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Virgin Islands Educator Andre Douglas Honored with Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching

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Ivanna Eudora Kean High School Educator Andre Douglas. By. VIDE

The V.I. Department of Education announced Wednesday that it is celebrating the remarkable achievement of Andre Douglas, a mathematics teacher at Ivanna Eudora Kean High School (IEKHS), who has been honored with the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

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Mr. Douglas, a native of St. Thomas and an alumnus of Charlotte Amalie High School's Class of 2003, has dedicated the past 15 years of his career to teaching at IEKHS, according to VIDE. Holding a bachelor's degree in mathematics from the University of the Virgin Islands and a master's degree in mathematics for secondary education, his unwavering commitment to teaching has made him a beacon of excellence within the Virgin Islands educational community. His innovative methods and ability to simplify complex concepts have earned him the respect of students and colleagues alike.

As the Chairperson of the Mathematics Department at IEKHS, Mr. Douglas has consistently set a high standard for teaching and leadership, VIDE stated. His contributions were praised by Principal Sally Petty, who expressed immense pride in his accomplishments. "We are absolutely beaming with Dynamite Ray pride," she said. "Mr. Douglas is a shining example of what it means to strive for excellence. His dedication to our students and his ability to bring math to life make him a true asset to our school and our community."

Dr. Stefan Jürgen, Insular Superintendent of the St. Thomas-St. John District, also lauded Mr. Douglas for his exceptional impact on education. "His exceptional teaching has made him one of the best math educators across our district. We are incredibly proud of his achievements, and he is a shining example of the outstanding educators in the Virgin Islands," he said.

VIDE Commissioner of Education Dr. Dionne Wells-Hedrington extended her congratulations, emphasizing the broader significance of his recognition. "Mr. Douglas represents the best of the Virgin Islands Department of Education. His passion for teaching and dedication to his students are truly inspiring. This recognition is well-deserved, and we couldn't be prouder."

The PAEMST recognizes educators who demonstrate innovation, commitment, and excellence in their teaching practices. As part of the award package, Mr. Douglas will receive a certificate signed by President Joe Biden, a \$10,000 cash prize from the NSF, and an invitation to an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C., where he will be honored alongside other outstanding educators from across the nation.

In response to this honor, Mr. Douglas stated, "While I am grateful for winning, this award doesn't validate me alone. My greatest reward comes when students thank me for making mathematics palatable, enjoyable, and memorable," he stated.