



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF **EDUCATION**

Office of Public Relations

1834 Kongens Gade, Charlotte Amalie * St. Thomas * U.S. Virgin Islands 00802-6746
Telephone: 340.774.0100 Ext. 8136 (STT/STJ) 340.773.1095 Ext. 7064 (STX)

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For More Information Contact:
Office of Public Relations
public.relations@vide.vi

Virgin Islands Department of Education Announces Closure of All Public Schools in the St. Thomas–St. John District Amid Ongoing Electrical Grid Instability

The Virgin Islands Department of Education (VIDE) announces the closure of all public schools and offices across the St. Thomas–St. John District on Friday, October 23, 2026, due to continued instability in the territory's electrical grid.

The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (WAPA) continues its efforts to stabilize the electrical grid. However, ongoing challenges with restoring and maintaining reliable electrical service have necessitated this decision to ensure the safety and well-being of our students, faculty, staff, and school communities.

The Department recognizes the impact this decision may have on families and employees, particularly those who must make last-minute adjustments to their schedules and childcare arrangements. We sincerely apologize for the short notice and any inconvenience these closures may cause.

VIDE will continue to monitor the situation and remain in communication with WAPA as efforts to stabilize the electrical grid continue. Updates regarding school operations and any additional changes will be communicated through the Department's official communication platforms.

Parents, guardians, and employees are encouraged to stay tuned to the Department's official social media pages and other communication channels for the latest information.

The Virgin Islands Department of Education appreciates the patience, understanding, and cooperation of our school communities as we navigate this evolving situation.

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