

Bylaws of the Parents' Association of Stuyvesant High School

As amended by vote of the membership on April 25, 2006
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Article I - Name

The name of the association shall be the **Parents' Association of Stuyvesant High School** (the "PA"). The PA is recognized by the New York City Department of Education as the official parents' organization of Stuyvesant High School

Article II – Purpose and Policies

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of the PA will be:

- 1.1 To foster programs that enable parents to become partners with the school in the education of their children.
- 1.2 To provide opportunities and training for parents to participate in school governance and educational decision-making, and encourage parent participation at all levels.
- 1.3 To promote and develop a cooperative working relationship between parents and staff.
- 1.4 To promote an effective educational environment for students and to provide support and resources to the school for the benefit and growth of all children.
- 1.5 To provide an opportunity for parent education and development.

Section 2. Policies

All activities of the PA are non-sectarian and non-partisan in nature. The name of the PA or its officers in their official capacities, will only be used in a manner consistent with the guidelines and regulations established by the New York City Department of Education for officially sanctioned parents' organizations. Officers of the PA may not engage in activities which may jeopardize its tax status. The PA is qualified under *Section 501(c)(3)* of the Internal Revenue Code as a not-for profit organization.

Article III - Membership

Section 1. Eligibility

1.1 All parents of students in regular attendance at Stuyvesant High School are Members of the PA.

1.2 A "parent" is a parent (by birth or adoption, step-parent or foster parent), legally appointed guardian, or person in a parental relation to a child or children currently attending a school, including a child who is attending a non-citywide school full time while on the register of Citywide Programs (known as District 75).

A person in parental relation refers to a person who has assumed the care of a child because the child's parents or guardians are not available, whether due to, among other things, death, imprisonment, mental illness, abandonment of a child, or living outside of the state. A person may only qualify as a person in parental relation if no other eligible person applies as parent or guardian. Any determinations about who constitutes a person in "parental relation" must be based on the individual circumstances surrounding guardianship and custodial care of the particular child. This shall include consultation between the PA Executive Board and the principal. A person who may provide temporary care (i.e., babysitting) for a child or children does not qualify as a person in parental relation under this definition. In addition, eligibility for PA membership under this category is not established by designation of an individual (notarized letter) by the child's parent or guardian. The denial of membership under this definition may be the subject of a grievance to the Department of Education under Section IV.B of DOE Regulation A-660.

1.3 A *designated person* acting in *loco parentis* in place of a parent must submit a letter to the Principal signed by the parent. Such designated person may then join the PA in place of the parent. A designated person is ineligible for elected office.

1.4 All disputes as to designated persons will be referred to the school administration.

Section 2. Voting Privileges

2.1 Each parent of a child currently attending Stuyvesant High School will be entitled to vote separately on all matters submitted for vote to the General Membership.

2.2 Members must be present to vote. Voting by proxy is not allowed.

2.3 Designated persons may vote only in place of a parent.

Section 3. Payment of Dues

3.1 The payment of dues is not a prerequisite for membership in the PA. Dues are not a requirement for voting or running for elected positions.

3.2 For budgetary purposes the Executive Board, subject to the approval of the General Membership, may establish a suggested annual dues donation amount.

3.3 Dues for the school year (defined as September through June) may be payable on a date established by the Executive Board.

Section 4. Restrictions

4.1 Members of the PA who are employed in the school, in any capacity, may not serve on the nominating committee, as officers, as executive board members of the PA, or as parent members on the school leadership team. PA members who are employed in the school may not vote or otherwise participate as parent representatives in personnel matters, including tenure recommendations and screening committees for selection of supervisors and administrators, nor may they participate in the selection of parent representatives to school committees.

4.2 PA members and officers should be careful to avoid acting in circumstances in which their personal interests conflict with their interests as PA members or officers.

Article IV – Elected Positions and Elections

Section 1. Elected Positions

1.1 The elected positions of the PA are:

Officers:

President or Co-Presidents

First Vice-President

Second Vice-President

Recording Secretary

Corresponding Secretary

Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer

School Leadership Team Delegates:

Senior Parent Delegates - One (1)

Junior Parent Delegates - Two (2)

Sophomore Parent Delegates - Two (2)

Freshmen Parent Delegates - One (1)

There will be One (1) Alternate Delegate for each class selected as follows:

The candidate for each class delegate with the highest number of votes other than the winning candidate(s) (i.e., the runner-up) will serve as the Alternate Delegate for that class. The Alternate Delegates will be expected to attend all SLT meetings and shall have the same duties as the SLT Delegates. The Alternate Delegate for a class shall not have the right to vote at any SLT meeting unless one of the SLT Delegates for that class is absent from such meeting.

