



# THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **WOODSON JR. HIGH TO INDUCT 12 INTO STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

ST. CROIX, USVI – The John H. Woodson Jr. High School will induct 12 students into the school's Student Government Association during a ceremony beginning at 9 a.m. on February 28 in the auditorium.

According to Assistant Principal Vincent Gordon, Ph.D., it is the first Student Government induction as Woodson prepares for its re-accreditation. Two students from each of the school's six campus teams will be installed.

Gordon identified the five goals of the National Association of Student Councils:

**To Build Leadership Capacity**-Increase the number of students the council affects and utilize strategies that create opportunities for students to share lead roles.

**To Create Community and School Service Opportunities**-Open new doors for students to be able to get involved in their schools and communities.

**To Increase Networking and Communication Among Students**-Promote healthy, friendly relationships among students that emphasize effective communication and foster a positive atmosphere throughout the school.

**To Implement New Student Council Programs and Activities**-Plan and implement new programs, activities, and training that will increase the student council's capacity, and effectiveness to address student needs and translate their voiced desires and ideas into action.

**To Evaluate for Council Effectiveness**-Evaluate the council to measure how effective the organization is in meeting goals 1-4, and the levels to which it has worked to empower members of the student body to be active participants and leaders.

Furthermore, Gordon highlighted the four tenets that guide the organization:

**Leadership**

- Set a positive course for others to follow
- Develop and expand leadership knowledge and skills in council members and others
- Explore and practice democratic principles and citizenry

**Service**

- Build an environment of caring through volunteerism
- Serve others in the school and community
- Expand academic strengths through service learning

**Voice**

- Be the voice of the student body
- Give every student the chance to be heard
- Share ideas, concerns, and solutions through positive communications

**Engagement**

- Promote fully accessible and inclusive activities and events
- Make every student feel welcome and a part of school life
- Foster a safe and inviting culture for all students

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