

**BOGOTA BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BOGOTA, NEW JERSEY  
SPECIAL MEETING  
DECEMBER 12, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER** by Mr. Severino, 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. Severino, Board President at 7:01 p.m.

Members Present: Mrs. Carpenter, Ms. Granquist, Mrs. Kohles, Mrs. Lewis, Ms. Montgomery, Mr. Moore, Mrs. VanBuren, Mr. McHale and Mr. Severino.

Members Absent:

Also Present: Dr. Varcadipane, Interim Superintendent, Nathanya Simon, Esq., Mr. Evcil, SBA/BS and Elizabeth Ruiz Assistant BS.

Absent: None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**WHEREAS**, C.231, P.L. 1975, also known as the Sunshine Law, authorizes a public body to meet in executive or private session under certain limited circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, said law requires the Board to adopt a resolution at a public meeting before it can meet in such an executive or private session:

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Bogota Board of Education, that:

1. It does hereby determine that it is necessary to meet in Executive Session on December 12, 2017, at 7:02 p.m. to discuss matters involving attorney client privilege.
2. That the matter discussed will be made public if and when confidentiality is no longer required and action pursuant to said discussion shall take place only at a public meeting.

***ACTION MAY BE TAKEN UPON RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION***

Mr. McHale moved seconded by Mrs. Kohles, a motion for closed session discussion. Motion unanimously approved by a voice call vote.

Mr. McHale moved, seconded by Mr. Moore, a motion to open the meeting in public session. Motion unanimously approved by a voice call vote at 7:15 p.m.

Mr. Severino, President of Bogota Board of Education, read the letter from Ms. Dayle Santoro, Principal of Lillian M. Steen Elementary School, in reference to incident occurred on August 16, 2017 involving Sergeant Craig Lynch from Bogota Bough Police Department.

Mr. Severino read the letter addressed to Dr. Vincent Varcadipane from Captain James Sepp, Bogota Borough Police Department, responding to the investigation into the complaint brought forward against Sergeant Craig Lynch.

Mr. Severino lastly read the statement as a response from the Bogota Board of Education to the incident and to the Internal Affairs findings.

### **HEARING OF PUBLIC**

Mr. McHale moved, seconded by Mr. Moore, a motion to open the meeting in public session. Motion unanimously approved by a voice call vote.

Due to not having the order in public hearing session, Mr. Severino moved to recess until called to order by the chair, Mr. McHale seconded. Motion unanimously approved by a voice call vote at 7:26 p.m.

Mr. Severino called to order at 7:47 p.m. He announced that each person will have 3 minutes and explained the procedures for public hearing session.

The faculty of Bogota School District stated their concerns regarding school safety. The staff also provided their support for Ms. Santoro.

Parents and students spoke supporting Sgt. Lynch.

Parents expressed their support of Ms. Santoro and teachers of Bogota School District.

Sgt. Lynch spoke about incident and expressed his concerns.

Mr. McHale moved, seconded by Mr. Moore, a motion to close the meeting in public session. Motion unanimously approved by a voice call vote.

Dr. Varcadipane expressed his support of Ms. Santoro, all staff and students and in the hopes of working together with the Bogota Police Department to move forward.

Mrs. Kohles and Ms. Montgomery underlined the importance of the continuation and maintenance of a positive, respectful and productive working relationship for the benefit of the school district and entire community.

Mrs. Van Buren expressed her thoughts about NJ School Board Code of Ethics and concerns regarding the support and protect school personnel.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. McHale moved, seconded by Mr. Moore a motion for adjournment of the meeting at 8:54 p.m. Motion unanimously approved by a voice call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Irfan Evcil  
Board Secretary