Members-At-Large:

Senior Parent Member-At-Large - One (1)

Junior Parent Member-At-Large - One (1)

Sophomore Parent Member-At-Large – Three (3)

Freshmen Parent Member-At-Large - Five (5)

1.2 Hereafter the term "President" will include Co-Presidents when elected.

Section 2. Term of Office

2.1 The term of office is from July 1, through June 30, except for those positions elected in the fall, for which the term will be from the Fall Election through June 30.

2.2 All positions are elected for one term.

Section 3. Eligibility

3.1 Eligibility for elected positions is limited to parents, as defined in Article III, Section 1.2. Designated persons acting in place of a parent or legal guardian are not eligible for elected office.

3.2 Members who are employed in the school are ineligible for elected positions. Elected officials of the PA cannot work in the school in any capacity, including temporary or per diem status, during their term of service.

3.3 A Member whose child expects to graduate in June and who has no other children currently attending or enrolled for the following year in Stuyvesant is ineligible to stand for election to any office for the following year. A Member who has a child graduating, as well as an incoming student is eligible for elected office.

3.4 Parents of incoming students who do not currently have a student enrolled in Stuyvesant, may not stand for election until their child is enrolled and attending Stuyvesant.

3.5 A person may run as a candidate for President either alone or as part of only one Co-President team. No individual may stand singly for a position of Co-President, anyone seeking election as Co-President must join with another candidate who agrees to serve as Co-President with them.

3.6 Individuals may run for only one PA elected position, with the exception that individuals may run for any of the seven officer positions AND for School Leadership Team Delegate. Freshman parents may not simultaneously run for Freshman Parent Member-At-Large and Freshman Parent Delegate to the School Leadership Team. The individual elected President will automatically occupy the SLT position reserved for the President. Therefore, if such individual was also running for SLT delegate, his/her candidacy will be disregarded when determining the elected SLT delegates. Candidates for Co-President must disclose prior to the election, which Co-President will assume the SLT position reserved for the President. The other Co-President is eligible for election to the School Leadership Team in his/her own right.

Section 4. Duties of Officers

4.1 President

4.1.1 The President will be the chief executive officer of the PA and will have the general powers and duties of supervision and management, including authorization to expend PA money within limits set by the Executive Board. The President will have the authority to negotiate and execute agreements on behalf of the PA, when so authorized by the General Membership.

4.1.2 The President will preside over all meetings of the PA (except for the portion of the May General Meeting that pertains to the election of new officers). The President is a member, *exofficio*,

of all committees, except the Nominating Committee.

4.1.3 The President shall consult with the Principal, as needed, on behalf of the Executive Board and the General Membership.

4.1.4 The President will appoint all Committee Chairs after discussion with the Executive Board and with approval of the General Membership.

4.1.5 The President, with the approval of the Executive Board, will designate a Member or Members to update the PA Handbook each year and to post an up-to-date copy of the Handbook on the PA web site.

4.1.6 The President (or one Co-President) is a Delegate to the School Leadership Team. If the President or both Co-Presidents are unable to serve as Delegate to the School Leadership Team, another elected Executive Board member may be selected by the Executive Board as a replacement Delegate, subject to approval of the General Membership.

4.1.7 The President will be one of the two required signatories on checks. In the absence of the President, this responsibility will be delegated to the First Vice-President, and in the absence of the First Vice-President, to the Second Vice-President.

4.1.8 In the event there are Co-Presidents, they will equally share the authority and responsibility

of the office of President. Each will have one vote on the Executive Board. In the event that Co-Presidents are unable to act in unison to carry out their responsibilities, the issue will be decided by the Executive Board.

4.1.9 The President may ask any elected officer of the Executive Board to attend meetings or school functions as his/her representative. The President or his/her designee shall represent the PA on the Council of Specialized High Schools, and other similar associations.

4.1.10 The president (or co-presidents) shall endeavor to ensure that the executive board and the general membership are informed of PA business in a timely manner and shall seek advice and counsel from the board and the membership regarding PA business.

4.1.11 The outgoing executive board shall arrange for the orderly transfer of records and information of the PA, including an overview of PA transactions for the past school year, to the incoming executive board. A meeting shall be convened in June for this purpose.

4.2 First Vice-President

4.2.1 The First Vice-President will assist the President in conducting the business of the PA.

4.2.2 The First Vice-President will assume the duties of the President in the temporary absence of the President, or both Co-Presidents.

4.2.3 The First Vice-President, in the absence of the President, shall be one of the two signatories on checks.

4.2.4 The First Vice-President may be asked by the President to attend meetings or school functions to represent the PA.

4.3 Second Vice-President

4.3.1 The Second Vice-President will assist the President and First Vice-President in conducting the business of the PA.

4.3.2 The Second Vice-President will assume the duties of the President in the temporary absence of the President and First Vice-President.

4.3.3 The Second Vice-President may be asked by the President to attend meetings or school functions to represent the PA.

4.3.4 The Second Vice-President, in the absence of the President and First Vice-President, shall be one of the two signatories on checks.

