

**BOGOTA BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOGOTA, NEW JERSEY
WORK SESSION/ACTION MEETING
November 9, 2021
Bogota High School Cafeteria and
Zoom Webinar ID: 839 3637 3445**

CALL TO ORDER by Mrs. Kathy VanBuren, Board President at 7:00 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Bogota Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted in the Bogota Borough Hall, communicated by letter to The Record, filed with the Clerk of the Borough of Bogota and posted on the Bogota Board of Education website.

ROLL CALL by Mr. Irfan Evcil, Board Secretary.

Members Present: Mrs. Kohles, Mr. Miranda, Mrs. Olivo, Mr. Ortega, Ms. Ruckett and Mrs. VanBuren.

Members Present Virtual: Mrs. Alvarez, Mrs. Lewis and Mr. Chavez.

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Mr. Damian Kennedy Superintendent, Mr. Irfan Evcil, SBA/BS, William Soukas, Board Attorney and Elizabeth Ruiz Assistant BS.

HEARING OF PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Mrs. Kohles moved, seconded by Mr. Ortega a motion to open the meeting for public comments on agenda items only. Motion unanimously approved by voice call vote.

None.

Mr. Miranda moved, seconded by Mr. Ortega a motion to close the meeting for public comments on agenda items only. Motion unanimously approved by voice call vote.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Kennedy informed the following:

- Adult ESL classes started tonight.
- Masonic Temple building closing was last week and we are officially the new owners.
- Finally found a Physics teacher who is on the agenda tonight.
- Fall Sports Update: Football had a tough loss on Saturday the Union Division Championship Volleyball playing right now for the State Sectional Final - Play at Verona on Thursday at 4:30 XC run on Saturday run in the group 1 state championship in Holmdel Middle.
- Middle school open house this Saturday from 12-3 pm to let the community see the building. Refreshments will be served.

ACTION ITEMS

Appointment of Physical Education Leave of Absence Teacher

11-09-21-01 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the appointment of **Tre Gomez** as a Physical Education Teacher at the Jr./Sr. High School at a salary of BA Step 1 \$50,100 (prorated) through February 14, 2022.

Appointment of Physics Teacher

11-09-21-02 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the appointment of **Kevin Kotharu** as a Physics Teacher at a salary of MA Step 5 \$61,200 (prorated) for the remainder of the 2021/2022 school year.

Mr. Miranda moved, seconded by Mrs. Kohles a motion for the approval of agenda items **11-09-21-01 and 11-09-21-02**. On a roll call vote Mrs. Alvarez, Mrs. Kohles, Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Miranda, Mrs. Olivo, Mr. Ortega, Ms. Ruckett, Mr. Chavez and Mrs. VanBuren voted yes. Motion carried.

WORK SESSION

MINUTES

Approval of the following minutes as submitted by the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary:

October 12, 2021 Work Session/Action Meeting – Open

October 12, 2021 Work Session/Action Meeting – Closed

October 19, 2021 Regular Meeting

Moved:

Seconded:

IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

POLICY

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 2425 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program (M)

11-16-21-01 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second reading and adoption of Policy 1648.13 School Employee Vaccination Requirements (M).

Moved:

Seconded:

IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 2422 Comprehensive Health and Physical Education (M) (Revised)

11-16-21-02 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second reading and adoption of Policy 2422 Comprehensive Health and Physical Education (M) (Revised).

Moved:

Seconded:

IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 2467 Surrogate Parents and Resource Family Parents (M) (Revised)

11-16-21-03 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second reading and adoption of Policy 2467 Surrogate Parents and Resource Family Parents (M) (Revised).

Moved:

Seconded:

IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 5111 Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students (M) (Revised)

11-16-21-04 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second reading and adoption of Policy 5111 Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students (M) (Revised).

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 5116 Education of Homeless Children (Revised)

11-16-21-05 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second reading and adoption of Policy 5116 Education of Homeless Children (Revised).

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy & Regulation 7432 Eye Protection (M) (Revised)

11-16-21-06 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second reading and adoption of Policy & Regulation 7432 Eye Protection (M) (Revised).

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 8420 Emergency and Crisis Situations (M) (Revised)

11-16-21-07 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second reading and adoption of Policy 8420 Emergency and Crisis Situations (M) (Revised).

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Second Reading and Adoption of Regulation 8420.1 Fire and Fire Drills (M) (Revised)

11-16-21-08 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second reading and adoption of Regulation 8420.1 Fire and Fire Drills (M) (Revised).

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 8540 School Nutrition Programs (M) (Revised)

11-16-21-09 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second reading and adoption of Policy 8540 School Nutrition Programs (M) (Revised).

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 8550 Meal Charges/Outstanding Food Service Bill (M) (Revised)

11-16-21-10 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second reading and adoption of Policy 8550 Meal Charges/Outstanding Food Service Bill (M) (Revised).

