

THE TWENTY-SECOND VIRGIN ISLANDS BOARD OF EDUCATION
GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

In the Matter of:	)	
	)	
Student Safety, Discipline, and Reporting	)	Gen. Order No. 002-2025
	)	
_____	)	

ORDER

WHEREAS, the Virgin Islands Board of Education, in exercising its oversight responsibility, recognizes that ensuring the safety, well-being, and educational success of students in the Virgin Islands is a fundamental responsibility of the Department of Education and each school;

WHEREAS, recent incidents involving firearms, bomb threats, and other high-risk behaviors (Level IV infractions) have revealed gaps in enforcement and compliance, particularly where no formal, proactive reporting mechanisms exist;

WHEREAS, the Virgin Islands Student Discipline Policy (CVIR 17-003-002) and 17 V.I.C. § 91 provide mechanisms for suspension and expulsion, yet reliance primarily on law enforcement to address school discipline matters has limited consistent and effective enforcement, even though such law enforcement involvement is intended to supplement, not supplant, administrative disciplinary action;

WHEREAS, 17 V.I.C. § 761 establishes the legislative intent to implement school-based conflict resolution education as a preventive and restorative tool to reduce violence, vandalism, chronic absenteeism, and suspensions; however, the Department's obligation to implement such programs appears to have been largely overlooked;

WHEREAS, preventive measures remain insufficient, including the lack of a formal anonymous reporting system, ineffective or inconsistent communication of zero-tolerance policies by administrators, absence of a defined process for early identification of students needing mental health or behavioral support, incomplete emergency and drill plans, gaps in parental responsibility and referral procedures, and inconsistencies in school security measures; and

WHEREAS, the Virgin Islands Board of Education also recognizes the importance of cross-territorial training and collaborative information sharing between districts to enhance preparedness, rapid response and continuous improvement of safety practices and protocols.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to its authority under 17 V.I.C. § 21, the Board of Education hereby **ORDERS** the Virgin Islands Department of Education to provide a comprehensive report that addresses the following:

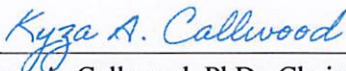
1. ***Implementation of Mandatory Suspension and Expulsion Requirements:*** Describe how § 91 is applied, including any written modifications, procedural safeguards, and due process protections.
2. ***Anonymous Reporting System:*** Provide plans for a formal, school-supported system allowing students, teachers, and parents to safely report weapons, threats, or other high-risk behaviors.
3. ***Zero-Tolerance Communication:*** Detail procedures for communicating zero-tolerance policies to students, parents, and staff during orientations and trainings.
4. ***Mental Health & Early Identification:*** Explain processes for identifying students needing behavioral or mental health support and referrals to appropriate services.
5. ***Emergency and Drill Plans:*** Submit updated emergency and drill plans from all schools and show evidence of where school evacuation charts are posted within campuses along with contact numbers for the Virgin Islands Department of Human Services, Virgin Islands Police Department and the specific hotline numbers for mental health and suicide prevention and emergency related purposes.

6. ***School Security Measures:*** Provide comprehensive campus security plans, including access control, surveillance, detection systems, alternative or AI-supported safety tools and training for administrators, teachers, students, parents, and staff.
7. ***Integration with Conflict Resolution Education:*** Describe how all measures align with § 761 goals to balance enforcement, prevention, and restorative strategies.
8. ***Law Enforcement Supplementation:*** Confirm that school-level disciplinary actions are consistently applied in accordance with CVIR 17-003-002, and that reporting to law enforcement is supplemental and does not replace administrative enforcement of discipline.

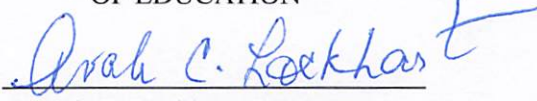
BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that the Virgin Islands Department of Education shall provide all items listed in 1 through 8 by Friday, December 19, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that the information provided shall inform revisions to the Student Discipline Policy and support the development of integrated safety, reporting, and conflict resolution programs across all schools in the territory.

DATED: November 26, 2025



Kyza A. Callwood, PhD., Chairperson
TWENTY-SECOND V.I. BOARD
OF EDUCATION



Arah C. Lockhart, Secretary
TWENTY-SECOND V.I. BOARD
OF EDUCATION