

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Education Lands \$10 Million In Grants For School Repairs on St. Croix, \$2.1 Million for Repairs on St. Thomas; V.I D.H.S. Receives \$3.5 Million From H.H.S.

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Student at the St. Croix Educational Complex in Sept. 2015 By. VI CONSORTIUM

The Federal Emergency Management Agency awarded a grant totaling \$10.6 million to the Virgin Islands Department of Education to fund Emergency Protective Measures in St. Croix, Congresswoman Stacey Plaskett announced Tuesday. Another grant in the amount of \$2.1 million was handed out to make repairs to the Joseph A. Gomez Elementary School in St. Thomas.

“This new funding will allow the Department to begin the process of educating our students in facilities conducive to their educational growth,” Ms. Plaskett said. “The children of the Virgin Islands have gone to school in modular classrooms for over two years, I’m pleased that we are heading towards the end of that period.”

Funding for Emergency Protective Measures give the Department of Education the resources to better prepare school structures for future emergencies and disasters.

Dept. of Human Services Receives \$3.5 Million

The V.I. Department of Human Services is in line for a \$3.5 million federal disaster assistance grant for the Head Start program.

According to Ms. Plaskett, the grant to Head Start from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services “aids in ensuring that the program will be able to continue operations despite natural disasters.

“This vital program provides many children from low income families with the educational foundation that is crucial for children ages five and under,” Ms. Plaskett said in a press release Tuesday.