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 8600 Student Transportation (M) (Revised)

11-16-21-11 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second reading and adoption of Policy 8600

Student Transportation (M) (Revised).

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 6115.01 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Allowability of Costs (M) (New)

11-16-21-12 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second reading and adoption of Policy 6115.01 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Allowability of Costs (M) (New).

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 6115.02 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Mandatory Disclosures (M) (New)

11-16-21-13 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second reading and adoption of Policy 6115.02 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Mandatory Disclosures (M) (New).

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 6115.03 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Conflict of Interest (M) (New)

11-16-21-14 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second reading and adoption of Policy 6115.03 Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Conflict of Interest (M) (New).

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Second Reading and Adoption of Policy 6311 Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants (M) (Revised)

11-16-21-15 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the second reading and adoption of Policy 6311 Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants (M) (Revised).

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

EDUCATION

Approval of Professional Conferences

11-16-21-16 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves/ratifies the following professional conferences (pending fund availability).

Name	Description	Location	Date	Amount
Jill Connolly	Training for Teen Mental Health First Aid Grant	Virtual	11/8/21 – 11/10/21	None
Jill Connolly	NJSEAA Director's Meeting	TBD	11/17/21	None
Nick Naturile	Bergen County B&G Meeting	Ridgewood, NJ	11/11/21	None

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Approval of Field Trips

11-16-21-17 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the following field trips.

Date	Staff	Students	Location	Expense
11/17/21	Louis Severino Kristen Severino	9-12 Digital Photography	Ramapo Valley County Reservation	None

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Approval to Complete Senior Year

11-16-21-18 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves Student #26157 to complete their senior year as a non-resident.

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Approval of 2022-2023 PEA Submission

11-16-21-19 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the submission of application for the Preschool Education Aid for the 2022-2023 school year. This application's purpose is to plan for the continued implementation of the preschool program, for general education students who are Bogota residents. If approved, the board will support its budget and the one-year operational plan.

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Approval of Hospital Instruction

11-16-21-20 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves Learnwell to provide hospital/facility based instruction to students hospitalized at Hoboken University Medical Center and Summit Oaks, or attending the day program at High Focus, at a contractual rate of \$52 per hour.

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Approval of Home Instruction

11-16-21-21 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves Diane Baranello & Jennifer Grom to provide home instruction to Student #26382 at a contractual rate of \$40 per hour.

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

PERSONNEL

All personnel appointments are contingent upon receipt of an affirmative criminal history record check and the holding of proper certification.

This following appointments or contracts are contingent upon and could be modified based on student participation and the district's receipt of sufficient State School Aide and other revenue funding. Payment shall be made only if the services are provided and performed in full.

Approval of American Rescue Plan After School Program Staff

11-16-21-22 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves/ratifies the appointment of teachers for the American Rescue Plan After School Program at a salary of \$40 per hour not to exceed 150

total hours for the 2021-2022 school year. To be paid through American Rescue Plan Grant funding. Staff are as follows:

Name	Title	Program	Program Portion
Laura De La Garza Noble	Middle School After School Teacher	ARP After School Program	100%
Amanda Cruz	Elementary After School Teacher	ARP After School Program	100%

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Accept Resignation

11-16-21-23 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board accepts with regret the resignation due to retirement of **Jivan Arakelyan**, Custodian effective November 10, 2021.

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Accept Resignation

11-16-21-24 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board accepts with regret the resignation of **Dervish Alliaj**, Custodian effective November 11, 2021.

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Appointment of Substitute Custodial/Maintenance Workers

11-16-21-25 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the appointment of **Ericka Rivera** the following substitute custodial /maintenance worker at a salary of \$17.50 per hour through June 30, 2022.

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

FINANCE

This following appointments or contracts are contingent upon and could be modified based on student participation and the district's receipt of sufficient State School Aide and other revenue funding. Payment shall be made only if the services are provided and performed in full.

Approval of Bill List

11-16-21-26 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves the payment of bills in the amount of \$ dated November 16, 2021 as per the attached, which will become part of this resolution.

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Approval of Budgetary Line Item Expenditure

11-16-21-27 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(C1), that, as of October 31, 2021 no budgetary line item account has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(C3), no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of

N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(B), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's fiscal obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Approval of Payroll Transfer

11-16-21-28 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves/ratifies the payroll and fund transfer for the month of October 2021 in the amount of \$1,231,072.48 dated October 15, 2021 and October 30, 2021 as attached, which shall be made a part of this resolution.

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Approval of Report of the Secretary

11-16-21-29 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board approves/ratifies the Report of the Secretary for the month of October 2021 as attached, which shall be made a part of this resolution.

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Approval of Report of the Treasurer

11-16-21-30 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools the Board approves/ratifies the Report of the Treasurer for the month of October 2021 as attached, which shall be made a part of this resolution.

