



BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

HAROLD O. LEVY, *Chancellor*

DIVISION OF FUNDED AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES
110 LIVINGSTON STREET • BROOKLYN, NY 11201

May 9, 2001

Ms. Betsy Combier
315 East 65th Street #4C
New York, New York 10021

Dear Ms. Combier:

I am writing in response to your letter concerning the composition of the School Leadership Team for Public School 6 located in Community School District Two.

Please be advised that a member of my staff conducted a thorough investigation of the issues you raised, including a review of Public School 6 School Leadership Team's bylaws and the Chancellor's guidelines, "The Chancellor's Plan for School Leadership Teams."

Based upon our findings and the information on file in our office, your School Leadership Team consists of four members. Three of these members, the UFT Chapter Leader, the Assistant Principal, CSA representative and the PTA President are core members of the team and are required to be present on the team. Therefore, only one additional team member was added. Although the team is balanced, consisting of two parents and two staff members, it does not meet the Chancellor's minimum requirement of ten members.

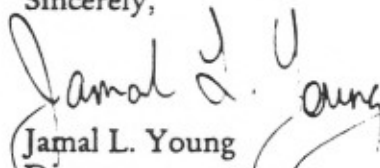
In this instance, with the exception of the core member positions, seven vacancies (four parent member representatives and three staff member representatives) exist and must be properly advertised and filled prior to the end of the school year. As a reminder, please note that the Chancellor's guidelines requires a minimum of thirty calendar days notice to parents regarding this election. I am aware that a PTA election has been scheduled for Wednesday, June 6th. You must reschedule this meeting if these requirements have not been met. It is the responsibility of the PTA to ensure that a valid, fair and open election process be in place to fill these SLT parent member vacancies. If your organization requires any assistance, a member of my staff will be available to provide technical support.

With regard to your concerns regarding the validity of the SLT bylaws, please note that there are several non-compliance issues that must be addressed. They are: the number of team members (ten (10) is the minimum requirement); the replacement of appointees with duly elected parent representatives; the specification of term limits and meeting dates within approved and valid bylaws.

We are suggesting that the term Treasurer be changed to Financial Liaison. Immediate action is required in order to bring this guidance document into compliance with existing policies and guidelines. We strongly advise that a Bylaws Committee be convened to address this important mandate. It is extremely important that the entire school community shares in the focused educational vision for Public School 6 and welcomes the participation of all constituency groups.

Thank you for your concern and for bringing these matters to my attention.

Sincerely,



Jamal L. Young
Director
Office of Parent Advocacy and Engagement

c: Birdie Blake-Reid
Shelley Harwayne
Karen Feuer
Maria Stile
Barbara Leventer-Luque
Cynthia List
Caryn Rivers
Shelli Sklar
Melanie Arwin