GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

PRESS RELEASE

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Cedar School Grade 5 Students Engage with 5th HoA Members

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In an inspiring display of civic education, Grade 5 students from Cedar School visited the House of Assembly today, where they were warmly greeted by members of the 5th House of Assembly (HoA). The visit coincided with ongoing debates on the Human Rights Commission Bill 2026, offering the young visitors a front-row seat to democracy in action.

Leading the welcomes was Speaker of the House, Honourable Corine N. George-Massicote, who engaged the students in a dynamic question-and-answer session. She fielded their curious inquiries while posing though provoking questions in return, fostering a spirited dialogue on governance.

Premier and Minister of Finance, Honourable Dr. Natalio D. Wheatley, personally greeted each student with a handshake and addressed a key question: *how members become the government?* His explanation highlighted the electoral process, igniting interest in political participation.

The Leader of the Opposition and 6th District Representative, Honourable Myron V. Walwyn, noted that Cedar School falls within his constituency. He praised the teacher and school administration for nurturing the students' curiosity, by bringing them to witness the Chamber in debate.

Additional members who connected with the students included:

- Member for the 5th District, Honourable Kye M. Rymer
- Member for the 2nd District, Honourable Melvin M. Turnbull
- Member for the 4th District, Honourable Luce D. Hodge Smith
- Member for the 9th District, Honourable Vincent O. Wheatley
- Territorial-at-Large Members: Honourable Stacy R. Mather, Honourable Ronnie W. Skelton, and Honourable Lorna G. Smith

Upon her arrival, Attorney General Honourable Dawn J. Smith asked the group if any aspired to become lawyers, expressing optimism for the future of her office based on their enthusiasm.

The visit underscores the HoA's commitment to inspiring the next generation of Virgin Islands leaders. As debates on the Human Rights Commission Bill 2026 continue, today's interaction reminded all present of the vital role education plays

in sustaining democracy.

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Additional Documents or Media

- press_release_cedar_school_grade_5_students_engage_with_5th_hoa_members_1.pdf
- Speaker of 5th HoA and Cedar Students
- Members of 5th HoA and Cedar Students
- Premier and Jr. Min of 5th HoA and Cedar Students
- Opposition Leader and Members of 5th HoA and Cedar Students