

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



BOARD OFFICERS

Arah C. Lockhart
Chairman

Kyza A. Callwood, MPA
Vice-Chairman

Winona A. Hendricks
Secretary

St. Croix Members
Winona A. Hendricks
Terrence T. Joseph
Mary L. Moorhead
Martial Webster, Esq.

St. Thomas/St. John Members
Kyza A. Callwood, MPA
Judy M. Gomez, Esq.
Arah C. Lockhart
Jeanette Smith-Barry

James Provost
At Large Member

Milton Potter
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

October 16, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE (No. 17-2019)

**VIRGIN ISLANDS BOARD OF EDUCATION
ADVISES OF MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

ST. THOMAS, USVI – The Virgin Islands Department of Education New Schools Advisory Committee will hold a series of meetings in October to share its current work and to gain public input on the planning and construction of new and modernized public schools in the territory.

Meetings will be held from 6-8 p.m. on designated dates on all three islands.

The 50-member New Schools Advisory Committee, comprised of Education employees, elected officials, business owners, community activists, parents, students and other community members on St. Croix, St. John and St. Thomas, was established in January 2019 and is required to follow stringent federal guidelines to ensure the appropriation of funds to construct new public schools or modernize existing schools.

“This is an exciting time for the Department of Education where we get to share the first phase of the important work that has gone into making the construction of new schools a reality in the Virgin Islands,” said Department of Education Commissioner Racquel Berry-Benjamin. “We are in the very early stages of this work, but we are making the right progress and look forward to gaining the public’s input at these meetings.”

The meetings are expected to be interactive, with attendees participating in small-group discussions, planning sessions, surveys and other activities. All are encouraged to attend.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Virgin Islands Board of Education is committed to its vision and will promote the transformation of the structure of existing public education through:
1. governance over the public education system; 2. improved student, parent, teacher relationship; 3. comprehensive community engagement; 4. standards that promote high academic achievement; 5. creation of an environment that is conducive to effective communication; 6. enhanced quality of professional development for all; 7. provision of adequate resources to achieve our vision, goals and objectives.

VISION STATEMENT

To ensure that each child is provided with the best quality education which promotes our history and culture, guarantees academic achievement and builds strong communities.

NEW SCHOOLS ADVISORY COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETINGS SCHEDULE

ST. JOHN

October 16

V.I. Legislature Hall

6-8 p.m.

ST. THOMAS

October 17

Ivanna Eudora Kean High School Cafeteria

6-8 p.m.

October 22

Charlotte Amalie High School Auditorium

6-8 p.m.

October 24

UVI Sports & Fitness Center

6-8 p.m.

ST. CROIX

October 28

Claude O. Markoe Elementary School Cafeteria

6-8 p.m.

October 29

Juanita Gardine K-8 School Auditorium

6-8 p.m.

October 30

St. Croix Central High School Cafeteria

6-8 p.m.

###