



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

## MEDIA RELEASE

April 28<sup>th</sup> , 2022

Dear Editor / Head of Department,

### **Ministry of Education Partners with the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) on the Reduction of School Violence.**

On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April, officials of the Ministry of Education met with the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS), the National Parent Teacher Association (NPTA), the Trinidad and Tobago Unified Teachers Association (TTUTA) and the Association of Principals of Public Secondary Schools (APPSS) to discuss the role of Community Police Officers in the reduction of school violence.

The public is advised that based on the request of the Ministry of Education, the TTPS has already instituted increased patrols at 15 schools, focusing on maintaining a presence at, and in the vicinity of these schools; especially at the end of the school day.

Additionally, the TTPS has instituted daily school patrols to ensure the presence of officers within these schools during the school day.

Both measures will ensure that these schools receive increased and sustained police presence daily, in an effort to maintain law and order among students.

The Ministry of Education and the TTPS have also agreed that students who commit acts of violence within or outside of the school compound will be reported to the TTPS for further investigation and action, including those involved in altercations during the period April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to present.

These school measures have been implemented while the interministerial committee compiles its report, focusing on the updating of the existing school discipline matrix and the incorporation of activities to encourage positive behavioural choices in students, such as the promotion of youth clubs, student engagement, peer mediation, mentorship, parent clubs etc. into the regular school timetable.

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