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## Water Service Outage Forces Closure of All St. Croix Public Schools on Monday

**VIDE said all St. Croix public schools will close Monday due to a major water outage that prevents safe operation of restrooms, food service, and sanitation systems, as WAPA reports complex repairs underway at the Estate Richmond service station.**

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A major water service interruption on St. Croix has forced the closure of all public schools in the district on Monday, December 8, the V.I. Department of Education announced Sunday. The shutdown affects every campus in the district and will also halt all after-school programs and extracurricular activities.

The Department of Education said the decision stems from a significant loss of water service islandwide, which directly prevents schools from operating key facilities, including restrooms, food service areas, and sanitation systems. Officials said they cannot safely open campuses without access to water.

The V.I. Water and Power Authority confirmed the scope of the problem in a public notice explaining that “repairs at the Estate Richmond service station are complex, and customers in Christiansted and Mid-Island will remain without water until work is completed.” The interruption has created widespread operational challenges across the island, including for agencies that rely on water service to function.

VIDE said it is monitoring the situation closely. An update regarding the status of St. Croix district schools for Tuesday, December 9, will be issued as soon as additional information becomes available.

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