4.3.5 The Second Vice-President will serve as Parliamentarian, and must be familiar with *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* and these Bylaws. He/she will be the final authority at all meetings when issues of procedure arise. In the absence of the Second Vice-President from a meeting, the President will appoint a parliamentarian *pro-tem* for that meeting.

4.3.6 The Second Vice-President will assist the President in conducting all elections, except the May election of new officers, which is conducted by the Nominating Committee.

4.4 Recording Secretary

4.4.1 The Recording Secretary will keep an accurate and permanent record of all meetings of the PA General Membership and the Executive Board. This will include notices, agendas, sign-in sheets and materials distributed. In the absence of the Recording Secretary, the President will appoint a secretary *pro-tem* for that meeting.

4.4.2 The Recording Secretary will prepare minutes of each PA meeting in time for review and adoption at the following meeting. Adopted minutes will be maintained in the offices of the PA and will be available to members upon request and will be posted on the PA web site. Draft minutes of the General Meeting must be prepared in time for publication in the PA Bulletin prior to the next General Meeting.

4.4.3 The Recording Secretary shall sign and incorporate all amendments into the Bylaws and ensure that a copy of each is on file in the Principal's office. The Recording Secretary will ensure that the current Bylaws and all amendments are posted on the PA web site.

4.4.4 The Recording Secretary shall perform any duties of a Corporate Secretary that are not otherwise assigned in these Bylaws.

4.5 Corresponding Secretary

4.5.1 The Corresponding Secretary is responsible for general correspondence of the PA.

4.5.2 The Corresponding Secretary is the primary contact person for email received by the PA, through its web site or otherwise.

4.5.3 The Corresponding Secretary will notify Executive Board Members of Executive Board meetings.

4.5.4 The Corresponding Secretary is responsible for publishing the dates of all General Meetings, Special Meetings and Executive Board Meetings in the PA Bulletin and on the PA web site. Dates of Executive Board Meetings will be published in the October Bulletin.

4.5.5 The Corresponding Secretary is responsible for issuing all notices required by these Bylaws to the Membership, via the PA Bulletin or other means. The PA Bulletin is the preferred form of written communication to the General Membership.

4.5.6 The Corresponding Secretary is responsible for the PA calendar that is published in the PA Bulletin and on the PA web site.

4.5.7 The Corresponding Secretary is responsible for maintaining the PA List Serve message service on the Internet.

4.6 Treasurer

4.6.1 The Treasurer is responsible for all financial affairs and funds of the PA and will keep full and accurate account of receipts and disbursement in books belonging to the PA. The Treasurer will deposit all money and other valuables in the name and to the credit of the PA in such depositories as may be designated by the Executive Board.

4.6.2 The Treasurer will adhere to and implement all financial procedures established by the PA. The Treasurer will disburse the funds of the PA as authorized by the Annual Budget adopted by the Membership, taking proper vouchers for such disbursements. All such disbursement, whether made by check, draft, or other orders for the payment of money, will be signed by two signatories, one of which will be the Treasurer, or in his/her absence, the Assistant Treasurer.

4.6.3 The Treasurer may serve as chairman or as a member of the Appropriations Committee. If the Treasurer cannot serve on the committee, the Assistant Treasurer will serve in his/her place. The Treasurer will serve as an *ex-officio* member, if not an official member of the committee.

4.6.4 The Treasurer, or Assistant Treasurer, will provide an account of all transactions and of the financial condition of the PA at Regular Meetings of the Executive Board and at General Meetings of the Membership, or upon request of the President or Executive Board.

4.6.5 The Treasurer will prepare an Interim Financial Report on the financial status of the PA no later than January 31 of each school year, including income, surplus, expenditures and any unpaid or outstanding financial obligations of the PA. This Interim Financial Report must be filed with the Principal at his/her office no later than January 31, and must also be disseminated to the General Membership in a timely fashion by Bulletin or at a General Meeting.

4.6.6 The Treasurer will also prepare a projected or estimated Annual Financial Accounting for the entire school year and present it in the same manner as the Interim Financial Report, no later than the June General Meeting.

4.6.7 The Treasurer must present the Audited Financial Report to the General Membership within one month of its completion, but no later than the January General Meeting of the immediately following fiscal year. The Treasurer will serve as principal contact with the Outside Auditor and will be responsible for submitting all compliance reports to governmental entities.

4.6.8 While any parent is qualified to run for, and be elected, Treasurer, it is recommended that candidates for Treasurer have prior experience serving as Assistant Treasurer or be qualified, by education or experience, to perform accounting and financial reporting duties.

4.7 Assistant Treasurer

4.7.1 The Assistant Treasurer works with and under the supervision of the Treasurer.

4.7.2 The Assistant Treasurer may serve as chairman or as a member of the Appropriations Committee. The Assistant Treasurer will serve as an *ex-officio* member, if not an official member of the committee.

