

 Office of Public Relations

 1834 Kongens Gade, Charlotte Amalie \* St. Thomas \* U.S. Virgin Islands 00802-6746

 Telephone: 340.774.0100 Ext. 8136
 Fax: 340.774.1168

 340.773.1095 Ext. 7064
 Fax: 340.773.4624

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Keva D. Muller Director of Public Relations (340) 774-0100, Ext. 8136 Keva.muller@vide.vi <u>www.vide.vi</u> www.facebook.com/usvi.vide

## EDUCATION COMMISSIONER-DESIGNEE EXTENDS CONDOLENCES TO FAMILY OF LATE CHS STUDENT AND BEST WISHES TO HOSPITALIZED WOODSON STUDENT

ST. THOMAS, USVI — Newly confirmed Education Commissioner Designee Racquel Berry-Benjamin extends condolences to the family of St. Croix Central High School (CHS) student Kevin Marcus, who passed away on the morning of May 16 and sends best wishes to Brendel William, a John H. Woodson Junior High seventh grader who remains hospitalized following an automobile accident on May 6.

"The news of Kevin's passing has added to our already heavy hearts from Brendel's accident," Berry-Benjamin wrote in a message to Department of Education staff today. "We extend our deepest sympathies to the Marcus family, and to the entire CHS student body, faculty and staff. We also send best wishes for a speedy recovery to Brendel."

Commissioner Designee Berry-Benjamin and Education officials in the St. Croix District have made contact with the families of both students and continue to lend them their support. Grief counselors are available at CHS for students and staff in need of those services.