

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Odor at Central High School Keeps Students, Teachers Home for Third Day; Report Card Distribution Set for Monday

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ST. CROIX — The St. Croix Central High School remained closed on Friday as work to identify a gaseous odor on the campus continues, the Dept. of Education has announced. School was dismissed early Wednesday after teachers and students left their classrooms, many complaining that the odor was affecting their ability to function.

Agencies are actively investigating sewer lines on and near the Central High campus, the department said.

The Consortium on Wednesday spoke with Rosa Soto Thomas, St. Croix District president of the American Federation of Teachers Union, who stood with educators outside the school gates in a covered, bus stop-like waiting area. She reminded that odors at the school date back well over a decade.

While the cause of the latest unpleasant smell has yet to be identified, the Department of Education said it has partnered with the Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Waste Management, Department of Health-Div. of Environmental Health and VITEMA to rectify the issue.

Central High School report card distribution originally scheduled for Nov. 15 will take place on Tuesday, November 19 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the school.

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