

Samueli Academy Academic Committee Meeting

Samueli Academy
1901 N. Fairview Street
Santa Ana, CA 92705

November 8, 2016

12:00 – 1:00pm

Minutes

Attended: Sandi Jackson, Anthony Saba, Patsy Janda, Richard Arum and Nicole Washington

1. Approval of the October 13, 2016 Academic Committee meeting minutes

Sandi Jackson motioned to approve the minutes; seconded by Anthony Saba; all in favor.

2. Introduction of Richard Arum

Sandi Jackson briefly introduced the new Academic Committee member, Richard Arum and Richard spoke briefly of his background in education.

Additionally, Sandi asked Head of School, Anthony Saba to explain the State of California school ranking. Anthony explained to the Committee that the State of California annually releases an Academic Performance Index (API), which is a statewide and similar school ranking for K-12 schools in California. The Statewide Rank reflects academically against every school in the state, regardless of the student demographic and the Similar School Rank is ranks against every school in the state of California, but only within the same demographic of students. However, the State of California Board of Education approved to not calculate the API for the 2014 and 2015 academic years, as the Common Core State Standards Initiative developed.

As a result, the California Charter Schools Association (CCSA) hosted the statewide ranks for all K-12 schools in California. Anthony informed the Committee that the Samueli Academy did phenomenal, receiving a 9 out of 10 Statewide Rank and a 10 out of 10 Similar School Rank.

3. 2016 External Scorecard

Nicole Washington presented to the Committee the 2016 external Scorecard, which is used to show the accomplishments of Samueli Academy at a glance. In reviewing the Scorecard the Committee agreed to make the following revisions:

- Eliminate “standard not met” and “nearly met standard” from the SBAC Common Core Assessment results. Only show “met standard” and “exceeded standard”.
- Eliminate the previous year’s history from the School Climate Report.
- Add the statewide ranks to the internal and external Scorecard.
- Remove “workspace” from the internship component of the Scorecard.

4. Board Retreat Action Items

Sandi Jackson presented to the Committee a summary report of the 2016 Board Retreat and asked the Committee for their feedback on the Retreat. The Committee agreed that the 2016 Board Retreat was successful and key initiatives for growth were identified.

Additionally, Sandi stated that the Governance Committee will draft an overall follow-up report, which will outline the Board Committee(s) responsible for leading each key Strategic Initiative that the Board determined is a priority for the Samueli Academy. In some cases, responsibility may be shared between Board Committees.

5. University of California, Irvine Programs & Update

Nicole Washington provided an update on the partnership between the University of California, Irvine (UCI) and Samueli Academy. Nicole stated that she and Anthony Saba have been meeting with the admissions office at UCI and would like Samueli Academy students to have admissions priority to UCI, however, an agreement has yet to be made. Nicole stated that Patricia Morales, Director of the Office of Admissions & Relations with Schools at UCI, will be hosting a workshop at UCI for Samueli Academy seniors. Additionally, a UCI admissions liaison will be provided to Samueli Academy seniors to assist students with the college admissions process.

Additionally, Nicole listed the following partnerships between Samueli Academy and UCI:

- Student to student math tutoring between Samueli Academy and UCI students.
- Mentoring as part of the ACE Program, which was a result of The Dalai Lama Endowed Scholarship.
- After school rocketry program, which is run by engineering staff and instruction is assisted by UCI students.
- Freshman tours
- Post high school initiative, in which mentors will help guide students following graduation.
- UCI Dean of Education, Richard Arum is a Samueli Academy Academic Committee member and interested in joining the Samueli Academy Board of Trustees.
- The UCI School of Engineering has agreed to fundraise with Orangewood Foundation for the Samueli Academy engineering lab materials.
- UCI staff is on the Samueli Academy Engineer Career Advisory Board.

6. New Business

Anthony Saba informed the Committee that he is working with Samueli Foundation to create scholarship program for Samueli Academy students, to provide addition support following graduation. Additionally, the program will fund an Alumni Director to provide additional support to students.

Sandi Jackson stated that she would like the compliance calendar to be added to the Academic Committee meeting agenda as a standing item.

No additional new business was brought forth.

7. Adjourn

A motion was made by Sandi Jackson, seconded by Anthony Saba and carried to adjourn the Tuesday, November 8, 2016 Academic Committee meeting.

The next Samueli Academy Academic Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2017.