

**GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
VIRGIN ISLANDS BOARD OF EDUCATION**



BOARD OFFICERS

Kyza A. Callwood, MPA
Chairman

Winona A. Hendricks
Vice-Chairman

Shawna K. Richards
Secretary

St. Croix Members
Winona A. Hendricks
Terrence T. Joseph
Emmanuella M. Perez-Cassius
Shawna K. Richards

St. Thomas/St. John Members
Kyza A. Callwood, MPA
Judy M. Gomez, Esq.
Nandi Sekou, Esq.
Jeanette Smith-Barry

Angel L. Bolques, Jr.
At Large Member

Vacant
Executive Director

Emmett Hansen II
Associate Executive Director

St. Croix Office
1123 King Street
Christiansted, VI 00820

Telephone No.
340-772-4144
Fax No.
340-772-2895

St. Thomas Office
P.O. Box 11900
Dronningens Gade
Nos. 60B, 61 & 62
St. Thomas, VI 00801
Telephone No.
340-774-4546
Fax. No.
340-774-3384

WEBSITE
www.myviboe.com

**Virgin Islands Board of Education
Special Meeting Minutes – November 30, 2022**

I. Call to Order

The special meeting of the 20th Virgin Islands Board of Education was called to order at 5:04 p.m. by Chair Kyza Callwood.

II. Roll Call

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

Staff Members Present: Executive Director Stephanie Berry and BFD Bess
Legal Counsel: Atty. Jennifer Jones
Stenographer: Kathleen Dowling

III. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Vice-Chair Hendricks moved to accept the agenda.

SECOND: Chair Callwood

Objection: Member Joseph

Voting was as follows:

Yea (4) – K. Callwood, W. Hendricks, J. Gomez, and S. Richards

Nay (2) – T. Joseph and N. Sekou

Absent (3) – A. Bolques, Jr., J. Smith-Barry and E. Perez-Cassius

The motion carried.

IV. Old Business

ED Berry presented correspondence from the VIDE regarding the discipline policy and jurisdiction outside of public school hours. Chair Callwood said the VIDE decides jurisdiction. Each member was allowed to state their opinion:

Perez-Cassius: Disagreed with the Chair's position and said the VIBE needs to look at accountability and safety;

Sekou: The VIBE is the appellate arm and should not give an opinion on jurisdiction;

Richards: It is an accountability issue and a shame that the VIDE is putting the Board

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.

in this position because it does not want to take responsibility for the safety and security of students. Richards noted that the student is in the custody of the Department once they leave home to go to school;

Gomez – The VIBE can interpret any jurisdictional issues when a case comes before the Board;

Hendricks: The Board should not be discussing a case that is not before the Board;

Sekou: Agreed that the VIDE acts *in loco parentis* and the Board should remind VIDE of its responsibility to students.

Atty. Jones said the Board should not be advocating for points of view and does not want to set a precedence for handling issues outside of the appeal process.

Member Richards said the Board is not discussing a case, it is discussing policy. She reminded members that VIBE’s policy work is often reactive, in response to emerging situations.

After discussion, Chair Callwood said that although Atty. Jones issued an opinion to the Board on the jurisdictional issues, the VIBE’s response to the VIDE’s correspondence will not include the opinion. He said the Board’s response will direct the VIDE to the student discipline policy and the VI Code.

V. Executive Session

MOTION: Member Gomez moved to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

SECOND: Member Perez-Cassius

Voting was as follows:

Yea (5) – K. Callwood, S. Richards, J. Gomez, E. Perez-Cassius and N. Sekou

Nay (1) – T. Joseph

Absent (3) – W. Hendricks, A. Bolques, Jr., and J. Smith-Barry

The motion carried. The Board went into Executive Session at 5:37 p.m.

The Board returned to Regular Session at 6:16 p.m. Chair Callwood reported that the Board discussed and disposed of personnel matters. addressed collections and legal matters while in Executive Committee.

VI. Adjournment

MOTION: Member Joseph moved to adjourn.

SECOND: Member Gomez

The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

Submitted By:



Shawna K. Richards, PMP
Secretary

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.