

**STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM BYLAWS
Adopted June 16, 2020**

**Article I
Establishment**

Stuyvesant High School's School Leadership Team (the "Stuyvesant SLT" or the "Team") is established pursuant to Chancellor's Regulation A-655, which provides that each New York City school must have a School Leadership Team ("SLT").

**Article II
Objectives and Mission**

According to A-655, SLTs "play a significant role in creating a structure for school-based decision making and shaping the path to a collaborative school culture". The SLT is required to be a "vehicle for developing school based educational policies and ensuring resources are aligned to implement these policies".

The mission of the Stuyvesant High School SLT shall be to:

- preserve and expand the school's high standards of educational quality and achievement, especially in relation to the school's mission as a science, technology and mathematics school with a strong humanities component.
- engage in shared decision making for schoolwide policies that affect the entire school community
- develop a Comprehensive Educational Plan (CEP) that is aligned with the school-based budget.

**Article III
Team Composition**

A. Team Composition

Team membership shall be limited to 17 members. Team membership shall be constituted as follows:

Constituency	Mandatory Member*	Additional Members	Total Number
Parents	Parents' Association ("PA") president	6 Parent Representatives	7
Staff (UFT/DC 37)	United Federation of Teachers ("UFT") Chapter Leader	3 Staff Members	4
Administrators	Principal	2 Assistant Principals ("APs")	3
Students	Student Union ("SU") President	1 SU Vice President 1 Student Representative	3

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Total			17
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*These members are mandatory members of the Stuyvesant SLT.

B. Alternates

1. Number of Alternates

- Each constituency may elect alternate representatives.
- The alternate structure as of the date of these bylaws is:

Constituency	Alternate Structure
Parents	1 Senior Alternate 1 Junior Alternate 1 Sophomore Alternate 1 Freshman Alternate
Staff (UFT/DC 37)	5 Alternates
Administrators	None
Students	2 Alternates

- Each constituency may change the composition of its alternates with notice to the Chair.

2. Role of Alternates

- Alternates who attend Team meetings are to act as observers only unless designated by an absent member to act as that member's designee.

C. Selection of Members

1. Selection Method of Members

Constituency	Selection Method
Parents	Pursuant to PA Bylaws
Staff (UFT/DC37)	UFT Chapter Leader: Mandatory Member 3 Representatives: Election
Administrators	Principal: Mandatory Member 2 APs: Election via CSA
Students	Pursuant to SU Constitution

2. Timing of Elections

- Elections of parent, staff, and student members (except for representatives of incoming classes) for the following school year shall be held in May or June in accordance with each constituency's bylaws or constitutions.

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- The election for representatives of incoming classes shall be held as early as possible in the Fall term.

D. Reporting of Election Results & Contact Information of Members

- The results of the elections (except for representatives of incoming classes) and contact information for each member and alternate shall be reported to the Principal's secretary by the head of each constituency (Principal, PA President, UFT Chapter Leader, Student Union President) or their respective designees before the end of the school year in June so that the Principal's secretary may establish a Stuyvesant SLT email distribution list and be able to contact the members as needed.
- The contact information for any members or alternatives elected in the Fall or to fill a vacancy shall be reported to the Principal's Secretary promptly following the election and shall be added to the distribution list.

E. Terms of Members

Constituency	Length of Term	Term Limit
Parents	1 year	none
Staff	3 years	none
Administrators	3 years	none
Students	1 year	none

F. Removal

1. Each constituency may remove an SLT member of that constituency for cause in accordance with the bylaws or constitution of that constituency.

2. The SLT may:

- Remove a member for missing more than three meetings. This requires consensus of the other members of the Team.
- Remove or suspend a member for obstructionism or other cause. This requires consensus of the other members of the Team.

G. Vacancies Due to Removal or Resignation

- Any member that resigns or is removed mid-term shall be replaced by its constituency within a period of two months from the date of the resignation/removal.

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**Article IV
Duties and Expectations**

Leaders of each constituency (Principal, UFT Chapter Leader, PA President, SU President) or their designees will:

- Solicit input from their constituencies
- Inform their constituencies about the work of the team

All Members will:

- Regularly attend meetings
- Review meeting materials before the meeting
- Maintain appropriate professional behavior
- Focus on issues relating to the entire school community (administration, staff, parents, students) and refrain from referring to individual community members and individual concerns
- Work to find solutions that are suitable for all constituencies

**Article V
Team Meetings**

A. Schedule of Meetings and Establishment of Meeting Dates

- There shall be a minimum of ten meetings per school year.
- Meeting dates shall be set by the Principal at the beginning of the school year before the first meeting, subject to modification at the first meeting by consensus.
- Once meeting dates are established, they may be changed only by majority approval.

