



MEDIA RELEASE

October 02, 2025

Dear Editor / Head of Department,

Investigations Continue into Fire at St. Benedict's College

The Trinidad and Tobago Fire Service (TTFS) and the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) are continuing investigations into the St. Benedict's College fire, which occurred on Wednesday, October 1, 2025.

The fire broke out shortly after 12:00 p.m. in the school's auditorium. Responding promptly, personnel from the TTFS and T&TEC quickly isolated the auditorium from the electrical grid, effectively confining the fire to this area and preventing further damage. The school's main structure remained intact, and the affected area was secured to prevent unauthorized access.

In accordance with the school's Emergency Evacuation Protocol, teachers used the public address system to instruct all students to proceed to the designated Muster Point at St. Benedict's RC Church. The evacuation was executed efficiently. All five hundred and twenty-five (525) students and forty-five (45) staff members were accounted for. No injuries or casualties were reported. Ambulance services remained on standby throughout the incident.

Following the event, the Ministry of Education authorized an early dismissal of students. Parents and guardians were promptly informed via Edupage, the school's Learning Management System, and through the school's social media channels. A formal Police Report was filed at the La Romaine Police Post, and investigations will continue under the supervision of the San Fernando Police Station.

Minister of Education, Dr. the Honourable Michael Dowlath, stated: *The safety and well-being of every student remains our highest priority. Following the fire, all necessary measures were taken to ensure that students were safely evacuated, and we are working closely with the relevant authorities to restore normal operations as quickly as possible. We want to reassure parents, staff,*

and the public that every step is being taken to safeguard our children and their learning environment.”

In response to the incident, the Ministry’s Student Support Services Division (SSSD) will facilitate a counseling session for all staff members on Friday, October 3, 2025. Similar sessions will be organized for students upon resumption of classes to ensure their well-being.

It is anticipated that there will be minimal disruption to the academic schedule. Classes are expected to resume on Monday, October 6, 2025, Subject to clearance from TTFS and OSHA

The Ministry of Education remains committed to ensuring the safety and security of all students and staff as investigations proceed.

END

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