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# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# STX DISTRICT RECOGNIZED 250 STUDENTS AT SHINING STARS CELEBRATION

ST. CROIX, USVI—The Virgin Islands Department of Education, St. Croix District Office of the Insular Superintendent recognized 250 students at its Shining Stars Celebration on Sunday, March 24, 2019, at the Alfredo Andrews Elementary School.

The ceremony recognized students in public elementary, junior high and senior high schools who scored the highest or made a significant improvement on the 2018 Fall Smarter Balanced Assessment.

Acting Insular Superintendent Carlos McGregor expressed how the beneficial the assessment is to schools.

"The more shining stars (students) we see at these celebrations, the more resources from our federal government we'll receive for our schools; from computers, to Promethean boards to laptops and professional development trainings."

Superintendent McGregor took time to acknowledge Board of Education member Winona Hendricks who was present and Senator Alicia Barnes who shared some supporting words.

"I would like to commend the Department of Education, the administrators, teachers, faculty and staff for all that you do to empower, and educate the best and most important

resource in the Virgin Islands; our students." She continued, "It is very important that we stress the academic excellence in our students," said Senator Barnes.

Barnes not only came as a senator to show support but also as a parent, as her daughter, Nia Sylvester exceeded state achievement standards on the Assessment.

St. Croix District Director of Data and Assessments Dr. Saul Santiago expressed his satisfaction with the students' performance and gave some background on how the Smarter Balanced Assessment is configured.

"As the District Director of Data and Assessments, I couldn't be more proud of these students and their achievements," he said.

"The two highest levels on the assessment are proficient and advanced. Proficient students meet the achievement standards for their grade level. But the students being recognized here today went beyond their grade level! They were advanced in Math or the English/Language Arts."

The same Smarter Balanced Assessment students took are administered to all schools across the nation.

"Out of the 2,300 students who took the exams last fall in St. Croix, this group represents the top 10 percent in our district."

Dr. Santiago continued by acknowledging and commending the students who may not have scored advanced but has shown significant growth.

"We're also honoring students who are not necessarily advanced but have made significant progress on the Smarter Balanced Assessment. These students and their teachers have shown how hard work and perseverance can translate into remarkable results in academics."

The ceremony continued with the recognition of students. Schools were called up individually, and students received a certificate, a medal, and a pin. Light refreshments were available for students and families following the ceremony.

Acting Deputy Superintendent Dr. Carla Bastian closed out the event expressing her gratitude to all stakeholders on behalf of the District.

"Students, I expect you to continue to do your best. Parents, I want to say thank you for continuing to push our children. You play an important part in what we recognized here today. To our teachers, our administrators, and our school staff, we also say thank you for your daily contributions to our students' success.

## ST. CROIX DISTRICT SHINING STARS

Iyana Gittens Ra'Shaad Milligan Kymira Baptiste Elijah Jospeh Daejon Liburd Adaina Smith Jahyra Porfil D'Neisjah Clouden Serbina Tisson Tiejah Roberts Sa'Niyah Feliciano Levendra Rattiram Gabriel Donelly Donnie Heywood

### Claude O. Markoe Elementary School

A'Nyra Richards Alexander Polydore Ah'Kielah Nielson E'leeya Richard Jabez simon Jayla John Genesis Nesbeth Anaika Santos Janisa Boulogne Shaquanna Russell

## Alfredo Andrews Elementary School

Ahniyah Malaiyah Mason Carl Justine Consulta Mia Wells OO'Mayah Lang Leilani Henrys Sherina Turney Shaheem Rahahleh Harry Crispin Makeyah Jacobs Malique Taylor Sha'Dalia Stridiron Jarimar Cintron

### **Eulalie R. Rivera Elementary School**

Soriyah Evans Jahnilah Swanston Naomi Lloyd Leilani Santiago Amaryse Rivera Khaleel Williams Lalique Brathwaite Sole Rogers Re'yonce Roach Yanisha Wilfred Ajhiba Williams Travon St. Ville

#### Juanita Gardine Elementary School

Jahnyah Greenidge Laila Paula Joseph Jade Douglas Israel Brown Angelina Guadelupe Valyncia Thomas Malchiel Proctor Rhudel Lawrence

## Lew Muckle Elementary School

D'Lejah Charles A'nyah Carino Pristine Tutein Aure' Baptiste Sarah Raglin Amiyah Henderson Jahnya Allahar Anthony Fede-Hernanadez Henry Medina Moreno

