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**St. Croix Office**  
1123 King Street  
Christiansted, VI 00820  
Telephone No. 340-774-4144  
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](http://www.myviboe.com)

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May 5, 2021

Kyza Callwood, MPA  
Chairman  
Virgin Islands Board of Education  
Nos. 60B, 61 & 62  
St. Thomas, VI 00801

**THE VIRGIN ISLANDS BOARD OF EDUCATION PAYS TRIBUTE TO  
U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS' TEACHERS**

The 20<sup>th</sup> Virgin Islands Board of Education (VIBE) extends its sincere appreciation to all teachers in the territory for their hard work on behalf of our students. As we continue to celebrate National Teacher Appreciation week from May 3 – May 7, 2021, there remains a profound sense of pride within our community for our teachers. As a result of extraordinary hardships imposed on our community by the COVID-19 pandemic, our teachers have risen to the challenge and continue to demonstrate flexibility, ingenuity, creativity, care, and dedication.

“The impact that teachers have on our lives cannot be overstated or underappreciated. Other than immediate family, our children and young people view teachers as not only authority figures, but also as the gatekeepers to a wondrous world of knowledge and learning,” said Kyza A. Callwood, chairperson of the VIBE’s governing board. We acknowledge that the lessons learned through our instructors go far beyond the required curricula. “Our teachers are instrumental in teaching self-control, civics, respect for differences, tolerance and so many other intangible qualities, which lead our students into adulthood and support their success,” Callwood concluded.

Please join the VIBE in congratulating our 2021 Teachers of the Year - Christina Marie Senosa (St. Thomas/St. John district) and Alicia Walters-Ramos (St. Croix district), along with all education professionals within your communities for the work they do, especially this Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, which is Teachers' Day throughout the Virgin Islands.

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**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.