

DeBakey HSHP PTA Meeting
Tuesday, January 10, 2017
DeBakey High School Library

ATTENDANCE: Board Members: Jonathan Jackson, Lana Boutwell, Martha Chica, Matt Konvicka, Shiv Pathak **Teacher and Parents:** Christina Konvicka, Shengyi Li, Stephanie Russell, Cheryl Leary, Laura Marsh, M. Hayes, Michael Nottingham, Melissa Cox, Diane Franz, Oian Zhang, Rohini Varghese, Frances Brooks, David Schleff, Rita Willoughby, Verlonda Smith, Juan Salazar, Lyra Reid, Stephanie Russell, Gloria Villa Diaz, Stan Bujnowski, Mary Bujnowski, Sharon Cummmings, Risa Myers, Dave McMillan, David Dang, Sandra Ahlhorn (31 people total)

President, Jonathan Jackson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Department Presentation by English Department – The department reviewed their departmental mission. They reinforced their goal of making sure all of the students are ready when they move into college. Currently they are working with the changes to the curriculum from TEA. They are currently working on adding new technology to their classroom, sometimes with assistance by students. The teacher are continuing to motivate all of the students through their AP exams. All of the English teachers have A-2 as their conference period. Summer reading is very important in keeping the students on track and will be assigned in all grade levels. The students will be tested the week they return from summer break. A reading inventory, required by the district, is required to be done in September, December and May. This will determine a student's Lexile score, or what their reading level is. Students are encouraged to select reading books in between 50 points below and 100 above their lexile.

At DeBakey, the AP exam scores for 2007 was 2.22, last year it was 4.169 on a max scale of 5.0. Every student in AP English will take the AP exam.

SAT/PSAT scores went home earlier this week, if you haven't seen them, ask your student for them. More information on using these scores can be found at Collegeboard.org. The administration has not received the compiled scores yet. But as in past years we expect our scores to be higher than district, state, national and other college bound programs average.

Our Yearbook advisor was able to send 2 students to writing camp, which has shown to be a great asset to putting together this year's yearbook. Currently there were more pre-sales before school started than total sales from last year. One new revenue opportunity is selling whole page ad space to the students, available for purchase on balfour.com. The current junior editor is already hard at work on the 2017-2018 school year book. Two funding request were made, to send additional students to camp in the coming summer and to purchase a PhotoShop license.

If you are unsure if you have pre-ordered your yearbook, e-mail the advisor or check balfour.com

Tutorials are available after school between 3:35 – 4:35. Tutoring is most effective if student comes with specific questions. Additional resources are on the website under the English department.

Principal's Report by Agnes Perry – DeBakey HSHP has been named the #1 school with high teacher performance in the Houston area.

Our new building completion date has moved back again. We will not be moving to the new facility until summer 2017 to be ready for the new school year. We will have a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House in April. Exact dates will be posted on the website and hub once confirmed.

We expect an increase in 9th grade incoming students. Due to the new magnet process, we have had an influx of students coming to DeBakey with not the right skills. When we find that are really struggling we may suggest they return to their home school. Our current student count is around 850, but could take up to 900.

The Texas Legislature passed House Bill 2804 which implements a new school rating system. Much like students receive individual subject grades, schools and districts will be issued grades based on five areas of performance on a A-F scale.

Membership Report by Shiv Pathak– Currently we have 137 paid members in the PTA. Over 100 are freshmen parents. We had over \$800.00 in unexpected year end donations from members as well. Additional revenue come from having a student's birthday posted on the marquee. The PTS Membership committee is contacting the parents who filled out the form but did not pay any dues.

Volunteer by Shiv Pathak – Our next two volunteer opportunities will be the last uniform sale as well as the spring teacher lunch. More information will come via email with a link to Sign-up Genius.

Treasurer's Report by Matt Konvicka – Before the winter break the PTA was able to give each staff member a surprise \$50.00. A large portion of our income came from summer uniform sales followed by another sale in November. Our last pre-order sale did not do as well but that may have been due to many of the pre-orders not being picked up. We also made over \$500.00 at the UIL fundraiser.

Uniform Report by Martha Chica – Two of our families donated carbon order forms which really helped with the ordering process. The forms were filled out by the students and dropped in the box in office. Martha than filled the orders having them ready for student/parent pick up at the December sale. As mentioned before, the next sale, which will be the final sale of the year, is planned for January and will include PE shirt. In the new building, we will have a dedicated room for uniform storage and sales.

New business:

Several parent suggested putting together a school/student directory.

April 1 is the Signing date for incoming freshmen. Based on last name, we will have two groups, one between 8:00am – 10:00am, and the second between 10:00am – 12:00pm

Information about the transition to our new school will be available at the open house and on the school website.

President, Jonathan Jackson adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m. The next PTA meeting will be on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the DeBakey High School Library.