

# GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS VIRGIN ISLANDS BOARD OF EDUCATION



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## Virgin Islands History Month Press Release

The 19<sup>th</sup> Virgin Islands Board of Education wishes to remind the general public that March is Virgin Islands History Month. As Virgin Islanders, let us take pride in our rich cultural tapestry of food, music, art, and literature. VI History Month provides us with an opportunity to celebrate the many aspects of our history and culture that we often take for granted.

Our history is replete with many notable educators such as Ruth E. Thomas and J. Antonio Jarvis, noted legislators like Ruby M. Rouss and Lorraine L. Berry, award winning Physicians like Dr. Alfred O. Heath and Dr. Roy L. Schneider, just to name a few. Learning about these individuals who walked the very same soil as our youngsters do today, instills in them a sense of pride and determination and reminds us whose shoulders we stand upon.

Over the years, Virgin Islanders have proven to be a resilient people. We have faced and overcome many challenges, from chattel slavery to major hurricanes and economic downturns. Learning about our past, reminds us of our long history of perseverance despite the odds.

For the remainder of this special month let us engage our students in cultural activities such as taking trips to historic sights, attending cultural events and inviting guest speakers to share their knowledge of Virgin Islands History.

The members and staff of the 19<sup>th</sup> Virgin Islands Board of Education, wish one and all a Happy Virgin Islands History Month.

### 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.