B. Procedure

- The Core team may call a special meeting as necessary

C. Notice of Meetings

- All notices to members shall be sent by email.
- The Principal's secretary shall send reminders of established meeting dates to Team members and alternates no later than the Friday before the week of each meeting.

D. Observers

- The meetings shall be open.
- Observers do not participate in making decision.
- The Coordinator of Student Activities may attend meetings as an observer but, as the students' advocate/advisor, may consult with the student members as needed.

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- Observers may speak for a limited time when and if recognized by the facilitator. The procedure may depend on the number wishing to speak and the length of the agenda. The following procedure will be followed:
 - At the beginning of the meeting, the chair or facilitator will ask if there are observers who wish to address the Team about agenda items. The chair or facilitator will make note of who wishes to speak on which topics. When the agenda moves to the topic of interest, the facilitator will ask for consensus to let the identified observers speak and the amount of time, if any, to be added to the topic. After the Team members have had the opportunity to speak on the topic, the recognized observers will each have 30-60 seconds to speak. In addition, the facilitator should attempt to allocate time to allow Team members to speak after all observers have spoken.
 - If more than one speaker has similar remarks, in the interest of time, the facilitator may ask the observer if they have something different to add and may limit observer comments absent new or different observations.
 - The facilitator may recognize an observer if needed to provide information required or helpful for Team discussion or decisions.

E. Format of Meetings

- Meetings will follow the pre-established agenda except when an ad-hoc issue is agreed to be added by consensus of the Team.
- Team members will raise their name cards to signal to the facilitator their willingness to speak.

F. Quorum

- A quorum must be present to conduct a meeting of the Team. A quorum is reached when the four core members (Principal, PA President, UFT Chapter Leader, SU President) or their designees and six other members or their designees are present.

G. Order of Business

- Meetings will begin promptly as scheduled.
- Robert's Rules of Order shall be available for the facilitator's use if the majority of the Team agrees they need to be used. These bylaws shall take precedence in the event of any inconsistency between the bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order.
- The first item of each meeting shall be the approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.
- At the end of each meeting, members may suggest items or issues regarding the next meeting.

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**Article VI
Role and Responsibility of Chair**

- The Principal (or his/her designee) shall act as chair at the first meeting in September.
- At the first meeting in September, a “Chair” will be elected to a one-year term by consensus of the Team members
- The Chair will review and send draft minutes to the Principal’s secretary for distribution to the members and their alternates to review before the next meeting
- The Chair will prepare an agenda which shall also be distributed to the Team as above. Members may propose agenda items to the Chair prior to ten days before each meeting. The proposed agenda should identify the meeting's facilitating constituency.
- The Chair will arrange for copying of materials, communicating changes of schedule to the Team, and inviting speakers as necessary. The Chair and committee members will do their best to distribute all relevant material by email to the entire group prior to the meeting with the intent of giving members an opportunity to review the material. If members do not feel enough time was allowed to review materials prior to discussion, this concern may be raised and addressed at the beginning of the meeting.
- The Chair will review and send the approved minutes to the Principal’s secretary for posting to the school constituencies.
- The Chair will support the facilitator in running a fair and effective meeting

**Article VII
Facilitator and Secretary**

A. Facilitator and Secretary Rotation

The facilitator for each meeting will rotate among the constituencies.

A secretary may be selected for the entire year. If no secretary is selected for the year, the responsibility to provide a secretary will rotate among the constituencies.

The rotation among the constituencies shall be as follows::

Month	Facilitator	Secretary
September	Administration	Parents
October	Parents	Students
November	Students	Staff (UFT/DC 37)
December	Staff (UFT/DC 37)	Administration
January	Administration	Parents
February	Parents	Students
March	Students	Staff (UFT/DC 37)
April	Staff (UFT/DC 37)	Administration
May	Administration	Parents

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June	Parents	Students
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B. Facilitator

- It will be the main duty of the facilitator to conduct the meeting in accordance with the agenda.
- The facilitator must act in a neutral manner.
- During discussion of an issue it shall be the responsibility of the facilitator to see that all members of the Team have the chance to discuss their ideas and raise concerns. The facilitator should encourage the expressing of comments not yet heard. The facilitator should encourage the Team to form consensus on a next step or conclusion.
- When a decision is to be made, it shall be the responsibility of the facilitator to ensure that the consensus decision-making process outlined in Article VIII is followed.
- If the facilitator wishes to be a participant in the discussion, the facilitator may ask the Chair to assume facilitating duties for the agenda item being discussed.