4.7.3 If the Treasurer is temporarily unavailable to perform his/her duties, the Assistant Treasurer will fill his/her position on an interim basis. If the Treasurer is removed from office or can no longer perform his/her duties, the Assistant Treasurer will become Treasurer, serving out the remainder of the unexpired term of the Treasurer. The Executive Board will nominate a new Assistant Treasurer to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term, subject to ratification by the General Membership.

4.7.4 The Assistant Treasurer, in the absence of the Treasurer, shall be one of the two signatories on checks.

Section 5. Duties of School Leadership Team Delegates

5.1 School Leadership Team Delegates represent the PA on the School Leadership Team.

5.2 It is the responsibility of the School Leadership Team delegates to solicit issues and ideas from the executive board and the general membership, to attend SLT meetings, to represent to the SLT, as appropriate, issues and ideas raised by the executive board and the general membership, and to report back to the board and the membership on the activities and progress of the School Leadership Team.

Section 6. Duties of Members-At-Large

6.1 Members-At-Large represent their respective class constituencies in the PA.

6.2 Members-at-Large are to be actively involved in at least one PA committee of their choosing. Additionally, Members-at-Large may be called upon to assist in the performance of such necessary PA work as may be identified by the President(s).

Section 7. Records

7.1 Each officer and Committee Chair will transfer all records and property of the PA to the incoming President at the end of the school year to be placed on file in the PA office.

7.2 Financial records of the PA will be retained for at least seven years, and will be disposed of only with the approval of the Outside Auditor.

7.3 Adopted minutes of PA Executive Board and General Meetings will be maintained in the office of the PA for a minimum of four years.

Section 8. Chairing of Committees

Any Member of the General Membership, including Members of the Executive Board, may chair any committee or subcommittee of the PA. However, the President and Members of the PA who are employees of the school may not chair any Standing Committee

Section 9. Spring General Elections

9.1 The Spring General Election shall be held at a General Membership Meeting that will take place between the fourth Monday in May and the second Friday in June.

9.2 Nominating Committee

9.2.1 A Nominating Committee will be formed yearly for the purpose of reaching out to the PA General Membership in appropriate languages to recruit candidates for the elected positions of the PA. The Committee must publicize the election in as many ways as possible to recruit a diverse and representative group of candidates. The Nominating Committee will be responsible for conducting the General Elections in May. The President, assisted by the Second Vice President, will conduct all other elections. Where possible, ballots should contain instructions in the languages spoken by parents, as appropriate.

9.2.2 Notice of the formation of the Nominating Committee will appear in the PA Bulletin prior to the February Meeting.

9.2.3 The nominating committee will consist of a minimum of five and a maximum of seven members. A minority of the nominating committee will be selected by the Executive Board, subject to ratification by the general membership at the February meeting. A majority of the nominating committee will consist of PA members not serving in Executive Board positions. They will be selected by the general membership through nominations from the floor at the February meeting. If there are more nominations from the floor than there are positions available, an election will take place at that meeting.

9.2.4 Any Member of the General Membership or the Executive Board, including the President, may serve on the Nominating Committee.

9.2.5 No person employed by Stuyvesant High School shall be eligible to serve on the Nominating Committee.

9.2.6 Members of the Nominating Committee are not eligible to stand for any office.

9.2.7 At their first meeting, the Nominating Committee will select one of its members to serve as Chair.

9.2.8 The Nominating Committee will canvass the Membership in writing for recommendation of candidates for the following positions. (The Nominating Committee at its sole discretion may

recommend two persons to serve as co-presidents.)

Officers:

President or Co-Presidents

First Vice-President

Second Vice-President

Recording Secretary

Corresponding Secretary

Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer

School Leadership Team Delegates:

Senior Parent Delegates – Two (2)

Junior Parent Delegates – Three (3)

Sophomore Parent Delegates – Two (2)

9.2.9 The Nominating Committee will carefully consider all possible candidates for elective office, and make every effort to include all qualified candidates. The Nominating Committee will present a list of one or more eligible qualified candidates for each position at the April General Meeting.

9.2.10 At the April General Meeting the Nominating Committee will announce the recommendations, and request additional nominations from the floor. Nominations then will be officially closed and may not be reopened.

9.2.11 The notice and agenda for the May General Meeting will be distributed not less than 10 days prior to the date of the meeting. It will list all candidates in alphabetic al order under the office for which they are nominated.

Section 10. Fall Elections

10.1 Elections will be held at the October General Meeting to fill the following positions:

Members-At-Large:

Senior Parent Member-At-Large – One (1)

Junior Parent Member-At-Large – One (1)

Sophomore Parent Member-At-Large Three (3)

Freshmen Parent Member-At-Large – Five (5)

School Leadership Team Delegates:

Freshmen Parent Delegates – Two (2)

10.2 Nominations for these positions will be accepted from the floor during the September General Meeting. Nominations will then be closed and may not be reopened.

