchange School is presented with a highly qualified group of educators ready to successfully impact student achievement and share authentic cultural perspectives.

VIF's International Teachers:

Expand the horizons of students, colleagues and communities through language, culture and customs.

Contribute varied educational practices and teaching methods, and provide international exposure and experience to U.S. colleagues.

Share their experiences and increased knowledge of the United States with their friends, families and communities when they return home.

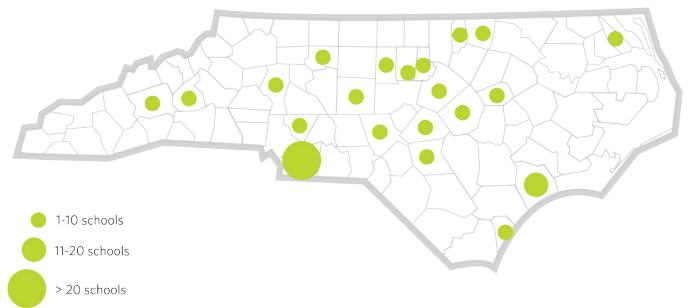
Build bridges of mutual understanding and educational growth for U.S. American school communities.

Learn more: <http://vifprogram.com/cultural-exchange-teachers.php>



"We always find the students to take greater pride and be more thankful for their culture through understanding those outside of the U.S. Students become empowered by and grateful for the opportunities and resources that they may otherwise take for granted through the lens of cultural awareness and global understanding."

-- Kensington
Elementary School
Principal Rachel Clarke



Global Gateway

The Global Gateway system offers a simple integrated platform for K-12 educator professional development, lesson plans and classroom resources, digital badging for achievements and participation in an incredible collaborative community of global educators. Teachers anywhere in the world can learn to effectively integrate global content into their core instruction.

Program Components:

Professional Development

Global Gateway professional development courses are structured as modules of sequential learning and organized by VIF's central learning spirals: Understanding, Investigating, Connecting and Integrating. Module content provides teachers with multiple touch points to incrementally gain the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to be effective global educators.

Teachers are able to review module content on their own at any time and collaborations with other teachers and colleagues enhance their experiences. Collaborations go beyond schools and districts as teachers share evidence of their learning in the VIF community and see how other teachers are implementing the information and techniques gained from various modules within their classrooms, grade levels and schools.

Global Inquiry

Global Gateway enhances the professional learning of teachers through a consistent project-based inquiry design and asks them to implement inquiry approaches in their teaching.

Digital Badging

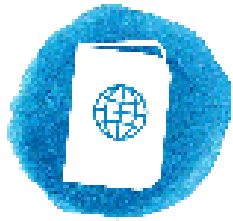
As teachers progress through Global Gateway professional development modules, they build online portfolios of digital badges earned for their achievements.

Global Project-based Curriculum

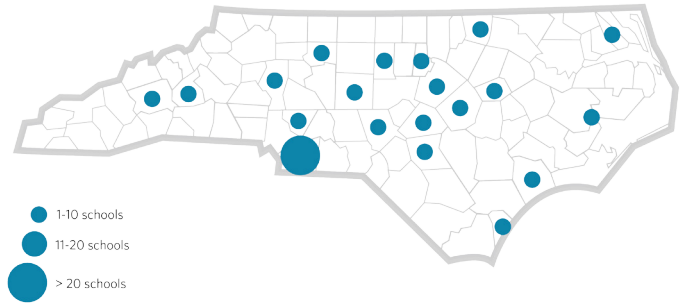
Global Gateway offers lessons, units and course in three languages: English, Spanish and Mandarin. All lessons are developed to align to project-based inquiry approaches and to Common Core State Standards, National Social Studies Standards, National Educational Technology Standards and Career Technical Education Standards.

Learn more at <http://vifprogram.com/global-gateway-professional-development-curriculum.php>.





passport
GLOBAL SCHOOLS



Passport

Supported by the foundational components and benefits of the Global Gateway system, Passport builds teacher and leadership capacity in global education to promote rigorous, enthusiastic student learning. Passport Schools are distinguished by school-wide efforts and commitment to project-based inquiry and student-led learning through globally minded leadership and staff, and sustained, meaningful global exchange to foster authentic learning.

Program Components:

Whole-school access to the Global Gateway professional development system.

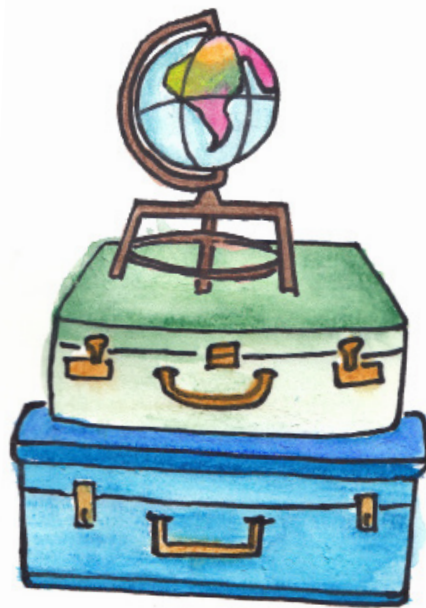
Dedicated program manager support.

