

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



BOARD OFFICERS

Terrence T. Joseph
Chairman

Mary L. Moorhead
Vice-Chairman

Kyza A. Callwood, MPA
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
Nandi Sékou, Esq.

James Provost
At Large Member

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

January 8, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE (No. 01-2018)

**The Virgin Islands Board of Education
Commemorates Birthdates of Jane E. Tuitt and Jean Joseph Sibilly**

The 18th Virgin Islands Board of Education wishes to commemorate the birthdates of two icons of Virgin Islands Education - Ms. Jane E. Tuitt and Mr. Jean Joseph Sibilly.

“It is important that we both recognize and commemorate those persons who have shaped the educational process in the Virgin Islands,” said VIBE Chairperson Terrence T. Joseph. “Quite often generations of our children pass through these schools and have no idea who the buildings were named for or why. We are attempting to give them some sense of history and the knowledge that their availability to a good education is a conscious decision which was made many years before they were born,” he said.

Mr. Sibilly was born on the island of St. Barthelemy January 5, 1889. Trained in agriculture and animal husbandry on Guadeloupe, he immigrated to St. Thomas in 1912. Amongst his contributions to his adopted home of St. Thomas are the construction of Sts. Peter and Paul High School, the donation of land for the Mafolie Chapel and its cemetery, and for the elementary school later named in his honor.

Ms. Tuitt was born January 8, 1905 to Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Tuitt of Hannah’s Rest, St. Croix. She attended the Thomas Oliver Robinson Memorial School, and while attending the boarding school, she passed the Cambridge Preliminary Examinations at the age of ten. After her graduation in 1923, she began her career as an educator and was interrupted only for periods of formal study at Hampton University. Later she did graduate work at Teacher’s College, Columbia University where she earned her master’s degree in 1951.

“We, the members of the 18th Virgin Islands Board of Education, stand on the shoulders of these icons of education and feel that they are all due their recognition and to be commemorated in the month of their birth. We salute them,” Chairperson Joseph concluded.

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.