10.3 To validate floor nominations the nominee must complete a form providing their full name, telephone number, address, child's name and grade, and hand this form to the election officials at the conclusion of the September General Meeting.

10.4 Notice of the September nominations, the October election, and a description of positions to be filled will be included in the notice of the September General Meeting.

Section 11. Elections and Ballots

11.1 The Nominating Committee will be responsible for conducting the Spring General Election. The President, with the assistance of the Second Vice-President will be responsible for conducting the Fall Election as well as any other elections during the year.

11.2 Each candidate for contested office will have a minimum of 30 seconds to speak on his or her own behalf prior to vote. The specific time allotted may be longer and will be determined by the Nominating Committee for the Spring General Election and by the Executive Board for all other elections.

11.3 Unless another procedure has been approved by the Executive Board and specified in writing to candidates no less than 10 days before an election, the following procedure will apply to campaign literature: Candidates are allowed to provide one sheet of written information in support of their candidacy for office. Each candidate will be provided with the number of his/her name on the Ballot and that number must appear at the top of his/her written information. Candidates are responsible to provide their own copies. A table will be available for any written information provided by candidates.

11.4 Voting will be by secret ballot. Ballots will be distributed to Members as they sign the sign-in

sheet.

11.5 For those positions for which there is only one candidate, election shall be by motion and voice vote of the Membership. This will be included in the minutes.

11.6 Ballots will be prepared with the names of the candidates appearing on the Ballot in alphabetical order under the title of the position for which they are nominated.

11.7 Ballots will be counted immediately following the election in the public area outside the meeting room. Results will be announced when tabulated.

11.8 Ballots will be retained for six months in the PA office.

Section 12. Vacancies

12.1 In the event that the office of President becomes vacant, or the President is unable to perform his/her duties, the First Vice-President will assume the responsibilities of President. At his or her option, the First Vice-President may serve out the term as President or may request that the position of President be declared vacant and a new President be elected.

12.2 In the event a vacancy is declared in any elected position, the Executive Board will inform the Membership of the vacancy in the next PA Bulletin, indicating when a Special Election will be held and that nominations will be taken from the floor.

12.3 In the event of a vacancy in the position of a Co-President, the incumbent Co-President will assume the full duties of President. The incumbent Co-President may request that another Co-President be selected. In this event the President, in consultation with the Executive Board, will submit a recommendation of a new Co-President to the General Membership for their ratification.

Section 13. Disciplinary Action

13.1 Any elected Executive Board Member who fails to attend three consecutive regularly scheduled Executive Board Meetings without good cause, may be removed from office by recommendation of the Executive Board. If such elected official disputes their removal he or she may request that the matter be referred to the General Membership. A vote of two-thirds of the Membership present is required to remove the official from office. Notice to the Membership of the Meeting must cite that a vote will be taken by the Membership in a disciplinary action against an Executive Board Member.

13.2 The President may remove (i) a Committee Chair with the approval of the Executive Board; (ii) a Subcommittee Chair after consultation with the Chair of the Committee to which the Subcommittee reports; or (iii) a Special Committee Chair at any time.

13.3 Any elected Executive Board Members accused of misconduct or neglect of duty other than failure to attend Executive Board Meetings may be removed only after:

- a) A motion is presented by any PA Member during any General Meeting to appoint a Review Committee. The motion must be approved by a simple majority of the General Membership.
- b) The majority of the Review Committee must be from the General Membership.
- c) The Review Committee must conduct its Review according to Board of Education guidelines.
- d) The Review Committee must investigate and report its findings to the General Membership within 60 days.
- e) The Membership will decide by a 2/3rds vote to remove or absolve. The PA notice of the General Meeting must cite that a vote will be taken by the Membership regarding disciplinary action.

13.4 The President may, if necessary, appoint another Member to fulfill the duties of the elected official during the period of the Review Committee process.

Article V - Executive Board

Section 1. Purpose

1.1 The PA will have an Executive Board whose duty it is to plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the programs and policies adopted by the General Membership.

1.2 The Executive Board must meet with the Principal at least four times a year. These meetings can be regularly scheduled or adhoc meetings and may include Executive Board Meetings or General Membership Meetings.

Section 2. Powers

The Executive Board governs itself and the PA, consistent with these Bylaws, Board of Education rules and guidelines and applicable law. The Executive Board will have and may exercise, only those additional powers and authority specifically conferred to it by the General Membership of the PA. All decisions made at Executive Board meetings (except for routine administrative matters) are subject to ratification by the General Membership at the next General Meeting.

Section 3. Membership

3.1 Beginning on July 1, the Executive Board will consist of the seven newly elected Officers of the PA (eight if there are co-presidents) and the seven newly elected Delegates to the School Leadership Team.

