GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS VIRGIN ISLANDS BOARD OF EDUCATION



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. 18-2017)

November 20, 2017

Terrence T. Joseph, Chairman 18th V.I. Board of Education 6 King Street & 3A King Cross Street Christiansted, St. Croix Virgin Islands 00820

The 18th Virgin Islands Board of Education wishes the Virgin Islands public a heartfelt Happy Thanksgiving while we all are in a post-hurricane recovery phase.

"Those of us still present in the Virgin Islands must acknowledge that with all three islands so severely impacted by Hurricanes Irma and Maria, we are fortunate the loss of life was not as great as one may have expected. We are fortunate for Virgin Islanders such as Timothy Duncan who has made assisting his fellow Virgin Islanders his sacred and personal mission. We are also thankful for the scores of unnamed neighbors and extended family members who have gone out of their way to assist those who are unable to help themselves and the off-workers who are missing Thanksgiving with their families to assist in our recovery," said VIBE Board Chairperson Terrence Joseph.

VIBE also wishes to acknowledge the unsung heroes of the Virgin Islands educational system who are rarely given their accolades. VIBE wishes to acknowledge not only the visible contributors as the teachers, counselors and school principals, but also the maintenance workers, bus drivers, custodial workers and school lunch workers who ensure that all the non-academic needs of our children are met on a daily basis.

"Finally, we would like to inform the teachers and administrators whom we serve that we are cognizant of the challenges presented by this post-hurricane phase which we all are experiencing. We are not indifferent to your struggles, either personally or professionally," said Joseph. "Therefore, we are extending the deadline for all certification documentation to be in our offices by December 31, 2017. However, we ask educators not to wait until the deadline to turn in their documentation at the last minute. As much as possible, we wish to assist each and every professional to gain and retain their certification," he concluded.

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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