



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF  
**EDUCATION**

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## **Virgin Islands Department of Education Expresses Profound Gratitude to FEMA for School Improvement Funds**

The Virgin Islands Department of Education (VIDE) is pleased to announce the receipt of federal funding awards from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for crucial school improvement projects. With deep appreciation, the VIDE extends its sincerest thanks to FEMA for their commitment to enhancing educational infrastructure across the Territory.

These grant awards signify a pivotal moment for education in the Virgin Islands, allowing for the development of much-needed new schools and the modernization of existing facilities with a focus on equity for all students. Through the flexibility provided by Congress in the Bipartisan Budget Act (BBA), the VIDE is empowered to utilize these funds to address critical infrastructure needs and create an environment conducive to optimal learning experiences for our students.

It is important for the public to understand that the grant awards encompass various aspects of the improvement process beyond construction alone. In addition to funding for construction, resources are allocated for essential components such as land acquisition, project management, demolition, and design. This comprehensive approach ensures that every aspect of the improvement projects is meticulously planned and executed to the highest standards.

As part of this initiative, the Lew Muckle School and PreK-6 School, as well as the Eulalie Rivera PreK-8 School, will be merged into the modernized and expanded Alfredo Andrews and Alexander Henderson Schools. Concurrently, the decision has been made to shutter Leonard Dober Elementary School, which is currently not utilized for instructional purposes.

The VIDE recognizes the significance of these developments in shaping the future of education in the Virgin Islands and remains committed to transparent communication throughout the implementation process. As we embark on this transformative journey, we invite the community to join us in celebrating this milestone and supporting our collective efforts to provide the best possible educational opportunities for our students.

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