Spreading the

at Freeman

By Jessica Hurst

The walls of Douglas S. Freeman High School have gained a little of the LOVE wall. One of fifteen murals, the LOVE wall project is the work of LovEvolve, a multi-faceted local organization with a goal towards making the world a better and more beautiful place. The murals can be seen in various locations around Richmond, and as far away as Georgia.

LovEvolve was born in 2019 when founder, Sunny Goode, created the Love Swaddle. Her vision is to "swaddle every newborn in LOVE and promote relationship health awareness at birth." By partnering with nine local hospitals, over 42,000 babies have been wrapped in LOVE. The mission doesn't end there. LovEvolve is also there "to provide new



parents and families with Fourth Trimester support and relationship resources."

In addition to the murals and the hospital partnerships, LovEvolve has a brick-and-mortar location on Huguenot Rd. where they offer a wide variety of products, from swaddles to scarves, blankets, Turkish towels, cosmetic bags, silk pillowcases and more. Lily Brooks, an employee in the retail store, and junior at DSF, first had the idea to bring the LOVE to Freeman. Lily feels so uplifted and inspired at work being surrounded by so much positivity and imagined that students may feel the same way getting to experience a LOVE wall at school.

Lily is an avid tennis player, competing on Freeman's Varsity Tennis team, as well as playing at Westwood Tennis Club and with the VCU Men's Tennis Coach and players. During the summer she works at Passages Summer Camp, and was just promoted to Counselor. She has just started the undertaking of spreading the LOVE message to the school by starting the One Love club at school, where she will serve as the Team One Love Club Leader.

With the approval of DSF, and the cooperation of LovEvolve, the actual project only took about 3 hours to complete. From the first spark of an idea to the completion of the mural, Lily was instrumental in bringing this project to life, even helping paint a bit herself.

If you are interested in learning more about Lovevolve and their mission, please check them out at <u>lovevolve.com</u>.



