

Government of the Virgin Islands
Virgin Islands Board of Education



PARENT-VIBE Network . . .

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Summer time is usually considered a when children are given opportunities to relax or curtail academic studies. The thinking is they have performed all year and need a time to regroup or regenerate for the next school year. Unfortunately, with the disparity with instructional strategies, best practices and poor performance by some schools, summer time freedom should be utilized for continuous educational growth. All family members should work together to promote academic achievement through travel, research, remediation and acceleration challenges. We encourage parents to use summer for making learning fun filled and productive for learners.

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Make This A Summer of Achievement!

Reading

- A. Daily reading for enjoyment
- B. Work to increase understanding of reading principles

Mathematics

- A. Completion of daily mathematical operations
- B. Work to increase understanding of mathematical concepts

Writing

- A. Daily writing in journal towards the completion of article/s, reviews, magazine or artistic endeavor
- B. Research hobby, community project, field trip or career choices

Safety

- A. Discuss social skills
- B. Discuss bullying, gangs & violence
- A. Supervise children in cars
- B. Keep children away from hazardous materials
- C. Provide drinking water
- D. Protect children with sun blocks
- E. Show children how to use 911
- F. Protect children against abductions
- G. Discuss sports and playground safety
- H. Discuss motorcycle, skating & bicycle safety
- I. Give guidelines for safe internet use

Virgin Islands History

- A. Daily exploration of Virgin Islands' Culture -language, music, foods ,leaders, art, economics, politics, dress, history, marine and or wild life etc.
- B. Complete activity (ies) to demonstrate information learned.
 - Did you know?
 - Member Oswin Sewer was honored by "Fresh Water Yankees" in New York
 - Member Cheryl Francis was honored by St. Peter & Paul Church
 - Member Janis Esannason was honored by Crusaders Club



The Virgin Islands Board of Education's (VIBE) primary goal is to devise policies, rules, and regulations to educate all students to become competent, literate, responsible citizens, capable of making successful life choices within the global community. The Board is responsible for the general policy and direction of education in the Virgin Islands in accordance with the U.S. Constitution, the Revised Organic Act, Virgin Islands laws, and regulations. Some of the VIBE policies enacted that the PTA may find helpful are:

Promotion and retention of students and grading system requirements K-12: The promotional policies of the public schools of the Virgin Islands are based as closely as possible on the Virgin Islands Department of Education's philosophy of education. The promotional policies of the public schools of the Virgin Islands were developed on the premise that students shall be engaged in instruction for the minimum of 1080 hours as mandated in the Virgin Islands Code Title 17, Chapter 7, Section 61.

Student discipline policy: In order for effective instruction to occur, there must be a cooperative relationship between student, parent, and educator. In addition, reasonable consistency in the schools is established through the disciplinary response procedures.

- Roles of Parents, Student, School, and School Personnel
- Student Dress
- Infractions and disciplinary responses
- Due process
- Student Rights and Responsibilities i.e. attendance, counseling, curriculum, Free Speech/Expression, grades, privacy/property rights, student records

In addition to the areas mentioned above, VIBE offers additional tips for parental rights and responsibilities:

- Visit your schools often
- Discuss school's mission and goals
- Expect effective teaching
- Discuss ability levels
- Expect safe and clean environments: inside and outside of areas
- Expect varied instructional methods
- Expect qualified personnel and staff
- Expect technology and innovations as part of school study
- Ask for school data and progress reports which explain how your child is learning
- Provide several numbers so you may be contacted by the school
- Tell your child to respect authority and rules
- Expect challenging and difficult work for each level

School-Based Comprehensive Emergency Response Plan and Drills (SCERP): The Virgin Islands Board of Education established SCERP because it recognized that the safety, security and well being of students and school personnel of the Virgin Islands Public School System are important during a natural or man-made disaster or any emergency that requires the implementation of procedures for the coordinated movement and/or evacuation of the occupants of the schools.

Appeal Process: The Virgin Islands Board of Education hears complaints and appeals within thirty days of the date of the act. All the appeals and complaints made to the Board of Education must be in writing and notarized. All decisions rendered by the Board of Education in appeal cases or on complaints shall be final, unless reviewed by the Governor.

Territorial Scholarship and Loan program: The V. I. Board of Education offers financial aid to students in the form of Territorial loan/grant Scholarships, Special Legislative Grants, and In-Service Training Grants. The annual application period is from January to May.

Applicant Eligibility:

- Must be a bona fide resident of the V. I.
- Must be a graduate from a high school in the Virgin Islands
- Must be in financial need
- Must have a cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.0 or 2.5 (for Nursing)
- Must be accepted to or attending an accredited institution.