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St. Croix Office
1115 Strand Street
Suite 201-B
Christiansted, VI 00820
Telephone No. 340-772-4144

St. Thomas Office
P.O Box 11900
Dronningens Gade
Nos. 60B, 61 & 62
St. Thomas, VI 00801
Telephone No. 340-774-4546

WEBSITE
www.myviboe.com

**Minutes
Special Meeting – May 11, 2023**

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kyza Callwood.

II. Roll Call

The following were present: Kyza Callwood, Emmanuella Perez-Cassius, Shawna K. Richards, Winona Hendricks, Terrence Joseph, Judy M. Gomez, Nandi Sekou and Arah C. Lockhart.

Staff Members Present: IED Sandra Bess, AED Samanta Prentice, Marva Austrie, Ms. Alexander,
Legal Counsel: Atty. J. Jones
Stenographer:

III. Financial Aid Awards Process

MOTION: Member Gomez moved to go into Executive Session to discuss Financial Aid matters.

SECOND: Chair Callwood

Objection: Member Richards who said going into Executive Session was a violation of the Open Meetings Act.

Mbr. Sekou said that since student grades, names and other private information was protected by FERPA (Family Education Rights and Privacy Act) and could not be discussed in open meetings.

Former Board member M. Moorehead requested, but was not granted, five minutes to discuss a letter she received.

Member Richards stated for the record that at the appropriate time she would make a motion to end the practice of discretionary funding for board members.

Voting was as follows:

Yea (6) – K. Callwood, W. Hendricks, A. Lockhart, J. Gomez, E. Perez-Cassius and N. Sekou

Nay (2) – S. Richards and T. Joseph

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.

IV. The motion carried. The Board went into Executive Session at 5:51 p.m.
Adjournment

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:01 p.m. Chair Callwood summarized actions taken during Executive Session to increase total awards and make scholarship selections.

MOTION: Member Richards and Chair Callwood moved to adjourn

SECOND: Member Joseph

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 p.m.

Submitted By:



Shawna K. Richards, PMP
Secretary