



## THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF **EDUCATION**

### **Office of Public Relations**

Telephone: 340.774.0100 (STT/STJ) 340.773.1095 (STX)

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**For More Information Contact:**

Shayla S. Solomon

Director, Public Relations & Communications [shayla.solomon@vide.vi](mailto:shayla.solomon@vide.vi)

[www.vide.vi](http://www.vide.vi) ~ [www.facebook.com/usvi.vide](https://www.facebook.com/usvi.vide)

### **Virgin Islands Department of Education Celebrates Andre Douglas as Recipient of Prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching**

The Virgin Islands Department of Education (VIDE) is overjoyed to announce that Mr. Andre Douglas, a dedicated mathematics teacher at Ivanna Eudora Kean High School (IEKHS), has been selected as the recipient of the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). This award, presented by the White House, is one of the highest national honors given to educators who demonstrate exceptional teaching in the fields of mathematics and science.

Mr. Andre Douglas, a native of St. Thomas, is an alumnus of the Charlotte Amalie High School Class of 2003 and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics from the University of the Virgin Islands and a Master's in Mathematics for Secondary Education. For the past 15 years, he has dedicated his career to teaching at IEKHS. His passion for not only teaching but also fostering future leaders makes him an exceptional role model.

The Virgin Islands Department of Education proudly recognizes Mr. Douglas as an extraordinary educator and is excited to celebrate this well-earned achievement. His innovative teaching methods and ability to make complex mathematical concepts accessible and engaging have left a lasting impact on his students. As Chairperson of the Mathematics Department at IEKHS, Mr. Douglas leads by example, setting a high standard of pedagogical excellence. His unwavering dedication and his positive impact exemplify the spirit of teaching excellence in the Virgin Islands.

Principal Sally Petty of IEKHS was thrilled to receive the news via official letter from the National Science Foundation. "We are absolutely beaming with Dynamite Ray pride," said Principal Petty. "Mr. Douglas is a shining example of what it means to strive for excellence. His dedication to our students and his ability to bring math to life make him a true asset to our school and our community."

Dr. Stefan Jürgen, Insular Superintendent of the St. Thomas-St. John District, echoed these sentiments. "Mr. Douglas is truly one of a kind," he stated. "His exceptional teaching has made him one of the best math educators across our district. We are incredibly proud of his achievements, and he is a shining example of the outstanding educators in the Virgin Islands."

Commissioner Dionne Wells-Hedrington, Ed.D., added her heartfelt congratulations. "Mr. Douglas represents the best of the Virgin Islands Department of Education. His passion for teaching and dedication to his students are truly inspiring. This recognition is well-deserved, and we couldn't be prouder."

The PAEMST, administered by the National Science Foundation (NSF) on behalf of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, recognizes outstanding teachers whose innovation and dedication set them apart as leaders in their field. Mr. Douglas exemplifies all the qualities that make an exceptional educator, including unwavering commitment, passion, and the ability to make learning engaging for his students.

As part of the award package, Mr. Douglas will receive an official certificate signed by President Joe Biden and a \$10,000 award from the NSF. Additionally, an awards ceremony will be held in Washington, D.C., where he will be honored alongside other distinguished educators from across the nation.

In response to this incredible honor, Mr. Douglas humbly stated, “While I am grateful for winning, this award doesn’t validate me alone. My greatest reward comes when students thank me for making mathematics palatable, enjoyable, and memorable.”

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