### Arthur A. Richards Jr. High School

Addis Tzaddi
Ariel Heyliger
Azhanae Messer
Illiana Perez
Tyresha Stapleton
Na'Kia Armstrong
Alexander Avila- Guadelupe
Elijah Romain
Shem Thomas
Nely Reynoso
Jahshawn James

## Ricardo Richards Elementary School

Aya Mahmoud Demarqi Christopher Kalyn Blackwood Keemar Croskey Denelle Moise Lauren Jones Ace Povah Angel Legrand Kyvon Parris Aundre Dolcar Daryl Griffith Dakari Smith Terrance Bryson Anaya Hector A'Nyra Lang Alana Francis

Tenequa Ayala

Christina O'Shaughnessy

Nishanna Parson Nirisi Griffith

Masai Matthias Miller

Ani Velez Jnai Valmont Allysa Brady Kristion Ferris Orlando Gerard Leila Idheileh Terrilyn Mitchell Kaylona Larocque Kayla Matthew Sativa Paul Tiera J'Nai Polanco Jah-Leen Shervington

### Pearl B. Larsen Elementary School

Eugene Ventura Divyne Frazer Haley Olson

Frambelys Luna Polanco

Kayden Hay J'Nairah Bryan Sophia Ziegler Norma Tyson K'Layah Parris Vigga Tyson Isolde Diaz Belle Austin Tutein

Amalie-Laeah Figureoa

Suri Williams Jeniya Weste Amaya Hamilton

Daniela De La Rosa Castro

Lily Skov Jadah Kodran John Gilbert De'Jah Maynard

Kristhailis Dominguez Valera Cheniel Silva Quinones

Jequan Weste Tony Rios

## John H. Woodson Jr. High School

Reneecia Bertrand Arielle Orendain Yadiel Parilla Victor Perez Jai'Lynn Santiago Kristle Casey Marcus Simmiokjier Joscelin Torres Janise Diaz

Deondre Christopher Brianna Lopez Rehanna Griffiths Jahzara Lafond Jahnaiy Rodriguez Qui'Nyah Navarro Jayden Ferdinand Elisha Rogers K'Yara Simon Chenille Bolivar Keijhenae Peterson Leanne Valery Marcus Miller

Carmindy Nicole Pickering T'Naejah Aniyah Williams

Una Alexander
Eugene Stevenson
Ashlyn Morrell
Lamar Sealey
Dale Matthew
Malcom Lopez
David Ponce

Horato Matthew Carlos Morales Daniela Ventura Darran Aubert Nelson Velazquez Zaryah Jonas Carlos Crispin Ana Boulonge

# Elena Christian Jr. High School

Roshaad Titus Tyreak Creighton Alexia Sargeant Kemari Hay Lvisla Woods Jaelyn Bailey Hadeyah Donaie Naveah Crump Jose Torres Gabriella Alexander Gavin Douglas Erin Flynn Ke'Vounte Hughes Le'shay O'Garro Angelina Springer Ajani Nicholas

## St. Croix Educational Complex

Kevin Williams DaReone Christopher Djamel Boucenna Dwayna Byrde Ajani Saldana Jhylie Roebuck Amari DeSouza Malik Bailey Jamoy Hardy Sanay Hewitt Angel La Force Nisieni Griffith Leishla Rodriguez Camille Consulta Sulaiman Donaie Janay Ventura Glerysbeth Rivera Rahkiyah Felix Julory Deterville Kelvin Brodhurst Shazim Brandy Matthias Sinanan Juan Batista Kimara Cooper Taajwar Samuel Kobe Knight Dianna Athurton Xavier Hinkson Reneice Llanos Dayaneira Sigobin Ron Duncan Nathan Thomas

Omar De Haza

Melissa Ferraras

Julian Aponte Sharika Milligan Licelot Rodriguez Kareem Sealey Kyle Phil Lewis Jah'Keyla Francis Nia Sylvester

# St. Croix Central High School

Nicholas Smith Indeyah Todman Jayme Colbert-Williams Amira Claxton Romeka Bergan Letisha Ayala Laurie Cedeno Odaysha Abraham Briannen Howell De'Shanna Richardson Guillermo Morel

Kayla Browne

Jashira Torres

Amayah Schoonmaker

Alex Valmont

Toquan Francis

Nyana Francois

Ishmael Webster

Akellia Tisson