C. Secretary

- It will be the duty of the secretary to take the minutes and send to the Chair no later than 10 days after the meeting.
- If changes are made by the Team when the minutes are approved, the secretary who took the approved minutes will send the changes to the Chair no later than 10 days after the meeting in which the minutes are approved.

**Article VIII
Consensus**

A. Consensus

- Decisions shall be made by consensus

B. Method to Come to Consensus

- The procedure for coming to consensus is as follows:

1. Towards the end of the discussion time for a proposal, the facilitator or Chair will consult with the Team members to determine if consensus is forming.

a. If the possibility of consensus does not exist, it will be noted by the secretary, and the facilitator will move on to the next topic on the agenda.

2. If the possibility of consensus exists, the facilitator, with the help of the members, will restate the proposal, as amended and altered during the discussion. The secretary will take precise note of this “final” version of the proposal. If there is any confusion, the proposal should be re-read

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by the secretary. Reading may be waived if there is a printed version of the proposal available to all members.

3. The facilitator will call for a show of support for the proposal by a show of hands. For the proposal to have broad general support, it must be supported by a large majority of all members.

a. If the proposal lacks broad general support the facilitator will, in consultation with the members, and with attention to the scheduled time for discussion, either return to discussion of the current proposal, or move on to the next agenda item.

4. If the proposal has broad general support, then the facilitator will call for a show of strong objections to the proposal by a show of hands.

a. If there are no strong objections, the proposal is accepted, and will be noted as such by the secretary.

b. If there are members with strong objections, the objections may be briefly addressed and discussed. The secretary will note the names of those objecting and their reasons for objecting. The facilitator may modify the proposal to meet the strong objections, and the formal consensus process may be repeated. The secretary will note what changes, if any, were made to meet the objections.

c. If there are four or fewer members with strong objections, and the proposal cannot be modified to address the strong objections, the proposal will be accepted notwithstanding the objections, and will be noted as “passing, even with objections” by the secretary.

C. Levels of Consensus

Members may consider the following levels of consensus in determining whether to support a proposal:

- I can say an unqualified “yes” to the decision. I am satisfied that the decision is an expression of the wisdom of the group.
- I find the decision perfectly acceptable.
- I can live with the decision; I'm not especially enthusiastic about it.
- I do not fully agree with the decision and need to register my view about it. However, I do not choose to block the decision.
- I am willing to support the decision because I trust the wisdom of the group.
- I do not agree with the decision and feel the need to stand in the way of this decision being accepted.
- I feel that we have no clear sense of unity in the group. We need to do more work before consensus can be reached.

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D. Inability to Reach Consensus: Next Steps

- If consensus on a material proposal cannot be reached, the matter may be raised at the next meeting. If consensus still cannot be reached, this will be noted by the secretary for the minutes, and the Team shall refer the matter to the Principal and follow the rules of A-655.
- If consensus regarding the CEP cannot be reached, DOE A-655 rules provide guidance.

**Article IX
Committees**

- Each committee will include at least one staff member, one administrator, one student and two parents.
- Non-Team members of the Stuyvesant community are welcome to join a Stuyvesant SLT committee, as long as each constituency is represented by at least one Team member
- There will be a Comprehensive Educational Plan (CEP) and School Budget standing committee.
- Ad-hoc committees will be established as necessary.
- The Team may limit the size of any committee by consensus of the members in order to ensure efficient operation of such committee, subject to the composition requirements set forth in this Article IX.
- Each committee may elect a committee chair or co-chairs and may adopt committee bylaws consistent with the Chancellor's Regulation A-655. Such committee bylaws may, among other things, limit the size of such committee subject to the composition requirements set forth in this Article IX.
- Committees shall make recommendations to the Team when appropriate. Committees shall not make any decisions on behalf of the Team.

Article X Bylaw Updates

The bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Team, provided notice of any proposed changes has been given at a previous meeting. In addition, the bylaws will be reviewed bi-annually, at the start of the school year to ensure the document's provisions meet the needs of the team and remain consistent with the Chancellor's Regulation A- 655.

The above bylaws are approved by the Stuyvesant SLT on June 16, 2020.