

# 31st Legislature of the Virgin Islands

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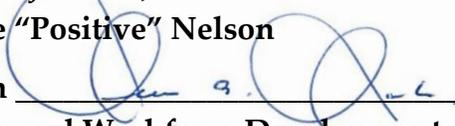
Honorable Jean A. Forde  
Senator



**Chairman:**  
Committee on Education and Workforce  
Development  
**Member:**  
Committee on Rules & Judiciary  
Committee on Health, Hospitals &  
Veterans' Affairs  
Committee on Housing, Public Works &  
Waste Management  
Committee on Homeland Security, Public  
Safety & Justice

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** The Honorable Kurt Vialet, Vice-Chairman  
The Honorable Justin Harrigan, Sr., Member  
The Honorable Kenneth L. Gittens, Member  
The Honorable Tregenza A. Roach, Member  
The Honorable Myron D. Jackson, Member  
The Honorable Terrence "Positive" Nelson

**From:** Jean A. Forde, Chairman   
Committee on Education and Workforce Development  
31<sup>st</sup> Legislature of the Virgin Islands

**Date:** July 22, 2015

**SUBJECT:** NOTICE OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Please be advised that the Senate Committee on Education and Workforce Development will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, September 12, 2016 in the Earle B. Ottley Legislative Chambers on St. Thomas to consider the following items:

1. *Bill No. 31-0314, An Act amending title 3 Virgin Islands Code, chapter 7, adding section 96a providing for an identification system for high-performing, low-income students' programs, gifted programs, and an accountability system for the achievement and growth of all students in the U.S. Virgin Islands public school system. (Sponsored by Senator Kurt Vialet)*

### INVITED TESTIFIERS

- The Honorable Sharon McCollum, Commissioner, Department of Education
- The Honorable Mary Moorhead, Chairman, Virgin Islands Board of Education
- Ms. Colleen Williams, Insular Superintendent (STX), Department of Education

- Ms. Dionne Wells-Hedrington, Insular Superintendent (STT/STJ), Department of Education
- Ms. Maria Encarnacion, Director of Curriculum and Instruction (STX), Department of Education
- Ms. Kifani Hendricks-Carey, Director of Curriculum and Instruction (STT/STJ), Department of Education
- Ms. Rosa Soto-Thomas, President, St. Croix Federation of Teachers, AFT Local 1826
- Mr. Avery Lewis, President, St. Thomas-St. John Federation of Teachers, AFT Local 1825
- Ms. Rosa White, President, Virgin Islands Education Administrators' Association (STX)
- Mr. Carver Farrow, President, Virgin Islands Education Administrators' Association (STT/STJ)

**2. *Update on the Status of School Facilities for the opening of the 2016-2017 School Year***

**INVITED TESTIFIERS**

- The Honorable Sharon McCollum, Commissioner, Department of Education
- Mr. Avery Lewis, President, American Federation of Teachers Local 1825
- Ms. Rosa Soto-Thomas, American Federation of Teachers Local 1826
- Mr. Carver Farrow, President, Education Administrators Association, STT/STJ
- Ms. Rosa White, President, Education Administrators Association, STX

**3. *Update on the programs and activities of the Board of Education including the following:***

- The Board's assessment of the status of our schools and the educational system in the territory;
- The major priorities of the Board for the 2016-2017 school year;
- The operations of the Board and the day-to-day management of its employees;

- The Board’s position on system governance, and the status of efforts to analyze conflicts in the V.I. Code regarding the respective powers of the Board and DOE;
- The financial and operational status of the territorial scholarship and loan program managed by the Board;
- The School Discipline Policy, Zero Tolerance, and the “School-to-Prison pipeline”; and
- The status of the Board’s consideration of issues regarding home schooling.

### **INVITED TESTIFIERS**

- The Honorable Mary Moorhead, Chairman, Virgin Islands Board of Education
- The Honorable Judy M. Gomez, Vice-Chair, Virgin Islands Board of Education
- The Honorable Laverne Slack, Secretary, Virgin Islands Board of Education
- The Honorable Winona L. Hendricks, Member, Virgin Islands Board of Education
- The Honorable Terrence Joseph, Member, Virgin Islands Board of Education
- The Honorable Arah C. Lockhart, Member, Virgin Islands Board of Education
- The Honorable Nandi Sekou, Member, Virgin Islands Board of Education
- The Honorable Martial Webster, Member, Virgin Islands Board of Education

*cc: All Senators  
Central Staff  
Media*