



**REL**  
NORTHEAST  
& ISLANDS

Regional  
Educational  
Laboratory  
at EDC

US Virgin Islands

How is the US Virgin Islands involved in REL Northeast & Islands work?

## US VIRGIN ISLANDS COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS RESEARCH ALLIANCE (USVI ALLIANCE)

- **Denise Gomes**, Program Manager, Virgin Islands Department of Education
- **Chermaine Hobson-Johnson**, Assistant Commissioner, Curriculum and Instruction, Virgin Islands Department of Education
- **Sharon McCollum**, Commissioner, Virgin Islands Department of Education
- **Camille McKayle**, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of the Virgin Islands
- **Mary L. Moorhead**, Chairperson, Virgin Islands Board of Education
- **James Richardson**, Director, Planning, Research, and Evaluation, Virgin Islands Department of Education
- **Dionne Wells**, Superintendent, St. Thomas and St. John District
- **Colleen Williams**, Superintendent, St. Croix School District

### Relevant Projects

- **Tool: Data Catalog for College Readiness Indicators** — With support from the USVI Alliance, REL Northeast & Islands researchers created a data catalog to identify data elements that could be used in creating a college and career readiness indicator system.
- **Analytic Technical Support: Supporting P–16W Collaboratives** — Since 2012, REL Northeast & Islands has been helping the USVI Alliance identify indicators of risk for student dropout as well as predictors of postsecondary success. Alliance members subsequently recognized the need to create systems and policies to align high school and postsecondary standards and expectations not only to prevent dropout but also to promote postsecondary success. In 2015, following a leadership change at the USVI Department of Education, P–16W collaborative members asked for two more workshops to help clarify their vision and mission, review research associated with P 16W collaboratives, and develop a clearer understanding of how the principles of implementation science may be applied to their collaborative's work.

## REFERENCE DESK QUESTIONS FROM THE US VIRGIN ISLANDS

- **Virgin Islands Department of Education:** What research and tools exist for teachers on strategies to enhance reading skills of students at proficiency level by 3rd grade? (RD0302)
- **Virgin Islands Department of Education:** What research-based parental involvement strategies have been implemented in other jurisdictions to increase academic achievement of school children? (RD0299)
- **Virgin Islands Board of Education:** What research, resources, and/or model policies are used in jurisdictions to regulate students' use of electronic devices in the classroom? (RD0273)
- **University of the Virgin Islands:** How is "dropout" defined and calculated? (RD0181)
- **Virgin Islands Board of Education:** What policies and processes have been established by state boards of education to support implementation of the common core standards? (RD0165)

### State Liaison

- **Sandra Espada**, *saespada@gmail.com*