

**DEBAKEY HSHP PTO  
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
MAY 8, 2018 – 6:30 p.m., DeBakey Cafeteria**

**Board Members Present**

Matt Konvicka, President

Dave McMillian, Treasurer

Vincent Sanders, Fundraising

[I don't have the sign in sheet so I'm not sure who else was there]

**Principal's Report – Ms. Perry**

- DeBakey has been nominated by U.S. News and World Report as a “Top 20” high school.
- The Children at Risk annual school rankings are scheduled to be announced on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Ms. Perry discussed various important upcoming school events, a schedule of which is found on the attached agenda.
- Finals are coming up May 29 – June 1. The school will dismiss at 12:15 on each day that week. Please go to the HUB to get testing information and schedules as well as information on the awards programs.
- Ms. Perry discusses the proposed HISD budget cuts and reports that DeBakey will received approximately \$272,000 more than initially projected, although the cuts are still significant. She is working with HISD to clarify if certain costs related to the new building and its location in the Texas Medical Center will be covered by HISD or if those costs will be paid from DeBakey's budgetary allocation. If HISD covers those costs, the school will be able to continue to fund summer math programs, dance, gymnastics and orchestra. Tutorials will not be affected as they are funded with Title 1 money.
- Certain students may be eligible for exemption from finals. More information can be found on the HUB.

**HISD Budget Discussion – Matt Konvicka**

- HISD will hold a Board meeting on Thursday, May 10. DeBakey parents are encouraged to attend to speak on behalf of DeBakey. Parent t-shirts are on sale, and parents are encouraged to wear the shirts to the HISD Board meeting.
- DeBakey students have started a petition, a Facebook page and a Twitter account to draw attention to the proposed budget cuts and to advocate on DeBakey's behalf.
- Please consider joining “Supporters of HISD Magnets and Budget Accountability” at [www.buildupHISD.com](http://www.buildupHISD.com). This focus of this group is to lobby the HISD Board to authorize a performance audit by an independent third-party since this has not been done since 1996.

**PTO Developments – Matt Konvicka**

- The PTO Board approved a request from Ms. Perry for \$5000 for teacher training for the health science teachers. Previously, this expense was paid for with grant money.
- The PTO will provide coffee and pizza for the last day of Fish Camp in June.
- The PTO will provide a \$50 gift card for each custodian as an end of year gift.

- The PTO will host a voluntary yoga/meditation class during finals week. Students can find more information on the HUB.

### **Fundraising/Volunteers**

- Volunteers are needed to serve as chaperones for the field trip to Six Flags on May 30. All chaperones will receive a free admission ticket. Chaperones must be VIPS approved.
- The PTO will be offering a Chick-fil-A for purchase at lunch on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **Treasurer – Dave McMillan**

- The old PTA checking and savings accounts and PayPal account have been closed.
- The current balance in the PTO checking account is \$59,446 and the current balance in the PayPal account is \$2050.
- The PTO may be able to get a non-profit rate through PayPal.
- The PTO is looking for an accountant to prepare and file the PTO's IRS Form 990.

### **2017 – 2018 PTO Accomplishments – Matt Konvicka**

- Matt reports on various accomplishments of the PTO this school year including:
  - Transition from PTA to PTO
  - New PTO website
  - Successful 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration
  - Pavers outside of flex lab
  - Alumni wall
  - Purchased Keurig coffee makers for teachers
  - Teacher appreciation luncheons
- Heidi Herschtager thanks the outgoing PTO Board for a job well done. She urges the new Board to adopt a mission statement and bylaws as soon as possible. She also suggests the development of a "Friends of DeBakey" non-profit to raise money for the school.

### **2018 – 2019 Board Members**

- Matt Konvicka introduces the new Board members as follows:
  - President – Nellie Naidoo
  - VP Fundraising – Vincent Sanders
  - Secretary – Kara Richardson
  - Uniforms – Mary Bujnowski & Kathleen McQueary
  - Treasurer – Dave McMillan
  - Membership – Marisa Fiorito & Yan Ping Ede
  - Volunteer Coordinator – Meredith Bryant & Irma Aguilar-Schnitzer
  - Parliamentarian – Shiv Patrick

Ms. Perry thanks the PTO for all of its hard work this year.

Minutes approved on \_\_\_\_\_, 2019, by the DeBakey PTO.

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Secretary, DeBakey PTO Board

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