

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

News Release:

May 2, 2007

STUDENTS OF THE PRINCES TOWN JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL TREATED AT THE REGIONAL HEALTH FACILITY

Education Minister Senator Hazel Manning visited the Princes Town Regional Health Facility where she met with a dozen students of the Princes Town Junior Secondary School and their parents following a vehicular accident this morning, Wednesday May 2, 2007. The Minister was accompanied by a School Supervisor and representative of the Ministry's Communications Unit.

The students, all of the Princes Town Junior Secondary School, were on their way to school when it is alleged that the driver of the Maxi Taxi skidded off the Princes Town-Moraga road and the vehicle ended up in a ditch. The students were treated for minor injuries, sprained muscles, cuts and bruises and discharged. The students suffered no broken limbs and the doctor-in-charge assured that none of the injuries are life-threatening. One student was transferred to the San Fernando General Hospital. Among those treated at the medical facility were Peter Brereton, Kirwin Western, Klevaughn Forrester, Damien Ragoobar, Tamme Phillip, Tenesha Ayres, Nicole Isaac, Avian Morgan, Andre Neptune, Minoska Deodath, Radha Soogrim Singh and Kern Mollineau.

The Minister was on her way to the school as part of her weekly visit to Primary and Secondary schools in the Princes Town Educational District when she learned of the incident. At the medical facility she held discussions with the attending physician Dr. Andrew Kolawole Ajawi, nurses and other medical personnel. The Minister held discussions with the students and their parents.

The Minister assured that while the PTSC has rather strict criteria for the recruitment of maxi taxi drivers she will nevertheless hold discussions with officials of the PTSC with regard to ensuring that Maxi Taxi drivers who transport school children are cautious and that they follow the stipulated guidelines as part of the Ministry's transportation policy.

The Minister went on to visit with teachers, students and parents at the Princes Town Junior Secondary School and the Irele Government Primary School. The 30-member team of Ministry officials explained aspects of the Ministry's modernization and reform programme and listened to the challenges faced by teachers, students and parents as they seek to provide quality education.



Mervyn Crichtlow
Communications Coordinator