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

Approval of Budget Transfers

11-16-21-31 BE IT RESOLVED, that, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board approves/ratifies budget transfers for the month of October 2021 as attached, which shall be made a part of this resolution.

Moved: Seconded: IA, LK, EL, FM, TO, JO, BR, JC, KVB

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Ortega reported the following on Buildings and Grounds:

Temple:

- Closed on the Masonic temple building. Exploring plans for 5 to 6 career tech classrooms with programs such as computer specialist, electrician and plumbing for example.

Referendum:

- Steen to be Preschool through 4th grade.
- Bixby 5th grade through 8th grade.
- Steen and Bixby building expansions over playground.

Exploring other ideas

- St. Joe's – become 7th grade through 8th grade building.
- Steen become Preschool through 3rd grade.
- Bixby become 4th grade through 6th grade.
- New big gym for Bixby

High School

- Update some science labs, some bathrooms, lockers and the auditorium.

Fields

- Looking to get the architects to join the Board meeting on November 16th to go over what we would like to do.

- Working on surveys to get out to the community for input.

Completed

- Roof restorations at Bixby and Steen with 20-year warranty.
- Solar panels are starting to come in.
- LED lights installed in Bixby and Steen.
- Three new flag poles installed.
- High school boilers were replaced and working.

Middle School

- Lockers installed.
- Three water bottle filling stations.
- Bike rack have been delivered and will be this week installed.
- Looking at quotes for cameras.
- Will have open house on Saturday.

Mrs. VanBuren reported the following:

- There was a meeting last night on early childhood with Ms. Molina, they are working on promoting social/emotional competency in Bogota early childhood system. They partnered with Montclair State University who helps them with workshops and so forth. They had a parent workshop survey and are doing workshops on early literacy, which Mr. Chiang presented in October. There will be early math with Mr. Chiang in the winter. Social and emotional in the spring, through Montclair State University. Health and nutrition will be in the spring.
- They are also updating their bylaws.
- Will be setting goals for the next school year.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mr. Miranda asked for an update on the comparison data for the ESS aides and secretaries.
- Mr. Kennedy responded, emailed the secretaries and is waiting for the aides.
- Mrs. Kohles asked about referendum committee.
- Mr. Kennedy responded that he is working on it and has a meeting with the architects on Friday.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mrs. VanBuren, new delegates assembly is coming up, every school district in the state is represented. That is being held November 20th, Lisa and I are the delegates. You will need to have a delegate once you reorg in January.
- There was a letter sent to the Biden Administration, urging the federal government to help education officials respond to harassment threats. It was sent by the National School Boards Association and it seems that people have misinterpreted it, that heavy handedness could be used in Board meetings and that was not the intention. NJ School Boards had no knowledge of this and did not endorse it.
- There is a workshop tomorrow morning 11:00 am to 12:00 pm. School Boards is putting something together called A New Board Member Orientation, it will be online. NJ School Boards workshops are still online for one month.
- Bergen County meeting emphasized on new Board member training/fundamentals.

- Ms. Ruckett asked about the students here that are in 8th grade and now they have learned that there will be a PTO in the Middle school. Parents asked which PTO they should go to?
- Mr. Kennedy responded they should go to the PTO in their building.

HEARING OF PUBLIC

Mr. Ortega moved, seconded by Mr. Miranda a motion to open the meeting for public comments. Motion unanimously approved by a voice call vote.

- Mrs. Ramirez, 98 Queen Anne Road, Bogota, NJ, wanted to say that custodian Jivan Arakelyan, from Bixby school is retiring and expressed that he is a kind man.
- Susan Harper, 344 River Road, Bogota, NJ, expressed concerns over her freshman son taking Spanish online course.
Mr. Kennedy responded that he understands her concerns and that there is a major teacher shortage. The Spanish teacher is out on maternity leave and that's why we can't pivot to a new language because will be coming back soon. We are doing the best that we can to provide a course to them, knowing that we will get our teacher back within a month.
- Idalisa Demetriades, 43 Pine Street, Bogota, NJ, thanked Mr. Kennedy, Chief of Bogota PD and Steen Principal for the morning drop off, it has been going smoothly.
Aftercare gets very dark when we pick up the kids after 5:00 pm and can we put some lights?
- Mr. Kennedy responded we will double check that, maybe it is on a timer and not recognizing the time change, but there are lights there. We will check on that tomorrow.

Mr. Miranda moved, seconded by Mr. Ortega, a motion to close the meeting for public comments. Motion unanimously approved by a voice call vote.

- Mrs. VanBuren wished a Happy Veterans Day to all the men and women that serve our country.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Miranda moved, seconded by Mrs. Kohles a motion for adjournment of the meeting at 7:23 p.m. Motion unanimously approved by a voice call vote.

Respectfully submitted,


Irfan Evcil
Board Secretary