

Flyer handed out before and during the April 27 2006 Stuyvesant High School PA meeting by Dave Newman, husband of Ellen Bilofsky (Executive Board member) and with the approval of Harvey Blomm, parent coordinator, and Gwen Hopkins, NYCDOE.

**ONE PARENT'S UNAUTHORIZED, OPINIONATED, SIMPLE GUIDE  
TO COMPLEX BYLAW AMENDMENT PROPOSALS**

<b>AMENDMENT #</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>TECHNICAL CORRECTION OR SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE?</b>	<b>VOTE YES OR VOTE NO?</b>	<b>WHY?</b>
Executive Board #1	<i>amendment withdrawn</i>	<i>amendment withdrawn</i>	<i>amendment withdrawn</i>	<i>amendment withdrawn</i>
Executive Board #2	subcommittees and subcommittee chairs	both - technical and substantive	YES	To codify PA past practice on appointing/removing chairs in conformance with Robert's Rules of Order.
Executive Board #3	disciplinary action	both - technical and substantive	YES	To clarify disciplinary procedures applicable to <u>all</u> elected and appointed PA positions. (The current bylaws address disciplinary procedures for only <u>some</u> PA positions and rely on past practice and Robert's Rules for the others.)
Executive Board #4	dual PA posts for freshman parents	technical correction	YES	To clarify that a freshman parent cannot simultaneously run for member-at-large and SLT delegate.
Executive Board #5	<i>amendment withdrawn</i>	<i>amendment withdrawn</i>	<i>amendment withdrawn</i>	<i>amendment withdrawn</i>
Executive Board #6	definition of parent	technical correction	YES	To match new DOE wording for definition of "parent."
Executive Board #7	timing of spring election	technical correction	YES	To comply with new DOE requirements for the scheduling of the spring PA election.
Executive Board #8	reference to a defunct organization	technical correction	YES	To remove a reference to an entity that no longer exists.
Executive Board #9	location of PA meetings	technical correction	YES	To comply with DOE requirements for location of PA meetings.
Executive Board #10	eligibility to attend PA membership and executive board meetings	technical correction	YES	To codify past practice that all members may attend all meetings of the PA; that non-members may attend membership meetings as observers and may speak at the discretion of the chair; and that non-members may attend other PA meetings at the discretion of the chair.

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Executive Board #11	qualifications for treasurer	technical correction	YES	To comply with DOE requirement that prohibits the PA from establishing qualifications for office.
Executive Board #12	special committees	technical correction	YES	To remove reference to special committees that do not currently exist.
Combier/Lok #1	501C3 status; open meetings and press	substantive change	NO	Inappropriately proposes to remove PA's 501C3 not-for-profit status; incorrectly cites Chancellor's Regulation and NYS open government laws as requiring that any PA meeting be open to the press. (Parents might not feel free to discuss sensitive topics in certain meetings that were indiscriminately open to administrators, teachers, and the press.)
Combier/Lok #2	make Bulletin editor, communications chair, and listserv officer elected positions	substantive change	NO	There is no reason for these positions to be elected; there have been no issues regarding these appointments. In addition, the proposal does not specify whether these new elected positions are to be executive board positions.
Combier/Lok #3	committee and subcommittee chairs	substantive change	NO	Proposed selection process is unworkable, would undercut president, and would require that PA operate without committee chairs for first 2 months of school year.
Combier/Lok #4	change number of at-large members from each class	substantive change	NO	Proposal would reduce representation of freshman and sophomore parents on executive board and result in junior and senior parents dominating the executive board.
Combier/Lok #5	disciplinary action	substantive change	NO	Proposal would eliminate due process for elected PA representatives accused of misconduct (i.e., charges, investigation, opportunity to defend oneself). No need for change - current bylaws follow DOE guidelines.

This flier reflects *my opinion only* and has not been authorized by the PA or by any other organization, group, or parent. My aim is to help parents vote in an informed manner on a complex set of proposals while ensuring that PA business can continue to be conducted in a collegial and effective manner in the best interests of our children. - Dave Newman (davenewman@optonline.net)

(Husband of Executive Board member Ellen Bilofsky)