GOVERNMENT HOUSE
UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

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Governor Bryan and St. Thomas-Water Island Administrator Avery Lewis visit students at Joseph Gomez Elementary School on St. Thomas on Tuesday, September 7, 2021.

Governor Bryan Welcomes Students Back to School

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS – During the Government House weekly press briefing on Tuesday, September 7, Government House Communications Director Richard Motta Jr. welcomed students territory-wide back to school and in-person learning on behalf of Governor Albert Bryan Jr., who was touring pre-K through 2nd grade classes on St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John.



Governor Bryan visits a pre-K class at Julius Sprauve School on St. John.

Governor Bryan toured the Ricardo Richards Elementary School on St. Croix, the Julius E. Sprauve K-8 School on St. John and the Joseph Gomez Elementary School on St. Thomas, and Director Motta praised the Virgin

Islands Department of Education for doing everything that could be expected to make the schools safe for students' return to the classrooms.



Governor Bryan and Education Commissioner Racquel Berry-Benjamin observe a class at Joseph Gomez School on St. Thomas.

"Today, as a Territory, we are taking a bold but cautious step toward where we know our students need to be," Director Motta said. "We need our students back in the classroom, and it is Governor Bryan's goal to get them safely back in the classroom setting."



Governor Bryan uses hand sanitizer and gets a temperature check before going into Julius Sprauve School on St. John.

Vaccination Lottery winners

The winners for the August 27 drawings for $100,000 in the Vax-to-Win Lottery are:

- Dianne Carroll on St. Croix
- Wubnesh Nelson in the St. Thomas-St. John District

The $50,000 surplus left over from the August 6 drawing also was used for a supplemental drawing of $10,000 each to winners on St. Croix, two winners on St. Thomas and one winner on St. John.

Those winners are:

- Marcus Davis and Aida Rios on St. Croix
- Tafron Testamark and Rosa Da Cruz on St. Thomas
- Donna Smith on St. John

Vaccinations and Testing

Anyone 12 and older is eligible to receive the vaccine. Please make sure to have a parent or guardian accompany any minor wishing to get vaccinated and must bring an ID for both the minor and the parent or guardian.

Anyone who thinks they may have contracted COVID-19 can call the Epidemiology hotline at 340-712-6299 or 340-776-1519. For more information, visit covid19usvi.com.

For information about the COVID-19 vaccines or to schedule an appointment to get vaccinated, call the VITEMA hotline Mondays-Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 340-777-VACS (8227). Vaccination appointments also can be scheduled online at covid19usvi.com/vaccines.

Residents can pre-register for testing online at www.covid19usvi.com/testing and free vaccines are available at the pop-up testing sites.

Pop-Up Testing
1-4 p.m. Wednesday, September 8, at the V.I. Port Authority Gravel Lot on St. John

Income Tax Refunds
This week the Bryan-Roach Administration is mailing out more income tax refunds, sending out 3,753 checks to residents totaling $10.1 million. This distribution follows last week's mail-out of $10 million in income tax refunds and covers income tax filers' 2019 returns.

Child Tax Credit
Last week the Administration mailed out about 8,500 checks to Virgin Islanders who were eligible to receive the tax benefit.

"We learned recently, unfortunately, that some issues confronting the U.S. Postal Service may be causing delays with that payment getting to you," Director Motta said. "Governor Bryan has been in contact with both the Delegate to Congress and the Postal Services in hopes of bringing a timely resolution to this issue on behalf of Virgin islands residents."

COVID-19 cases
- 3.05% seven-day positivity rate
- Currently tracking 193 active cases (120 STX; 68 STT; 5 STJ).
- 62 fatalities.

The Bryan-Roach Administration is committed to transparency, stabilizing the economy, restoring trust in the government and ensuring that recovery projects are completed as quickly as possible. Visit transparency.vi.gov

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