Monthly reports on staff usage and participation.

Access for principals to virtual coaching, a dedicated global principal community and a global leader toolkit.

Membership to VIF Global Schools Network and Global-Ready School designation.

Optional on-site orientation and evaluation visits.



"Our overall goal is to provide students with an outstanding education. This is the way of the future. Teaching students to have a global perspective is going to prepare them to be more successful."

-- Edgecombe County Public Schools Superintendent John Farrelly, quoted in the Daily Southerner

Learn more at <http://vifprogram.com/passport-global-schools.php>.

Impacts and Highlights



Global Gateway

6,832
members



20,890
learning center posts



66
different
countries



1,942
teacher-created lesson plans



1,357
professional development
module badges earned

Teachers are creating and implementing strategies for global education:

80%
have uploaded
lesson plans



85%
report daily use of
productive technologies
for student-created
project-based work.



77%
of teacher-created
lesson plans demonstrate
integration of global content
into curriculum.



100%
of administrators said teachers successfully
integrate global content into their curriculum
and their teaching.



Global Gateway contributes to the success of students, teachers and schools:

94%
agree that students are
on-task and focused
while working on global
projects.



85%
agree that students talk
about global projects
outside of class.



93%
agree that students are
excited when working
on global projects.



"We are able to share experiences, strategies and ideas with worldwide teachers, giving us new tools to improve our classroom development." -- VIF learning center educator

Impacts and Highlights



Splash Language Immersion

Splash program growth:



Proven Academic Performance

Immersion students perform as well or better than non-immersion students on standardized tests in English.

Second Language Skills

More than in any other type of language learning model, immersion students achieve high proficiency in target language.

Splash students consistently outperformed their non-dual language immersion peers on all 2014 End of Grade (EOG) tests:

+ In **math**, Splash students performed **27 percent higher than peers**, on average.

+ In **reading**, Splash students performed **20 percent higher than peers**, on average.

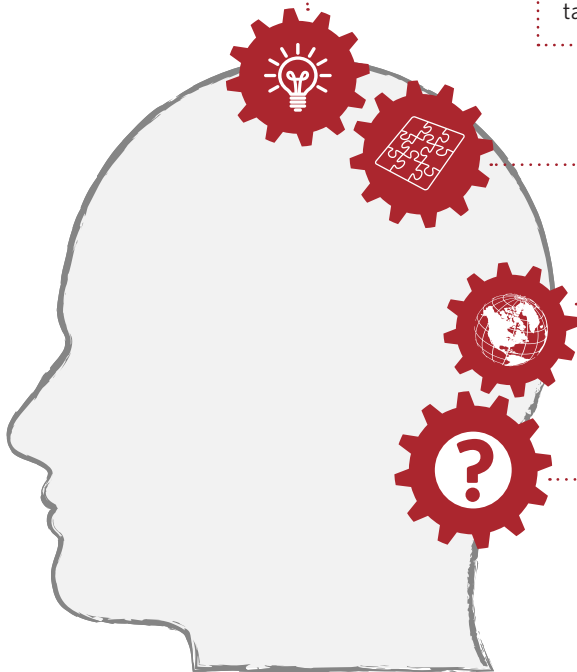
+ In **science**, students performed **13 percent higher than peers**, on average.

Preparation for the Future

Bilingual adults earn higher average salaries and have greater career opportunities than monolingual adults.

Enhanced Cognitive Skills

Immersion students typically develop greater cognitive flexibility, demonstrating increased focus and attention skills, better memory and decision-making, and superior problem-solving skills as well as an enhanced understanding of their primary language.



Impacts and Highlights



Cultural Exchange Teachers

VIF has been a designated U.S. Department of State J-1 visa sponsor since 1987.

more than 10,000

exchange teacher
alumni all over
the world

674

cultural exchange teachers
+ 42 residents

What sets our teachers apart?

Proven academic outcomes

Intercultural awareness

Selective admissions process

High retention rates

Ongoing training

VIF's research-based recruitment, selection and placement process ensures the selection of teachers who are both highly effective and committed to their schools and students.

