

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Bryan Hosts Academic Achievement Awards Ceremony For Valedictorian And Salutatorian Graduates

Education / **Published On July 28, 2019 10:58 AM /**

Staff **July 28, 2019**

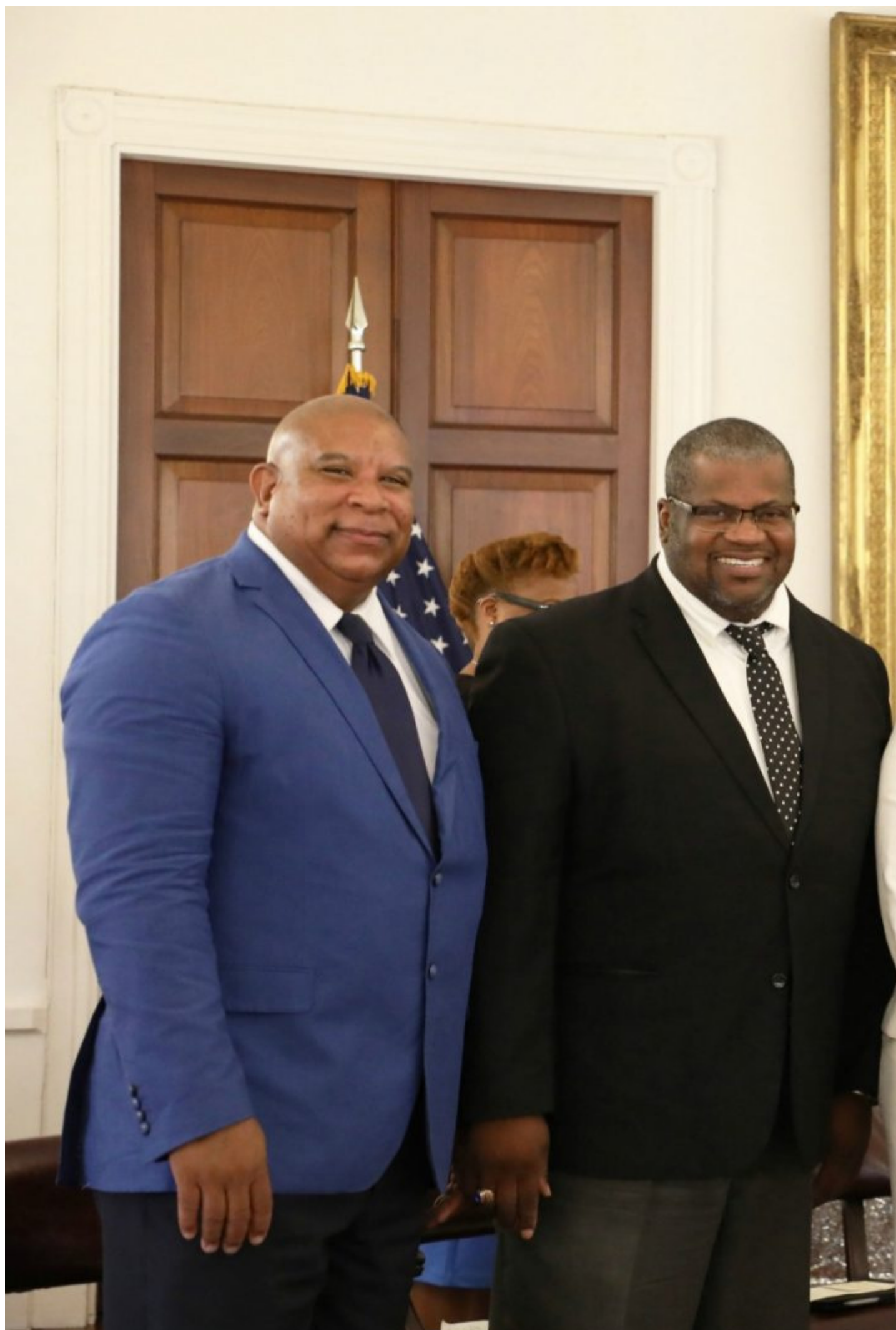


ST. CROIX -- Government House said Saturday that Governor Albert Bryan along with Department of Education Commissioner Racquel Berry-Benjamin and other D.O.E. officials hosted an awards ceremony to celebrate the achievements of valedictorian and salutatorian graduates from the territory's high schools Friday at Government House on St. Croix.

District Insular Superintendents Stefan Jürgen (STT/ STJ) and Carlos McGregor (STX) both shared words of encouragement with the students in attendance and urged them to

continue their love for learning as they move toward their future endeavors, according to the release.

Mrs. Berry-Benjamin also encouraged the students to continue learning and charged the students in attendance with a call to action to partake in transforming education in the Virgin Islands, Government House said. She also encouraged the students to come back and be part of the solution to the prevalent issues in the territory.



