MINUTES
Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, October 22, 2024
6:00 PM
Samueli Academy
1901 N. Fairview St.
Santa Ana, CA 92706

ROLL CALL

Board of Trustees Present:
Liz Dorn-Parker
Robert Santana
Susan Barua
Sandi Jackson

Board of Trustees Absent:
Susan Samueli
Richard Arum
Chris Scheithauer

Academy/Orangewood Staff Present:
Anthony Saba
John Luker
Lee Fleming
Chris Simonsen
Tracy Garcia

Guests Present:

CALL TO ORDER

Liz Dorn-Parker called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and welcomed all attendees to the October 22, 2024, meeting of the Samueli Academy Board of Trustees. Anyone from the public might address the Board for three minutes at the beginning of the meeting, and before agenda items that were subject to approval.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Robert Santana, seconded by Sandi Jackson, and carried to approve the minutes from the September 24, 2024, meeting of the Board of Trustees with a vote of: 4 - Ayes and 0 – Nays.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

BOARD EDUCATION TOPIC

A motion was made by Robert Santana to postpone the Brown Act Annual Training to a later date. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

REPORTS

BOARD CHAIR

None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Anthony Saba presented the Executive Director report.

The Gala took place on October 5th and it was a great event. Preliminary numbers indicate the event grossed over $700,000.

OCDE review will take place on Thursday and they will be on campus to conduct this review.

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Lee Fleming presented the Head of School report.

The Federal Program Monitor visit is coming up and staff have been reviewing all paperwork and checklists. We are on track with all requirements.

Staff is reviewing data and we are seeing growth in the area of English Learners. The chronic absenteeism rate has gone down. Staff sent out a survey regarding this topic and had a good response.

The community schools grant is going well. We have been able to provide vision clinics, dental clinics, and a mobile physical clinic on campus this year. The board suggested providing first access to these services to the chronically absent students. Lee thought this was a great suggestion.

ORANGEWOOD FOUNDATION

Chris Simonsen presented the Orangewood Foundation update. The program currently has 7 youth enrolled. Three (3) more students are in the process. Staff continues to do recruitment efforts.

There is a virtual tour with LA County coming up this month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

GOVERNANCE

Anthony presented the Governance Report.

Mutual Dispute and Arbitration Agreement

The Governance Committee reviewed the Mutual Dispute and Arbitration Agreement at their last meeting and recommended moving the policy forward for approval at the board level.

Susan Barua made a motion to approve the Mutual Dispute and Arbitration Agreement. Robert Santana seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Outdoor Club – Whitewater Preserve (Palm Springs)

The outdoor club proposed a trip January 18-20, 2025 to the Whitewater Preserve in Palm Springs.

Sandi Jackson made a motion to approve the overnight trip to Whitewater Preserve in Palm Springs. Susan Barua seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 4- Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Outdoor Club – Bearpaw Reserve (San Bernardino Mountains)

The outdoor club proposed a trip March 28-30, 2025 to the Bearpaw Reserve in the San Bernardino Mountains.

Robert Santana made a motion to approve the overnight trip to the Bearpaw Reserve in the San Bernardino Mountains. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

FINANCE

Liz Dorn-Parker shared the August 2024 Financial Statements.

Anthony Saba reviewed the Operational Campaign numbers for August 2024.

Off-Schedule Holiday Payment

John Luker shared the proposed Off-Schedule Holiday Payment for staff.

Susan Barua made a motion to approve the Off Schedule Holiday Payment for regular staff members to be paid on December 15, 2024. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

2024-25 EPA Resolution

John Luker presented the proposed 24-25 spending for the 24-25 Education Protection Account (EPA).

Sandi Jackson made a motion to approve the proposed spending for the 2024-2025 Education Protection Account. Susan Barua seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

AUDIT

Conflict of Interest Forms

John Luker shared a summary of the conflict of interest forms that were collected. No conflicts were reported.

2023-2024 Samueli Academy Audit

John Luker shared the 2023-2024 Samueli Academy Audit results.

Robert Santana made a motion to acknowledge receipt of the 2023-2024 Audit report. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

ACADEMIC

No report.

OTHER BUSINESS

Sandi Jackson had a question regarding the Conflict-of-Interest Forms. Does she need to report her presence on the Orangewood Foundation Board? Anthony Saba will follow up with legal to see what the best practice is.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Robert Santana, seconded by Susan Barua, and carried to approve the October 22, 2024, meeting of the Samueli Academy Board of Trustees be adjourned with a vote of 4 - Ayes and 0 - Nays.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

RICHARD ARUM, SECRETARY