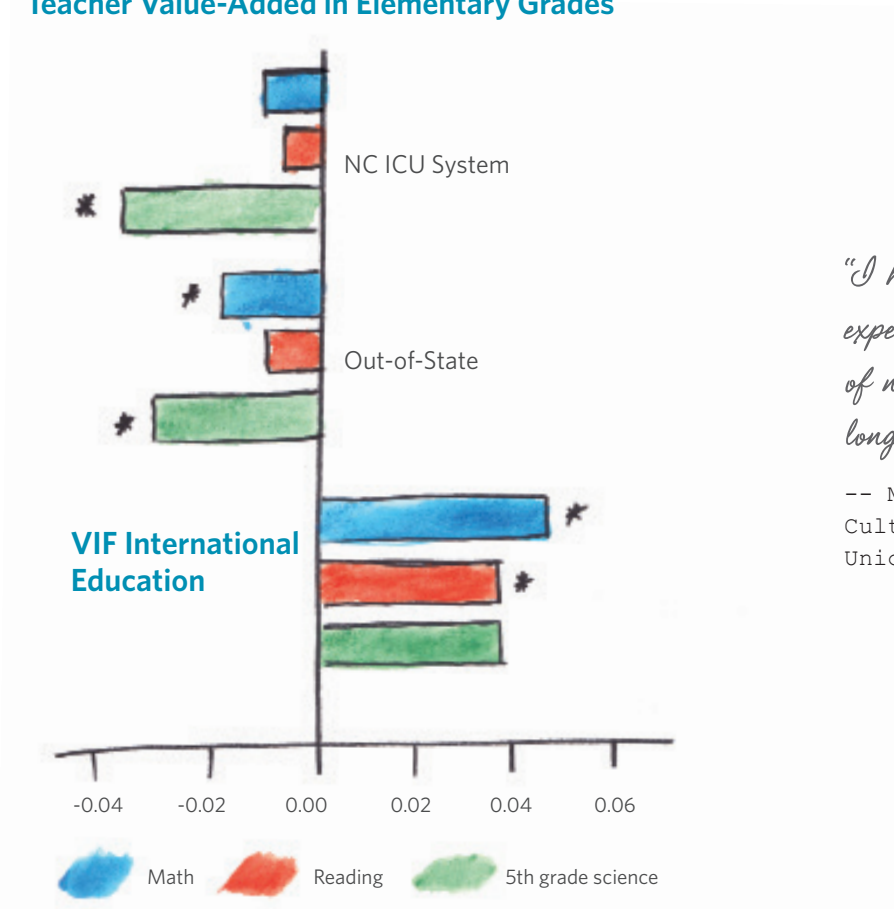
Positive student and teacher outcomes associated with our ongoing training and support system reflect recent findings that show a direct link between online professional development and increased teacher efficacy and gains in student achievement.



Cultural Exchange Teachers (cont.)

An extensive statewide study from the University of North Carolina¹ once again shows that VIF's international teachers are some of the most effective teachers in the state. Positive classroom experiences lead to successful exchanges.

Teacher Value-Added in Elementary Grades



"I have gained invaluable experience, new techniques, use of new technology and life-long friends!"

-- Mary Singleton, VIF Cultural Exchange Teacher, Union County Public Schools

This figure illustrates the value-added of VIF and traditional preparation program teachers in reference to UNC system prepared teachers. An * at the end of a horizontal bar indicates statistically significant differences at the 0.05 level.

¹ Bastian, K. & Patterson, K. (2013). *Teacher Preparation and Performance in North Carolina Public Schools*. Chapel Hill, N.C.: Education Policy Initiative at Carolina (EPIC), The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. http://publicpolicy.unc.edu/files/2014/02/Teacher-Preparation-and-Performance_FINAL.pdf



Cultural Exchange Teachers (cont.)

VIF teachers are immersed in U.S. culture. During the 2013-2014 school year, VIF's Cultural Exchange Teachers were active participants in their schools and local communities, taking part in activities and organizations such as:

- The International Festival of Raleigh
- The North Carolina State Fair
- The Selma Christmas Parade
- Local churches and religious communities
- Tours of the U. S. and American cultural landmarks
- Attending local sporting events
- Celebrating U.S. holidays
- And more!



"I learned about new cultures and new ways to see the world. I learned to appreciate the little things life has to offer. I learned to take more risks and get involved in my community. I think my greatest achievement as an international educator is to be a link between different cultures and to facilitate the transition of my students from one culture to another. Thank you for these wonderful five years!"

-- Kathering Foronda Ramirez, VIF Cultural Exchange Teacher, Duplin County Schools

VIF teachers are real people with real stories of exchange and impact.

Read more stories at <https://www.viflearn.com/index.php/2014-vif-alumni>.



global learning for all

VIF International Education builds global education programs that prepare students for success in an interconnected world. For more than 25 years, educators have leveraged VIF's professional development and curriculum, language acquisition and teacher exchange programs to generate engaging learning environments where students can excel in core curriculum as well as develop valuable critical and creative thinking skills. A certified B Corp and 'Best for the World' honoree headquartered in Chapel Hill, N.C., VIF provides a pathway for teachers, schools and districts to become globally designated.