From left to right; Department of Education St. Croix Insular Superintendent Carlos McGregor, St. Thomas/St. John Insular Superintendent Stephan Jürgen, Department of Education Commissioner Racquel Berry-Benjamin, Governor Albert Bryan Jr, and Salutatorian of St. Croix Central High School's Class of 2019, Giovane Barnes pose for a photo at the governor's academic achievement awards ceremony for the territory's Valedictorian and Salutatorian graduates July 26 at Government House in St. Croix.

"Teaching is not just academics. I want to encourage you to continue to be learners and to know that you can be a part of solving the problems in our community," she said.

According to Government House, Mr. Bryan congratulated the students for their hard work and likened their success to the relentless pursuit of excellence.

"You didn't want to be top ten. You wanted to be number one, and that is relentless," he said. "That is hard work all the time— for every test, you had to do it right, and that is what we are going to try to do in these Virgin Islands, and we need you to do it."

The governor added, "You are the people who will be employers. You are the people that are going to reinvent the world. You are the ones who are going to provide energy solutions so that our WAPA rates can go down to two cents per kilowatt hour."

The students in attendance, representing each of the territory's public, private and parochial schools, as well as adult continuing education, was awarded a token of appreciation from the territory's leader and invited their family members to join Mr. Bryan for a luncheon at the close of the Friday's ceremony.

The students recognized at Friday's ceremony are:

N'kayla	Hughes	St. Joseph Catholic High School	St. Croix District	Valedictorian
Kayla	Williams	St. Joseph Catholic High School	St. Croix District	Salutatorian
Isaiah	Stevens	Good Hope Country Day School	St. Croix District	Valedictorian
David M.	Conhoff	Good Hope Country Day School	St. Croix District	Salutatorian
Stacy	Fredrick	Seventh Day Adventist School	St. Croix District	Valedictorian
Mahlana	Graham	Seventh Day Adventist School	St. Croix District	Salutatorian
Micaya R.	Labadie	St. Croix Educational Complex High School	St. Croix District	Valedictorian
Mojana Uhuru Tafari	Denis	St. Croix Educational Complex High School	St. Croix District	Salutatorian
Jayla	Norman	St. Croix Central High School	St. Croix District	Valedictorian
Giovane	Barnes	St. Croix Central High School	St. Croix District	Salutatorian

Daisy	Sanchez	Adult Continuing Education	St. Croix District	Valedictorian
Kenisha A.	Henderson	Adult Continuing Education	St. Croix District	Salutatorian
Jalia	Wheatley	All Saints Cathedral School	St. Thomas/St. John District	Valedictorian
Diantha	Matthews	All Saints Cathedral School	St. Thomas/St. John District	Salutatorian
Shamir	Smith	STT/STJ Seventh Day Adventist School	St. Thomas/St. John District	Valedictorian
Deanna	Hunt	STT/STJ Seventh Day Adventist School	St. Thomas/St. John District	Salutatorian
Lilliana	Martinez	Giff Hill School	St. Thomas/St. John District	Valedictorian
Ethan	Popo	Giff Hill School	St. Thomas/St. John District	Salutatorian
Elliana A. E.	Wyllis	Ivanna Eudora Kean High School	St. Thomas/St. John District	Valedictorian
Jahavheed A.	George	Ivanna Eudora Kean High School	St. Thomas/St. John District	Salutatorian
Jordina Kristal	Pierre	Charlotte Amalie High School	St. Thomas/St. John District	Valedictorian
Pamela	Collin Franco	Charlotte Amalie High School	St. Thomas/St. John District	Salutatorian
Julia	Lapomarede	Adult Continuing Education	St. Thomas/St. John District	Valedictorian
Jean	Liberny	Adult Continuing Education	St. Thomas/St. John District	Salutatorian
Nichel	Daniel	St. Peter & Paul Catholic School	St. Thomas/St. John District	Valedictorian
Biton	Charles	St. Peter & Paul Catholic School	St. Thomas/St. John District	Salutatorian
Talia	Feshbach	Montessori and Peter Gruber International Academy	St. Thomas/St. John District	Valedictorian
Axel	Bartsch	Montessori and Peter Gruber International Academy	St. Thomas/St. John District	Salutatorian
Bethany	Vazquez Smith	Antilles School	St. Thomas/St. John District	Valedictorian
Maggie	Huang	Antilles School	St. Thomas/St. John District	Valedictorian
Grace	Randall	Antilles School	St. Thomas/St. John District	Salutatorian

Feature Image: Governor Bryan's poses for a photo with territory's Valedictorian and Salutatorian graduates July 26 at Government House in St. Croix.

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