



# THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **ST. CROIX DISTRICT ANNOUNCES SCHOOL RECONFIGURATION PLAN FOR SY 2019-2020**

ST. CROIX, USVI -- The Virgin Islands Department of Education, St. Croix District, has announced a comprehensive reconfiguration plan for schools on St. Croix for the 2019-2020 school year.

Most notably, four of the district's schools will move to a K-8 model and will require changes to school uniforms. Additionally, all schools in the district will have new start and end times to better accommodate bus schedules, as well as after-school programs and activities for students.

St. Croix Insular Superintendent of Schools Carlos McGregor said the move to a K-8 model was a necessary step in the right direction to alleviate long-standing employee shortages and decreased student enrollment, eliminate use of aging and damaged school buildings, and reduce operational costs.

Education Commissioner Racquel Berry-Benjamin echoed McGregor's sentiments, stating, "After an extensive assessment of schools in both districts, we had to make the tough decision to change our operations for the benefit of our students, and in order to appropriately use the financial and human resources we do have." Now, Berry-Benjamin says, the Department of Education "is on the right path to better self-management as we begin the next phase of building new and modern school facilities."

**Pearl B. Larsen Elementary School → now Pearl B. Larsen K-8**

Pearl B. Larsen will be expanded from its current K-6 model to K-8.

Pearl B. Larsen's current 6<sup>th</sup> graders will remain at Pearl B. Larsen K-8 for 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

Current Elena L. Christian Jr. High School 7<sup>th</sup> graders who attended Pearl B. Larsen will return to Pearl B. Larsen K-8 for 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Juanita Gardine Elementary School → now Juanita Gardine K-8**

Juanita Gardine will be expanded from its current K-6 model to K-8.

Juanita Gardine's current 6<sup>th</sup> graders will remain at Juanita Gardine K-8 for 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

Current Elena L. Christian Jr. High School 7<sup>th</sup> graders who attended Juanita Gardine, will return to Juanita Gardine K-8 for 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Elena L. Christian Jr. High School will not reopen**

Current 7<sup>th</sup> graders who attended Pearl B. Larsen will return to Pearl B. Larsen K-8 for 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Current 7<sup>th</sup> graders who attended Juanita Gardine will return to Juanita Gardine K-8 for 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Current 7<sup>th</sup> graders who attended Lew Muckle Elementary will report to John H. Woodson Jr. High for 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**John H. Woodson Jr. High School**

John H. Woodson will remain a traditional junior high school (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades).

Current 7<sup>th</sup> graders who attended Eulalie R. Rivera Elementary will return to Eulalie R. Rivera K-8 for 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Feeder Elementary Schools for John H. Woodson will now be:

Alfredo Andrews Elementary

Ricardo Richards Elementary

Lew Muckle Elementary

**Lew Muckle Elementary School**

Lew Muckle Elementary will remain a K-6 model.

Current Lew Muckle Elementary 6<sup>th</sup> graders will report to John H. Woodson Jr. High School for 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Ricardo Richards Elementary School**

No Changes

**Alfredo Andrews Elementary School**

No Changes

**Claude O. Markoe Elementary School**

No Changes

**Arthur A. Richards Jr. High School and Alexander Henderson Elementary → now Arthur A. Richards K-8**

Schools will merge creating *Arthur A. Richards K-8* at the current Arthur A. Richards Jr. High site.

Current Arthur Richards Jr. High 7<sup>th</sup> graders who attended the Eulalie Rivera Elementary School will return to Eulalie R. Rivera K-8 for 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Eulalie R. Rivera Elementary School → now Eulalie R. Rivera K-8**

Eulalie R. Rivera will be expanded from its current K-6 model to a K-8 model.

Eulalie Rivera's current 6<sup>th</sup> graders will remain at Eulalie R. Rivera K-8 for 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

Current Arthur A. Richards 7<sup>th</sup> graders who attended Eulalie R. Rivera Elementary will return to Eulalie R. Rivera K-8 for 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Current John H. Woodson 7<sup>th</sup> graders who attended Eulalie R. Rivera Elementary will return to Eulalie R. Rivera K-8 for 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**St. Croix Central High School**

No Changes

**St. Croix Educational Complex**

No Changes

**St. Croix Career and Technical Education Center (CTEC)**

No Changes

# **Start/End Time for St. Croix District Schools**

## **2019- 2020 School Year**

### **High Schools**

**Start Time: 7:30 AM**

**End Time: 2:40 PM**

Central

Ed. Complex

CTEC

### **Junior High**

**Start Time: 8:00 AM**

**End Time: 3:00 PM**

Woodson

### **K-8**

**Start Time: 8:15 AM**

**End Time: 3:15 PM**

Gardine

Larsen

A.A Richards

E. Rivera

### **Elementary**

**Start Time: 8:30 AM**

**End Time: 3:30 PM**

R. Richards

Andrews

Lew Muckle

Markoe

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