3.2 Upon conclusion of the October General Meeting, the seven newly elected Members-At-Large and the two newly elected Freshmen Parent Delegates to the School Leadership Team will join the Executive Board.

3.3 Chairs of PA Standing Committees will become members of the Executive Board upon ratification of their appointment by the General Membership.

3.4 Members of the Executive Board are expected to attend all Executive Board meetings and General Membership Meetings.

Section 4. Voting

4.1 Each elected officeholder, including both Co-Presidents, shall have one vote.

4.2 Each Chair of a Standing Committee will have one vote. However, if a Standing Committee has Co-Chairs, one vote will be split equally among the Co-Chairs. If a Co-Chair is also an elected officeholder with one vote of his or her own, the remaining Co-Chair(s) will have the full one vote. In any event no member will have more than one vote.

4.3 Members must be present to vote. Voting by proxy is not allowed.

Article VI - Meetings

Section 1. General Membership Meetings

1.1 General Meetings of the PA will be held monthly from September through June. However, a minimum of only nine meetings is required to be held each year.

1.2 Notice of the upcoming General Meeting will appear in the PA Bulletin prior to each General Meeting and will be posted on the PA web site and announced on the PA listserve.

1.3 A calendar of the PA General Meetings for the full year will appear no later than the October PA Bulletin and will be posted on the website.

1.4 Meetings are held at Stuyvesant High School.

1.5 All parents (as defined in Article III, Sec. I) may attend and participate at meetings, and may speak to agenda items, and participate subject to restrictions in these Bylaws.

1.6 Individuals who are not members of the PA may attend as observers, but may speak and otherwise participate only at the discretion of the chair.

Section 2. Special Membership Meetings

2.1 The Executive Board may call a Special Meeting of the Membership when deemed necessary.

2.2 A Special Meeting may also be called, with the submission of a petition to the Corresponding Secretary. The petition must specify the agenda and be signed by at least fifty Members.

2.3 Notice of such Special Meeting must specify the agenda for such meeting and must be sent to the entire Membership. The meeting may take place no earlier than seven days after notice has been made to the Membership. Individuals who are not members of the PA may attend only at the discretion of the chair.

Section 3. Executive Board Meetings

3.1 The Executive Board will hold at least six Regular Meetings in each school year. The first

Regular Meeting of the Executive Board will take place prior to the first General Meeting of the PA. All Regular Meetings of the Executive Board are open to the General Membership. Individuals who are not members of the PA may attend only at the discretion of the chair. Non-Executive members will have a voice, but no vote. Minutes of Executive Board Meetings will be kept by the Recording Secretary. The Executive Board may hold other meetings as it deems necessary with proper notice to the Executive Board Members.

3.2 Dates of Regular Executive Board Meetings for the remainder of the school year will be published in the October PA Bulletin.

Section 4. Special Meetings of the Executive Board

4.1 A Special Meeting of the Executive Board may be called by the President, as necessary.

4.2 A Special Meeting of the Executive Board may also be called by a specific request of at least five members of the Executive Board, filed with the Corresponding Secretary.

4.3 The Corresponding Secretary will notify all voting members of such meeting. This notice will specify all agenda items for the Special Meeting of the Executive Board. The meeting may take place no earlier than 24 hours after notice has been given. Individuals who are not members of the PA may attend only at the discretion of the chair.

Section 5. Quorum

5.1 General Membership Meetings – Twenty-five members present will constitute a quorum for a duly constituted meeting of the PA.

5.2 Executive Board Meetings - A majority of the elected members of the Executive Board will constitute a quorum for all Executive Board Meetings.

5.3 Information Meetings sponsored by the PA, such as financial aid seminars for example, are not considered official meetings and do not require notice or quorum. However, every effort will be made to provide ample notice to the Membership of Information Meetings and to encourage attendance.

Section 6. Order of Business

6.1 The order of business at General Meetings will conform to *Robert's Rules of Order, As Revised*, adapted as follows:

1. President's Report and Announcements
2. Presentation of Minutes of previous General Meeting
3. Report of the Treasurer
4. Standing Committee Reports (upon request)
5. School Leadership Team Report
6. Special Committee Reports (upon request)
7. Old Business
- 8 New Business
- 9.General Program or Featured Speaker
- 10.Discussion Period

6.2 The PA often invites featured speakers to give a presentation to the Membership at its monthly General Meetings. The order of business may be altered by motion and a simple majority vote of the Membership. As a courtesy to accommodate the guest speakers, the General Program may be moved earlier in the order of business. If there is no General Program, the above order is to be followed.

Section 7. Place of Meetings

All meetings must be held at Stuyvesant High School, except in extenuating circumstances. Under no circumstances are PA meetings to be held in private residences.

