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# Covid-19 Exposure in Several Classrooms at Claude O. Markoe Prompts Revert to Virtual Learning Until Further Notice

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Staff Consortium **September 27, 2021**

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ST. CROIX — The Claude O. Markoe Elementary School will be closed to in-person learning beginning Monday due to Covid-19 exposure impacting several classrooms, announced the V.I. Dept. of Education. All in-person classes will revert to virtual learning until further notice.

According to the release, as part of the D.O.E.'s Covid-19 protocols, the department's Covid-19 Taskforce and the V.I. Dept. of Health were notified and have begun contact tracing.

Meal distribution will also be suspended at the Claude O. Markoe campus during the closure, however, families may pick up breakfast and lunch at the Arthur A. Richards modular campus from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., Monday through Friday, according to the release.

D.O.E. said the affected areas of the campus will be thoroughly sanitized using CDC-approved products before the school reopens to in-person learning.

"The Department of Education reminds employees that if they are sick, they must remain at home and seek guidance from the Virgin Islands Department of Health or a private healthcare provider," stated the release. "If anyone within a household has tested positive for COVID-19 or has Covid-19-related symptoms, children in that household should not attend in-person classes. All members of the household must remain in quarantine until negative Covid-19 test results are received or all members have been cleared by the Department of Health."

D.O.E. reminded that anyone who "knowingly expose others to Covid-19 is punishable by fines and imprisonment."