



MINUTES

Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, February 23, 2016

ROLL CALL

Board of Trustees Present:

William Healey
Sandi Jackson
Nicole Washington
Deborah Vandell
Marian Bergeson
Elim Kay
Chris Scheithauer
Gerardo Mouet

Academy/Orangewood Staff Present:

Chris Simonsen
John Luker
Anthony Saba
Aimee Bilderback

ExED:

Larry Tamayo

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a vote of 8-0 to approve the November 17, 2015 Board of Trustees meeting minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sandi Jackson opened the floor for public comment. No public comment was made.

BOARD EDUCATION

Sandi Jackson introduced Assistant Head of School, Aimee Bilderback to present to the Board how the Samueli Academy develops their teachers. Aimee Bilderback went into detail explaining to the Board different trainings and seminars some Samueli Academy teachers have attended including; SPARK Training, Student for a Day, New Tech Network, a summer conference for newly hired teachers to better understand project based learning and ECHO (Our collaborative learning environment), foster youth training and learning outcomes. Additionally, Aimee discussed the training that took place in the Samueli Academy staff meetings, which are held every Friday. Aimee went into detail on some of the topics that have been reviewed in the staff meetings including; career technical education, College and Career Readiness (CCR) and technology.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Sandi Jackson informed the Board that the Committees are making progress on the goals and strategic plans identified at the 2015 Board Retreat.

Sandi informed the Board that the California Charter School Conference will be taking place from March 15-17, 2016 in Long Beach, CA. Additionally, Sandi informed the Board that the following individuals will be attending the conference: Sandi Jackson, Chris Scheithauer, Nicole Washington, Chris Simonsen, John Luker, Anthony Saba, Aimee Bilderback, Cristalle Callis, Dea Riha and Crystal Ho.

Sandi Jackson requested approval by the Board to appoint Susan Samueli as a Governance Committee member.

Sandi Jackson opened the floor for public comment. No public comment was made.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a vote of 8-0 to approve Susan Samueli as a Governance Committee member.

REPORTS

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Anthony Saba provided a report on the New Tech Network culture survey, which is done twice every year. Anthony presented to the Board a summary of the results from the culture survey and reported that only 67% of the students responded to the survey, due to an advisory period exercise for many students which will be a focal point in the future to achieve a higher percentage of participation. Anthony explained that over a 150 New Tech Network schools nationwide participate in this survey and the Samueli Academy has ranked near the top each year.

Anthony informed the Board that there are nine days left until the student application deadline and that 220 applications have been received. Samueli Academy plans to accept 130 to attend in the 2016-17 school year. The student lottery will be performed on March 8, 2016 and the accepted students will then be notified.

Anthony informed the Board that the last information night will be held at the Samueli Academy on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Anthony informed the Board that a Santa Ana Charter Schools Fair was held on Saturday, February 20, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Vista Heritage Charter Middle School. Head of School, Anthony Saba and five Samueli Academy ASB students attended the fair.

Anthony informed the Board that the new Samueli Academy jobs will be posted on Friday, February 26, 2016 for the 2016-17 school year. The job postings will be four teaching positions and two support positions.

Anthony informed the Board that California State Superintendent, Tom Torlakson took a tour of the Samueli Academy on Wednesday, January 13, 2016 and it went very well.

Anthony informed the Board that Jed Wallace, President and CEO of the California Charter Schools Association visited the Samueli Academy on Tuesday, February 23, 2016. He continues to be impressed with the progress of the Samueli Academy.

Anthony informed the Board that the Orange County Department of Education Annual Review is scheduled for Friday, March 11, 2016.

Anthony provided a report on the Every Student Succeeds Act. Anthony reported that the Every Student Succeeds Act will determine what will be required to replace the No Child Left Behind Act and how schools will be measured and evaluated.

Anthony informed the Board that the Samueli Academy has received an Award of Merit in the Specialized Facility category of the 2016 C.A.S.H./AIACC Leroy F. Greene Design and Planning Awards.

CEO

Chris Simonsen provided a Residential Campus update. Chris reported that good progress is being made with the Residential Campus. Bob Theemling is meeting on a regular basis with deputy directors from the County of Orange. A meeting was held on Friday, February 19, 2016 with County of Orange, Director of Social Services, Michael Ryan and Deputy Director, Gary Taylor as directed by Sacramento. On Thursday, February 25, 2016 Bob Theemling is meeting with the local licensing representative to review the residential model and what modifications might be needed for a foster family agency facility. A framework will then be developed and sent to Sacramento for review.

FUNDRAISING

Chris Simonsen provided a report on Samueli Academy operational fundraising through February, 2016. To date, \$461,267 has been raised for Samueli Academy operations.