Article VII - Committees

Section 1. Standing Committees

1.1 The President will appoint all Standing Committee chairs after discussion with the Executive

Board and with approval of the General Membership. Co-Chairs may be appointed.

1.2 The Chairs of Standing Committees become Members of the Executive Board, and may vote on Executive Board issues.

1.3 The fourteen Standing Committees are:

Academic Affairs Devise strategies and seek implementation to achieve the goal of encouraging and supporting academic integrity and equitable treatment of students. These and other issues relevant to the academic experience and environment may be reviewed and discussed with the membership.

Appropriations This committee is responsible for soliciting, reviewing and evaluating requests for funding from the school for the "wish list". The committee will present its recommendations for funding to the Executive Board for their concurrence and then to the General Membership for approval. The Appropriations Committee will consist of at least six members.

College Committee This committee is responsible for "College Night". The Committee also assists the school's guidance department in providing the finest available counseling and information on college selection and admission.

Communications This committee is responsible for communicating information to the General Membership. This includes publication of a newsletter, the PA Bulletin prior to most General Meetings, and maintaining the PA web site. Sub committees may be formed to attend to these functions.

Extracurricular Activities Obtain and properly utilize resources to benefit and support extracurricular activities and teams. Solicit parent involvement; assess needs; identify, address, and, where appropriate, seek to resolve issues. Examine and discuss with the membership broad issues, general policies, and the need for and allocation of resources to foster extracurricular activities and teams.

Family Orientation and Open House This committee works with the school in organizing the two events for incoming students and their parents, the Open House for potential students in March, and Family Orientation Day for incoming students in June.

Faculty Reception and Open School Week This committee is responsible for the buffet dinners provided for faculty in conjunction with the parent/teacher conferences twice a year. The Committee also assists the school in coordinating parent visits to classrooms during Open School Week and, if requested, coordinates volunteers to assist in proctoring the Stuyvesant entrance exam.

Hospitality This committee is responsible for refreshments at General Meetings and for other special events, including the potluck dinner preceding the first General Meeting.

Independent Research This committee is responsible for the reception to honor those students who have entered the research competitions. The committee also works with the school's research coordinator in providing maximum research opportunities and mentoring to Stuyvesant students.

Membership Outreach This committee is responsible for increasing the level of parent participation in the PA. This committee is responsible for sign-up forms and sign-in sheets at General Meetings. Its responsibilities also include the PA Directory and the Parent Buddy Program.

Phonathon and Fundraising This committee is responsible for the PA's major fundraising event, the "Phonathon". It may also coordinate other fund raising activities through various subcommittees as appropriate.

Program and Presentations This committee is responsible for the General Program and/or featured speaker or entertainment at PA General Meetings. It is also responsible for other Information Meetings, for example seminars on financial aid.

Scholarship This committee is responsible for the PA's annual scholarship program.

Health and Safety This committee is responsible for helping to ensure the health and safety of Stuyvesant students and all members of the Stuyvesant community. It addresses short-term and long-term concerns that may be brought to its attention by parents. One or more members of this committee may be designated to serve on the school wide safety committee and to act as liaison(s) between that committee and the PA.

Section 2. Special Committees and Subcommittees

2.1 The President may establish a Special Committee for the purpose of performing a given task not previously delegated to or within the powers of a Standing Committee. The chairs of Special Committees will render reports when the Executive Board or the General Membership requests. The term of existence of any Special Committee will cease when it has completed its function and submitted its final report to the General Membership. The final report should be submitted no later than sixty days following completion of the work of the Special Committee.

2.2 With the consent of the President, the chair of any standing or special committee may form subcommittees to assist the committee perform its work.

2.3 Formation of a subcommittee shall consist of (i) appointment of a chair or co-chair of the subcommittee; (ii) if desired, the appointment of subcommittee members; and (iii) written or verbal communication of the goal, task or purpose of the subcommittee to the subcommittee chair.

2.4 Chairs of Special Committees or Subcommittees do not become members of the Executive Board.

Section 3. Board of Education Mandated Committees

Parent representatives on Board of Education mandated committees, such as C-30 Committees, will be elected by the General Membership at a regularly scheduled General Meeting unless such mandates call for election or appointment in a different manner. Each candidate for contested positions will have a minimum of 30 seconds to speak on his/her own behalf prior to the vote. The specific time allotted will be determined by the Executive Board and noted in the agenda and recorded in the minutes

Article VIII - Financial Affairs

Section 1. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the PA will be from July 1st to June 30th.

Section 2. Signatories

All checks require two signatures. One signatory will be the President, or in the President's absence, the First Vice-President, or in the First Vice-President's absence, the Second Vice-President. The second signatory will be the Treasurer, or in the Treasurer's absence, the Assistant Treasurer. No two officers related by blood or marriage or from the same household may sign together.

Section 3. Budget

3.1 The Executive Board will recommend a Budget for adoption by the Membership at the May General Meeting. The Executive Board will designate a Budget Committee to prepare such Budget.

