

The Stuyvesant High School Board of Elections

Official Rules and Regulations

SPRING 2016 ELECTIONS



Chairs:

Adam Abbas

Joanne Cheng

Important Note: The information provided in this guide has been compiled from previous regulations and procedures. If any errors in the compilation or computation have occurred, or if there have been more recent rulings by the Election Commission, the newer laws shall prevail.

If you have questions at any time concerning the aforementioned rules, PLEASE do not hesitate to ask any member of the Election Commission. You can reach us by e-mail.

1. OVERVIEW

There are two primary election seasons:

- Fall: Freshmen
- Spring Part One: Student Union
- Spring Part Two: Sophomore, Junior and Senior Caucuses

There are two voting days:

- The Primary Election includes all tickets running.
- The General Election includes the top two tickets, in respect to votes from the Primary Election.

The time periods during which an individual may run for their respective caucuses are:

- Freshmen candidates run for Sophomore Caucus in the spring of their freshman year.
- Sophomore candidates run for Junior Caucus in the spring of their sophomore year.
- Junior candidates run for Senior Caucus in the spring of their junior year.
- SU candidates run for the SU presidency and vice-presidency in the spring of their junior and sophomore year, respectively.

Qualifications for candidates are*:

- May not be failing any classes
- Must be maintaining an 85+ average
- May not have more than one grade below an 80 in the previous semester (two N's or a U)
- Must be in good disciplinary standing.
- Candidates cannot be an "editor-in-chief" or editor position for Spectator or Indicator, Big Sib Chair, or have an executive position within ARISTA.

**If these criteria are not met, candidates will be barred from running or disqualified.*

Candidates can run for only ONE position. Each ticket is composed of one president and one vice-president.

2. HOW TO GET STARTED

1. Complete the Caucus Affidavit and Caucus Petition packets in order to run.
 - a) **The total number of signatures for any Caucus Candidate is 104.** Each ticket consisting of two candidates must secure 100 signature from their respective grade as well as two teacher signatures for each candidate.
 - b) **The total number of signatures for any SU Ticket is 154.** The Student Union tickets must consist of one current Sophomore and Junior. Each ticket must secure 150 signatures as well as two teacher signatures for each candidate. Senior signatures will not be counted.
 - c) Five campaign managers is the maximum number for caucus campaigns. Ten campaign managers is the maximum for Student Union campaigns.
- 2) Campaign managers are individuals who act on behalf of the campaign by distributing materials and acting as proxies. Their names must be submitted alongside the affidavit. **You will be held responsible for the actions of your campaign managers. There are no exceptions.**
- 3) Make sure all forms sent out by the BOE are completed and on time.
- 4) All physical documents (affidavit, petition, campaign manager list, and supplements) must be submitted by the deadline provided by the Board. Make sure all papers are kept together and have the names of your ticket written clearly on the front. Please submit all documents by placing them in the Board of Election mailbox. **No exceptions will be made for late documents.**

3. RULES FOR CAMPAIGNING

NOTE: Violations will result in point deduction. Campaigns start out with 5 points. Once they reach 0, they will be disqualified.

1. Campaign materials that are distributed or posted around the school must be **standard 8 ½ x 11” sized paper**. You may manipulate this paper as desired. All campaign materials must be approved by the BoE.
2. There is a maximum of three posters per bulletin board. Bulletin boards and the backs of anyone affiliated with the ticket are the only places where posters can be posted. Failure to comply will result in point deductions.
3. All campaigns have a \$50 spending limit. All purchases must be approved by the BoE. Receipts must be kept for documentation. Distributable pins are allowed. Shirts for **candidates only** are allowed.
4. Personal/verbal campaigning is allowed granted that it is not negative and offensive. You may disagree with a campaign’s policies by showing voters why it may not be plausible, and how you would approach the issue yourself. Personally critiquing candidates is **not allowed** and will result in point deductions. Continued negativity or offensive language may result in immediate disqualification or future barring from elections.
5. **No profanity, slander, defamation, sex, or drugs, are allowed in campaign literature or in any part of the campaign. Failure to comply with this rule will result in immediate disqualification and future barring from elections.**
6. **If there is substantial evidence for sabotage, bribery or any corrupt act that gives a candidate an unfair advantage, the ticket will be immediate disqualified and barred from running in future elections.**
7. Online campaigning is allowed through use of social media and campaign websites. Only after receiving consent from the BoE may a ticket campaign online. Before the official start of campaigning, tickets may create secret groups with their campaign managers. **All BoE chairs must be added to any group chats, groups, and pages related to the election.** Failure to comply will result in point deductions.
8. Only registered campaign managers and candidates may campaign. Asking individuals outside this scope to campaign for you will result in point deductions. Endorsements are allowed by anyone granted that it is **unsolicited**. You may speak to clubs granted that the club’s president allows it.
9. All campaign managers and candidates must wear a 3” x 5” (Index card) sized name tag, **THROUGHOUT** the school day as well as when campaigning before and after school. These name tags must contain the candidates name, role (campaign manager, (vice) president), the ticket name (President Name- Vice President Name) and role they’re running for.

10. Each campaign is responsible for cleaning up after themselves. DO NOT LITTER. Failure to comply will result in point deductions. During election days, all posters must be taken down. Any posters found after the end of the school day will result in point deductions.
11. Student Union resources are **not** to be used for campaign purposes. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of SU computers, supplies and space. Failure to comply will result in point deductions. This rule does not apply to the Student Lounge.
12. There is no campaigning on election day. Tickets are allowed to encourage the student body to vote, but may not advise or inform them of who to vote for. Failure to comply will result in point deductions.

5. Point Deductions

Every ticket begins the election season with 5 points. Violations of rules results in a certain amount of points taken away from the 5. Once a ticket reaches, or goes below 0 points, they are immediately disqualified. Here are violations and their penalties:

Violation	Number of Points Deducted
Failure to remove posters before the end of election day	1 Point
Creating and using a group chat/campaign group without adding one or both of the chairs	1 Point
Campaigning during times when campaigning is not allowed (before campaigning is allowed, during election day)	2 Points
Profanity, sex or drugs in campaign literature	3 Points
Slander or defamation	Disqualification
Sabotage, bribery or other corrupt acts	Disqualification

Note: Violations are not limited to the ones listed above. The Board of Elections has the final say in whether an act is considered rule breaking and how many points are to be taken off for it. All decisions made by the BOE are **final**.

4. CONTACT

Any and all questions should be directed to the Stuyvesant Board of Elections. We are the final authority on all rules and anything in regards to the elections.

Rule of Thumb: Ask Before You Act

Email us at: stuyboe@gmail.com

Contact the Chairs:

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