

logo not found or type unknown

## **School Bus Service Suspension on St. Croix Continues; Lockhart K-8 in St. Thomas Closed Due to Water Leak**

**Parents in St. Croix are urged to arrange alternative transportation for students as bus services remain suspended following the assault on a bus driver. Meanwhile, WAPA continues work on a major water leak affecting Lockhart K-8 School in St. Thomas**

Education / **Published On October 04, 2024 06:58 AM /**

Staff Consortium **October 04, 2024**

Image not found or type unknown



*Last updated at 7:17 a.m. on Oct. 4, 2024*

Bus services on St. Croix remain suspended on Friday following a violent assault on a school bus driver last week, as Abramson Enterprises, the contracted bus service provider, continues its strike. The V.I. Department of Education (VIDE) has urged parents and guardians to make

alternative transportation arrangements for their children.

The suspension, which started on Thursday, follows the brutal attack on a bus driver by 18-year-old Caleave Mascall Jr. and two minor students from St. Croix Central High School. The Wednesday assault left the bus driver in need of urgent medical attention and led to Abramson Enterprises halting bus services amid safety concerns for their staff.

VIDE has stated that bus services are expected to resume on Monday, October 7, as discussions between the department and Abramson Enterprises continue. In a previous release, the department reiterated the importance of students adhering to the rules while using school transportation. "School bus transportation is a privilege, and it is the expectation of the VIDE that students abide by the rules and exhibit proper behavior when using these services," said the department.

In light of the suspension, the department has asked parents to ensure that their children have safe and reliable transportation to and from school until services are restored.

### **St. Thomas School Closed Due to Water Leak**

In a separate matter on St. Thomas, the Lockhart K-8 School has been closed today due to a major water leak affecting the area around the school. The V.I. Water and Power Authority has been working to address the issue, but repairs have not yet been completed. As a result, VIDE has canceled classes at Lockhart K-8 School for the day.

WAPA's Water System Maintenance Crews are continuing their work to assess and fix the leak, and VIDE said it will provide further updates as more information becomes available regarding when the school will reopen.

"We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your understanding as we prioritize the safety and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff at Lockhart K-8 School," the department stated.