3.2 The Budget presentation will include an estimate of anticipated expenses and revenues for the following year, as well as a comparison of the proposed Budget with actual revenue and expenses for the current year.

3.3 The Budget may be amended by vote of the Membership at any General Meeting.

Section 4. Additional Expenditures

All expenditures not included in the Budget at the time of its adoption must be recommended by the Executive Board and approved by the Membership.

Section 5. Executive Fund

The budget may include a line item *Executive Fund* of no more than \$1,000 from which the President can provide money to support school purposes or functions. The President will report any expenditure from the *Executive Fund* at the next Executive Board Meeting. The *Executive Fund* may be replenished by amending the Budget with a vote of the General Membership.

Section 6. Emergency Expenditures

6.1 Emergency Expenditures are warranted when 1) the time between discovery of the need and the deadline for action is insufficient for approval through normal procedures, and 2) a majority of the elected members of the Executive Board have been notified of the situation and concur with the Emergency Expenditure.

6.2 An Emergency Expenditure may not exceed 1% of the previously approved total annual Budget.

6.3 A full accounting of the funds used and the emergency need must be given to the Membership at the next General Meeting.

Section 7. Accounting

7.1 The Treasurer will prepare an Interim Financial Report by January 31, and a projected or estimated Annual Financial Accounting by the June General Meeting.

7.2 Copies of the January and June Financial Reports must be submitted to the Membership at the General Meetings in February and June, and to the Principal in accordance with Board of Education regulations.

7.3 The Treasurer will work with the PA's designated Outside Auditor to prepare an Audited Financial Report, which the Treasurer will submit to the General Membership by the January General Meeting of the PA.

7.4 Each year, the Executive Board will designate one of its members to review the PA bank statements each month. The person so designated will be a Board Member who is not empowered to authorize or sign for any type of expenditure or disbursement. The role of this person will be to open and review the bank statements each month and to pass them on to the Treasurer in a timely fashion. However, in months when this is not possible due to absence or logistics, the Treasurer will receive the bank statements first and the designated person will review the statements after the fact.

7.5 PA bank statements will be reconciled monthly by the Treasurer; or the Assistant Treasurer, if so designated by the Treasurer. The person reconciling each bank statement will initial the statement and note the date of the reconciliation.

Section 8. Outside Auditor and Audit Committee

8.1 An Outside Auditor will be engaged each year to prepare the Audited Financial Report of the PA. Such Outside Auditor will be a Certified Public Accountant and a member in good standing of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

8.2 The Treasurer will recommend to the Executive Board the engagement of a specific Outside Auditor. Once the Executive Board has approved a specific Outside Auditor, the recommendation will be submitted to the General Membership for their approval at the next General Meeting. The Treasurer will then be authorized to engage said Outside Auditor to prepare the Audited Financial Report.

8.3 The President may at any time appoint an Audit Committee with the approval of the Executive Board. This will be done at least once every three years. The Audit Committee will review the controls and procedures governing the PA's Financial Affairs. The Audit Committee (when formed) will also review the most recent year-end audit and will meet with the Outside Auditor. The Audit Committee will report back to the Executive Board its assessment of the PA's Financial Affairs and any recommendations. The committee will consist of three Members, none of whom is empowered to authorize or sign for any type of expenditure or disbursement. Members must be qualified by education or experience to serve on the Audit Committee.

Article IX - Amendments

Section 1.

These Bylaws may be amended at any General Meeting of the PA by a two-thirds vote of the Members present and voting, providing the amendment has been presented in writing to the Membership at the previous General Meeting. Proposed amendments must also be posted on the PA website as early as possible. Notice of a vote on proposed bylaw amendments must

appear in the notice of the meeting at which a vote on the amended Bylaws is to take place and must also be announced on the website and through the listserve. Proposed amendments shall be provided in writing or otherwise conveyed in the major languages spoken by the parent body.

Section 2.

Amendments are effective immediately unless otherwise stated in the amendment.

Section 3.

A thorough review of these bylaws must be conducted every three years.

Article X - Authority and Compliance

Section 1.

All procedural questions not covered by these Bylaws will be governed by *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, provided they are not inconsistent with law, policy, regulation and these bylaws.

Section 2.

The PA will observe all applicable laws, policies, rules and regulations.

Section 3.

In the event of any procedural, electoral, or other dispute over policies established by the Executive Board or the General Membership, it will be the responsibility of the Executive Board to attempt to resolve such dispute internally. However, if such dispute cannot be resolved internally, a grievance or complaint may be made in conformance with the current New York City Department of Education's Chancellor's Regulations.

Section 4.

In the event that the PA Bylaws or any provisions do not conform with those of the Department of Education, as either of them are periodically revised, the rules and regulations promulgated by the Department of Education will be deemed controlling.