

**Project Advisory Team (PAT) Meeting Minutes**  
**DeBakey High School for Health Professions**

**MEETING NO.:** 014

**LOCATION:** DeBakey High School for Health Professions

**DATE / TIME:** February 13, 2014, 4:00 pm

**ATTENDEES:** Agnes Perry, Principal; Barbara Williams, Faculty; Mary Hayes, Faculty; Bernice Sharkey, Dean; Lana Hayes, Library Media Specialist; Steven Gee, Program Manager, HISD Bond; Mary Le Johnson, Architect, WHR Architects; Neda Khan, Visual Arts Teacher; Clay Clayton, HISD-Facilities Planning; Princess Jenkins, HISD Facilities Planning; Raj Vadlamudi, PTA; Marie Bielamowicz, Teacher; Guy Cooke, CMAR-Tellepsen; Mary Hayes, Teacher; Charlesetta Deason, Community Member; Marti George, Staff; Doris Rios, Magnet Coordinator; Natalie Abrameit, Assistant Principal; Jane Baughman, WHR Architects; Chris Sakin, Teacher;

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this meeting was to provide a Schematic Design status update for DeBakey High School for Health Professions.

**AGENDA:**

- Comments from PAT members that attended the Seattle, WA Site Tour
- Schematic Design Update
- Questions and Answers
- What to Expect at the Next PAT Meeting

**NOTES:**

**Discussion**

1. Take-aways from the Seattle benchmarking tours were presented.
  - The PAT expressed concern that 30 feet width in the Atrium is too narrow.
  - Furnishings
    - The right type of furniture can make a difference.
    - Furniture needs to be reconfigurable.
    - Mediascape with screen and plug and play is ideal for collaboration.
    - The use of writable wall surfaces on multiple walls will allow for flexibility.
    - Furniture was constantly moved around by students and always ended up by the electrical outlets.
  - Acoustics
    - The Architects need to be careful about using all glass walls and careful about the type of operable walls used between rooms.
  - Learning Center Storage
    - A combination of storage behind marker boards with locked storage below is ideal. A large screen monitor can also be housed behind the marker boards. Marker boards are on tracks to allow for them to slide over one another.
    - 2 large screen monitors in lieu of a projection screen and projector might be better for the Learning Centers. Smart Boards are old technology.

**Customer Focused . . . Always Responsive!**

- Lockers
    - The PAT prefers that the lockers be recessed into the wall rather than free standing.
    - Lockers stacked 2 or 3 high is preferred for DeBakey HS.
  - Security
    - Many facilities the PAT visited had not properly addressed security.
    - No security vestibules were seen at some schools.
    - Questions came up on how to secure in place when there are glass walls everywhere. There has been some discussion within the district about securing the perimeter of the building instead of making solid walls inside the school.
    - There was discussion on using Lexan in lieu of glass.
    - Visual security is critical for safety.
2. Updated floor plans were reviewed with the PAT. The comment/questions includes:
- 5<sup>th</sup> floor
    - Can locker rooms be relocated to the fitness area for better visual access by the PE faculty and have the fitness room places as a mezzanine on top of the locker rooms overlooking the gymnasium? *The Architect will review this option.*
    - The theater teacher asked for a black box with no windows. Could the location of this room be switched with one of the other elements? *The Program Manager will verify that this element is to be changed.*
    - How could we block off the windows for black box use? *Initial conversation was that this space would be blackened with shades. An alternate option would be room darkening curtains.*
    - All of the music storage needs to right next to the music room. *The Architect will review to determine if storage can be relocated.*
    - Can the doors at the visual arts room and adjacent corridor be glass sliders that can be opened up when there is nice weather? *Interior doors could be glass sliders but exterior sliders are not recommended.*
    - Add a door from the theater storage into the theater arts space. *For functionality of theater space, the door to storage may be able to be located on north side of the storage and the entry doors shifted to the west so that the doors are inside of the room.*
  - Floors 2, 3 and 4
    - Lockers in the middle of the floors do not work. The school needs only about 500 lockers. Can they be stacked 2 or 3 high? The PAT proposed that student locker is 12" w x 18" deep x 24" high. *The Architect will investigate options for lockers layouts within this space.*
    - Can rooms on the south side of the atrium be pushed over 10' to allow for a wider atrium? *The Architect will study this option but it will reduce learning center and extended learning area sizes below program square footages.*
    - Do we need so many operable and glass walls at the learning centers and flex labs? *The Architect will review and recommend revisions. (HISD is studying these components for all schools and will recommend a base line for design.)*
    - Could the atrium stair be curved? *This would be a more expensive option.*
    - What consideration for acoustics will be made at the atrium glass walls? *An acoustical consultant will work on options.*
  - Floor 1
    - Need additional restrooms on this floor - 3 per gender is not sufficient. *The Architect will review options for additional first floor toilets. (DeBakey HSHP confirmed that they currently have 7 stalls on first floor of their current building.)*
    - Can the storage be reconfigured to bring back the bleacher stair? Could it connect three stories? *The Architect will review options. HISD IT suggested that they could release 1-850 sf room to the school for other use. There are code issues connecting three stories. The Program Manager will confirm if this could be used for storage.*

**Customer Focused . . . Always Responsive!**

- How does access to serving area work? Tables are currently in the way. *Tables indicate maximum number of dining seating possible. At least one row will need to be moved to accommodate traffic flow from serving area in the dining commons.*
  - What is planned for the bottom of the stair? *We could accommodate a platform or bench.*
  - How can we incorporate the “WOW” factor discussed at the Charrette? We need something visible from the outside that identifies DeBakey HS as a medical focused high school. *We still have the opportunity to provide graphics on the front entry glass as discussed at the Charrette.*
3. The Architect is working to make sure code and infrastructure components work. Revised atrium sketches will be shared at the next meeting. Other revisions to address concerns will be made for the next PAT meeting on February 27, 2014. Once these plan changes are completed the team will meet with small groups to address the individual spaces.

**Action item**

- 14-01 Program Manager will verify if the Theater Arts learning center can be changed to a black box.
- 14-02 Program Manager will confirm with HISD Facilities Planning that 1-850 sf room designated for IT storage can be used for other usage.

**What to expect at the next meeting:**

- 1. WHR/ Lake Flato Architects will provide a Design Update for DeBakey High School for Health Professions.

**NEXT PAT MEETING:** The next PAT meeting will be held on February 27, 2014 at 4:00 pm.

Please review the meeting minutes and submit any changes or corrections to Steven Gee. After five (5) days, the minutes will be assumed to be accurate.

Sincerely,

**Steven Gee**

Program Manager  
HISD – Construction & Facility Services  
3200 Center Street, Houston, TX 77007  
Phone: (713) 556-9261  
Email: sgee@houstonisd.org