



# THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF **EDUCATION**

## **Office of Public Relations**

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## **THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HOSTS THE INAUGURAL “Y.E.S. HBCU FOOTBALL CLASSIC”**

The Virgin Islands Department of Education (VIDE) is proud to host the “Y.E.S. HBCU Football Classic,” an exciting showcase of collegiate athletic talent and educational engagement. The Classic will feature a full tackle football game between two collegiate programs — the University of Fort Lauderdale and Virginia University of Lynchburg.

This event marks a unique opportunity for our students and the broader community to experience high-level collegiate football and the spirit of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). The game will be played on Saturday, November 15, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. AST at the St. Croix Educational Complex High School Field. Admission to the event will be \$10.00.

In addition to the main event, on Friday, November 14, 2025, football players from all four public high schools will participate in an exclusive training clinic led by the coaching staffs of both visiting universities, in coordination with our high school coaches. This private session will give student-athletes the chance to develop their skills, gain mentorship from collegiate coaches, and learn about pathways to higher education through athletics.

The halftime show will feature a dynamic performance by the St. Croix Educational Complex High School Cheerleaders, showcasing the talent and school spirit of students from the Virgin Islands on the big stage.

“The Y.E.S. HBCU Football Classic is more than a game—it’s a celebration of youth empowerment, education, and opportunity. We are thrilled to provide our students with exposure to the values and excellence that HBCUs represent,” said Dionne Wells-Hedrington, Commissioner of the Virgin Islands Department of Education.

The VIDE encourages families, students, and community members to attend and experience this unique event, while supporting educational and athletic excellence.

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