MINUTES
Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, October 24, 2023
6:00 PM
Samueli Academy
1901 N. Fairview St.
Santa Ana, CA 92706

ROLL CALL

Board of Trustees Present:
Chris Scheithauer
Susan Barua
Susan Samueli
Richard Arum
Sandi Jackson
Liz Dorn-Parker
Robert Santana

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chris Scheithauer called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and welcomed all attendees to the October 24, 2023, 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 for approval.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Sandi Jackson, seconded by Susan Samueli, and carried to approve the minutes from the September 26, 2023, meeting of the Board of Trustees with a vote of: 5 - Ayes and 0 – Nays and 2 - Abstain

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was presented.

REPORTS
BOARD CHAIR

Chris Scheithauer wanted to thank all the board members for a great retreat. The Governance Committee will be meeting to discuss next steps and to assign tasks.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Anthony Saba presented the Executive Director report. Anthony hosted a tour group from the Netherlands on campus today. They were amazed by the campus and programs offered.

OCDE Annual Report was completed. There were no "red flags" and we should be getting the final written report shortly.

Design Event- The Design team hosted the first Design event on campus on October 18th. Samueli Academy and LCAD formalized the MOU and the MOU was signed at the event. Great event for the program.

The Gala was a success. It was a great event and all who attended had very good reviews and new contacts were made during the evening.

Anthony shared the Alumni booklet that was a handout at the Gala and each board member received a copy.

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Lee Fleming presented the Head of School report. Lee shared there was a power outage at the school over the weekend that wiped out the systems and even wiped out the back up to the back up systems. The IT department has been working around the clock to fix issues with the system. Some things are up but the phone system is down. Staff are frequently checking voicemail and keeping communication with parents calling in.

One of the goals this year was to increase student engagement in class, and we are doing a great job at achieving that goal.

Neutral Ground is having some amazing results on campus. There is also a high amount of students getting involved with their extracurricular programming (Boxing program) off campus.

Staff participated in a Crisis Intervention Training and have had some positive feedback so far.

C. Callis had the opportunity to attend a conference in Chicago where she is one of the presenters. This is a great testament to the work we are doing here at Samueli Academy. She is very excited to return and share her experiences.

ORANGEWOOD FOUNDATION

Chris Simonsen presented the update on the Youth Connected Program. Orangewood is very excited to now be recognized as a permanent program with the State and to no longer be a Pilot Program. Currently there are 8 youth in the program. There will be 2 more youth visits this week. Currently 11 homes have been approved with 4 additional homes in the pipeline.

The program recently had an unannounced audit visit from Community Care Licensing, and they had no findings which was great news for the program and is a testament to how hard the staff work to ensure compliance at all times.

All youth in the program currently have a C or better in all their classes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

John Luker reviewed the August 2023 Financial Statements. The school is in a positive financial position. The Board reviewed all financial statements.

Operational Campaign numbers reviewed – Operational campaign is strong.

AUDIT

2022-2023 Audit Report

Chris Scheithauer reviewed the 2022-2023 Audit Report. There were no findings in the report. Assets are strong.

Robert Santana made a motion to approve the 2022-2023 Audit Report. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of:
7-Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Conflict of Interest Review

Chris Scheithauer reviewed the conflict-of-interest forms that were received for this year. There was one disclosed potential conflict from Kevin Tiber. The Audit Committee reviewed the potential conflict and determined there was no conflict of interest.

GOVERNANCE

Chris Scheithauer reported the Governance Committee is going to be reviewing the information from the retreat during their next meeting and will report out at the next board meeting the results and will assign tasks to each of the committees as appropriate.

ACADEMIC

Richard Arum reported there was nothing to report at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Sandi Jackson and seconded by Susan Barua to move into a closed session to discuss Executive Compensation. The motion carried with a vote of 7-Ayes and 0-Nays.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board of Trustees reviewed market comparisons, market studies, historic compensation for both the Executive Director and Head of School as well as Performance evaluations for both as well.

Robert Santana made a motion to make a market adjustment to the base salary and auto allowance for the Executive Director retroactive back to July 1, 2023. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of 6 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Robert Santana made a motion to make a market adjustment to the base salary and auto allowance for the Head of School retroactive back to July 1, 2023. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of 6 – Ayes and 0-Nays.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Sandi Jackson, seconded by Susan Samueli, and carried to approve the October 24, 2023, meeting of the Samueli Academy Board of Trustees be adjourned with a vote of 6 - Ayes and 0 - Nays.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

RICHARD ARUM, SECRETARY