

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Free Will Baptist School Suspends On-Campus Learning In Response to Latest CDC Coronavirus Guidance

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The Free Will Baptist School in Sion Hill on St. Croix has suspended on-campus learning effective immediately in response to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's latest guidance, which calls on the community to limit mass gatherings to no more than 50.

"Large events and mass gatherings can contribute to the spread of COVID-19 in the United States via travelers who attend these events and introduce the virus to new communities. Examples of large events and mass gatherings include conferences,

festivals, parades, concerts, sporting events, weddings, and other types of assemblies. These events can be planned not only by organizations and communities but also by individuals," the CDC said. The guidelines exempted the day to day operations of schools, but learning institutions across the U.S. have been closing their facilities in lieu of remote learning.

And earlier this evening, Good Hope Country Day, the other major private school on St. Croix, [announced](#) that it would close its campus and initiate online learning.

"Due to a new recommendation by the CDC this evening, we have made the decision to cancel school effective immediately," the school said in a statement provided to the Consortium. "We are working out details for the best way to continue education during this time. Please contact the office during regular school hours tomorrow to update contact information if something has changed. We are still trusting in the Lord during this time, and want to be wise about the health of our students and their families."