

DeBakey HSHP General Meeting Minutes
October 9, 2018 8:00 AM
DeBakey Conference Room

0810

Speaker Summary: President Nellie Naidoo

- Welcome
- Introductions: All attendees stated their name followed by their child's name and grade. PTO board and chairs also introduced themselves and stated their role within PTO organization. For a list of all board members and board chairs with corresponding emails: Select link: <http://debakeypto.org> "PTO INFO"
- Fundraising goals 2018-2019 year: \$50,000. President Nellie Naidoo encouraged all to provide ideas for fundraising. A critical initiative particularly now with all the school budget cuts.
- Parent Liaison: Important role within the PTO organization. Anyone with grade level concerns and issues should contact the Parent Liaison. The corresponding names and emails to each 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade Liaisons are on the PTO website under the tab "PTO INFO". See link above
- PTO membership is free. Please join the PTO and consider making a donation.
- Reminder: The PTO contributes \$1,500/year to each respective grade for senior activities. By senior year the PTO has contributed a total: \$6,000 to each graduating class.
- Parents are asked to contribute an additional \$250.00 per child for additional prom costs which include: cap, gown, graduation ceremony, prom, ...
- Clarification provided regarding UT "Top 10% Rule". Not always exactly 10%, it averages out to about 10% per high school. A student accepted to UT does not have an automatic acceptance into a "major specific program" This is a separate application.

Principal Perry's Report: Refer to Handoutattachment #1

- Ms. Perry asked that everyone read the handout she will review only some of the topics listed
- Congratulations to our teachers, students, parents, and administration. DeBakey has been designated an exemplary high performing school and received the National Blue Ribbon from the US Department of Education. It is only one of 349 schools in the nation and one of 24 schools from Texas to be recognized in 2018. Ceremony will be 11/8. Ms. Perry and one teacher representative will travel to Washington to receive this prestigious award.
- Report cards will be distributed Friday, Oct. 12th
- College Night: Thursday Oct. 11th, 5:30-7:30 pm. Excellent opportunity to meet many different college reps. No travel required and very cost effective.
- 9th grade Field trip is Friday November 2nd Chaperones are needed. All day trip from 8-2 pm. Humble, TX
- Tutorials: There are opportunities for mid-day tutorials based on cycle grades or per request. Tutorials are also available Monday-Thursday (morning & afternoon). For morning tutorials send written request to Dean Sharkey.
- Consider checking-in with Dean Sharkey if your child reports that he/she is attending tutorials and grades do not reflect the extra effort. A sign in sheet is kept for all tutorial sessions. Dr. Sharkey can confirm if your student is attending tutorials. Sometimes the students like to stay

after school to chat with their friends. Socialization is important but adequate academic performance needs to be a priority.

Asst. Principal: Mr. Raul Saldivar

- Please refer to Parent and Family Engagement Policy:
- Goal this year is to increase family and community engagement. Schools will be rated on how well they accomplish this goal. DeBakey HS would like to receive the highest honor, Gold Star. We will continue to encourage synergy between parents, kids, and administration. Please note that we have formed more committees to encourage increased parental engagement. Some ongoing initiatives to promote parent and family engagement are:
 - Exploring ways to provide internet service to those children who do not have at home.
 - Working on a small space within the school to have a "Family Center" for parents.
 - Annual International Festival: We will need more diversity displayed and promoted. Please encourage all students to participate.
 - DeBakey is hosting a Chess tournament at Debakey in April 2019
 - There will be a survey via Survey Monkey that will ask parents to gauge how DeBakey is meeting their needs. This is important to our schools' rating.

Dean of Instruction: Dr. Shargey Summary: Office: 2nd floor Rm. 202

- DeBakey is a title 1 campus. Federally funded dollars are to address deficiencies. Title 1 is determined by percentage of free and reduced lunch. When a school reaches 41% then it is considered Title 1. We use title one funds for tutorials and summer school.
- Tutorials are available for everyone including top students. Students can get extra help, do make-up work and may work in small study groups. Tutorials are M-Th from 7:00am-7:45 am & M-Th 3:30-4:30pm. Your child may attend tutorials with a teacher that is not assigned to him. Sometimes students need to hear a concept explained in a different way. For morning tutorials please see Dean Shargey as this requires a special permission form.
- Grades due today at 4pm & report cards go out on Friday.
- Please review handout: Title 1, Parent and Family Engagement Program
- As part of our Family engagement activities we will host a Scientific Symposium on Friday January 18th, 2019. Many speakers with different occupations will discuss with students the career path they took to reach professional goals. There will be 2 sessions. 8:30-10am and 10:15-11:30 am. A great opportunity for PTO fundraising. Refreshment booth?

Principal Nellie Naidoo:

- Title 1 money linked to school lunch. Food quality has improved recently please encourage your student to give it another try if not currently eating lunch at school.
- Naviance: A great tool for students and parents alike. Helps students track everything related to selecting a university. Includes links to exploring career paths. Parents should help kids select their top 10 schools. Encourage everyone to use Naviance.

Homecoming Chair: Maylene Leu-Bent Summary

- Homecoming dance is a great opportunity to support our children.
- Contribute even just a little, many hands make light work. It is an investment in our children.
- Sign up genius will be posted all donations welcome.

Membership Chair: Marisa Fiorito Summary

- 199 individuals have contributed to the PTO. This represents 210 families. Please consider joining the PTO. Donations can be earmarked for a specific purpose.

President Nellie:

- Bylaws reviewed. Clarification of bylaws.
- Motion to pass the bylaws by Sandra Ahlhorn and seconded by Marris Fiorito. Bylaws passed pending review by Principal Perry.

Meeting adjourned.