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URGENT ALERT: SCHOOL CLOSURE AT ST. CROIX EDUCATIONAL COMPLEX DUE TO TEACHER SICK-OUT

The Virgin Islands Department of Education (VIDE) informs the public, particularly the parents and guardians of students at the St. Croix Educational Complex, that school operations have been suspended today, Wednesday, October 2, 2024, due to a coordinated teacher sick-out.

Earlier this morning, VIDE officials were alerted to a significant shortage of teachers at the St. Croix Educational Complex High School, as many educators either called in sick or reported they would be late. As of now, a total of 35 teachers have reported being unable to attend. An immediate assessment determined that the remaining staff was insufficient to sustain normal school operations. As a result, the school will remain closed for the day due to the lack of instructional personnel.

Parents and guardians are asked to promptly pick up their children from the campus, as there will be no classes today. Transportation will be provided for students who utilize the school bus.

The Virgin Islands Department of Education acknowledges the concerns raised by our dedicated teachers and is committed to addressing them with a spirit of collaboration and understanding. We recognize the vital role educators play in shaping the future of our children and our community, and their voices are essential.

Senior officials from the VIDE St. Croix District are actively working to engage in meaningful dialogue with teachers and are developing a contingency plan to ensure that student instruction can resume on Thursday. Our teachers are the heart of the education system, and we deeply value their dedication to our students. Through continued collaboration and a shared commitment to our students' well-being, we are confident that we can find common ground and resolve these concerns.