

GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS VIRGIN ISLANDS BOARD OF EDUCATION



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Shawna K. Richards

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Nandi Sekou, Esq.
Jeanette Smith-Barry

Angel L. Bolques, Jr.
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Vacant
Executive Director

Emmett Hansen II
Associate Executive Director

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Virgin Islands Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes – June 4, 2021

I. Call to Order

The special meeting of the 20th Virgin Islands Board of Education was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chair Kyza Callwood.

II. Roll Call

The following were present: Kyza Callwood, Winona Hendricks, Shawna K. Richards, Angel L. Bolques, Jr., Jeanette Smith-Barry, Judy M. Gomez, Nandi Sekou and Terrence Joseph. Emmanuella Perez-Cassius joined after the roll call.

Staff Members Present: Executive Director Stephanie Berry, AED Emmett Hansen, Business and Finance Director Alcanta DeWindt, Marva Austrie and Sylvanie Rhymer.

Stenographer: Diane Andrews

III. Recommendation for Distribution of Funds

The amounts available for distribution in each funding category were reviewed.

MOTION: Member Richards moved that funds set aside for members allotment be applied for use in the territorial scholarship loan and grant awards and end the practice of member allotments.

SECOND: Member Bolques

Objection: Member Gomez who said that the member allotment is a general practice and that each member can make their own decision regarding the use of the allotment.

Members discussed their positions on the practice. Discussion supported maintaining the practice, which is used to support students who may have special needs/circumstances meriting greater financial assistance. Members Smith-Barry and Hendricks said the discussion needed to be part of a larger discussion. Voting was as follows:

Yea (2) – A. Bolques, Jr. and S. Richards

Nay (6) – K. Callwood, J. Gomez, W. Hendricks, T. Joseph, E. Perez-Cassius and N. Sekou.

Not voting (1) – J. Smith-Barry

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Virgin Islands Board of Education is to provide leadership and oversight, set policy and advocate for continuous improvement of the Public Education System of the Virgin Islands of the United States.

VISION STATEMENT

Each child is provided with the best quality education which guarantees academic excellence, promotes our history and culture, and builds strong local and global communities.

The motion failed.

MOTION: Chair Callwood moved to go into Executive Session

SECOND: Member Gomez seconded the motion.

So ordered. The Board went into Executive Session at 3:50 p.m.

The Board returned to regular session at 6:18 p.m.

IV. Adjournment

MOTION: Member Joseph moved to adjourn.

SECOND: Chair Callwood

So ordered. The meeting was adjourned at 6: 21 p.m.

Submitted By:



Shawna K. Richards, PMP
Secretary

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