



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS NEWS RELEASE

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Figure 1: Line Supervisor, Malvern Williams, interacts with young students & provides Versalift bucket truck demonstration for Career Day at the St. Thomas/St. John Seventh-Day Adventist School on Thursday, March 23, 2023.

WAPA Participates in Successful Career Day at Seventh Day Adventist School

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (“WAPA or “Authority”) was delighted to participate in yesterday’s Career Day event at the St. Thomas/St. John Seventh-Day Adventist school for students in kindergarten through 5th grade. The event gave 60 young students the opportunity to explore various career options and learn about different industries.

Among the day’s activities, the Authority’s Line Department demonstrated for students how to operate a bucket truck and provided an overview of several key instruments, including a pole extension and harness, that are utilized daily by lineworkers out in the field. Team members from the Authority’s Water Distribution Department put together an interactive Power Point presentation, where students were taught about reverse osmosis and the life cycle of water from capture to dissemination. Additionally, the Authority showcased its energy efficient electric vehicle, and explained to students the prominent differences between traditional vehicles and electric.

Throughout the morning, representatives from the Authority’s Line, Engineering, Water, Maintenance, and Communications Department answered a variety of questions from young students, providing them with a clearer picture of what it's like to work in their respective division. "The students were eager to learn and explore the different career opportunities available to them," noted Omari George, Electrical Engineer II and acting Assistant Superintendent of the Line Department at the Authority. “We hope that our participation has inspired them to pursue their passions and consider a career in either the electric or water industry,” added George.

The Authority thanks Clare Webster-Soanes, Counselor, from the St. Thomas/St. John Seventh-Day Adventist school for providing WAPA the opportunity to contribute to shaping the career aspirations of the next generation. "It was a pleasure to have the WAPA team present for Career Day and the kids absolutely enjoyed it," noted Ms. Webster-Soanes. "From an educational standpoint, the presentations were informative and engaging."

The Authority looks forward to continued opportunities to connect with brilliant young Virgin Islanders.

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About WAPA: The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority is an autonomous agency of the Virgin Islands Government which produces and distributes electricity and drinking water to residential and commercial customers in the territory. WAPA was created by the Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands in 1964 through Act No. 1248. Today, WAPA generates electrical power at production plants on St. Thomas and St. Croix and distributes electrical service through smart grids to customers on St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John, Hassel Island, and Water Island. Potable water is distributed to almost 13,000 customers through water lines and standpipes. WAPA also has the responsibility of installing and maintaining streetlights.

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