Chris Simonsen informed the Board that the Capital Campaign has been closed out successfully. To date, the total raised with verbal commitments is \$25,000,000. Letters have been sent to all donors and tours will still continue to be given at the Samueli Academy.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

William Healey provided a report that the Finance Committee met on January 15, 2016 to review and approve the November 2015 financials and scorecard. Additionally, William informed the Board that the Finance Committee discussed several scenarios for a potential increase in enrollment and the independent study program. The Finance Committee held a meeting on February 12, 2016 and approved the December 2015 financials and scorecard.

William informed the Board that regular updates that are reviewed in the Finance Committee meetings are: Samueli Academy financing, state budget, campus development, operation and capital funding.

William informed the Board that the Finance Committee will be holding a joint meeting with the Academic Committee on March Thursday, March 24, 2016 to discuss the 2015 Board Retreat action items. The topics to be discuss between the Committees are teacher retention, compensation, and long-term financial strategy of the Samueli Academy.

Larry Tamayo provided the following report on the December 2015 Financial Dashboard:

- The Average Daily Attendance (ADA) rate is 367.
- Samueli Academy has a net loss of \$26,435 in Fiscal Year 2015-16, which is \$287,239 better than planned.
- As of December 31, 2015, the School's cash balance was \$653,746.

William Healey presented to the Board a Corporate Resolution to extend the Wells Fargo line of credit. The Finance Committee has reviewed the extension and recommends approval to the full Board.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a vote of 8-0 to approve the Wells Fargo line of credit extension.

William Healey presented to the Board the Winter Consolidation Application, which applies to the Federal funds received by the Samueli Academy. The Finance Committee has reviewed the Winter Consolidation Application and recommends approval to the full Board.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a vote of 8-0 to approve the Winter Consolidation Application.

William Healey presented to the Board the One-Time Educator Effectiveness Plan for the funds allocated to the Samueli Academy for professional development. The Finance Committee has reviewed the One-Time Educator Effectiveness Plan and recommends approval to the full Board.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a vote of 8-0 to approve the One-Time Educator Effectiveness Plan.

John Luker presented to the Board an audit done by Griffin Structures, Inc. of the phase one construction. Griffin Structures, Inc. assisted with the management of the construction.

John Luker presented to the Board the annual review completed by the El Dorado County Chapter SELPA. The Samueli Academy is part of the El Dorado County Chapter SELPA for special education funding.

GOVERNANCE

Chris Scheithauer informed the Board that the Governance Committee has begun preparing for the Monday, October 17, 2016 Board Retreat. The Committee is in the process of reviewing proposals of potential retreat facilitators and will bring information to the full Board for final review and approval.

The Governance Committee has begun reviewing the policies and procedures for renewing Board terms, recruitment of new Board members and succession for the Board of Trustees. The Governance Committee will be building a slate for the Board member openings, which will be presented to the full Board.

Chris Scheithauer presented to the Board the Form 700 and informed the Board members that they are required to complete and return the form by the next Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday, March 22, 2016.

Chris Scheithauer presented to the Board a compliance calendar which the Governance Committee uses to ensure deadlines are met. Chris requested that the various Committees review the compliance calendar and provide the Governance Committee feedback on items that should be included in the compliance calendar.

Chris Scheithauer presented to the Board a revised Public Comment Procedure. Chris informed the Board that revisions were made based on feedback that was received. The Governance Committee recommends approval to the full Board of the Public Comment Procedure.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a vote of 8-0 to approve the Public Comment Procedure.

Chris Scheithauer presented to the Board a revised Request to Address the Board Form. The form was revised based on the revisions made to the Public Comment Procedure. The Governance Committee recommends approval to the full Board of the Request to Address the Board Form.

A motion was made, seconded and carried by a vote of 8-0 to approve the Request to Address the Board Form.

ACADEMIC

Deborah Vandell informed the Board that the Academic Committee met on Tuesday, January 19, 2016 and February 16, 2016. Deborah provided a brief update on the current undertakings of the Academic Committee.

Nicole Washington informed the Board of the current undertakings of the Career Advisory Council. The Council is working on the Career Exploration for freshman students and Nicole informed the Board of the companies that are participating. Nicole provided an update on the mentorship program and informed the Board that the mentors have begun executing this year's project based learning projects with their students. Nicole informed the Board that the Career Ignition Conference will be held on Friday, February 26, 2016 at the Samueli Academy and companies will be onsite to interview juniors for the summer internships.

NEW BUSINESS

Sandi Jackson opened the floor for new business.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made, seconded, and carried by a vote of 8-0 to adjourn the Samueli Academy Board of Trustees meeting at 8:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 22, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. at Samueli Academy located at 1901 N. Fairview Street, Santa Ana, CA 92706.



MARIAN BERGESON, SECRETARY