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Joanie Phillip Named St. Croix Teacher of the Year for 2025-2026

The V.I. Department of Education named 6th Grade English Language Arts teacher Joanie Phillip of Ricardo Richards PreK-6 School as St. Croix's 2025-2026 Teacher of the Year, citing her advocacy, union role, and work with adult learners.

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St. Croix District Teacher of the Year 2025-2026 Joanie Phillip. By. VIDE.

The V.I. Department of Education on Wednesday announced 6th Grade English Language Arts teacher Joanie Phillip as the St. Croix district's Teacher of the Year for 2025-2026.

Ms. Phillip, who currently is assigned to the Ricardo Richards PreK-6 School, began her teaching career about 17 years ago. Since then, she has “distinguished herself as a passionate advocate for

both students and colleagues," according to the VIDE announcement. Ms. Phillip also serves as a union representative for her local American Federation of Teachers chapter.

The powerhouse in education does not just limit her teaching to St. Croix's youngest pupils. After she is done with her daily classwork, Ms. Phillip adjusts her approach to accommodate adult learners in the St. Croix Adult Education Program, whom she guides towards their educational goals during the evening hours. "Her unwavering dedication to literacy, empowerment, and lifelong learning continues to positively impact students across generations," VIDE noted.

Ms. Phillip was selected as St. Croix's Teacher of the Year from [a field of five stellar educators](#). VIDE will soon announce the winner of the Teacher of the Year Award for St. Thomas, and then choose between the two candidates who becomes the Teacher of the Year across the entire Virgin Islands.