MINUTES
Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, March 25, 2025
6:00 PM
*Samueli Academy*
*1901 N. Fairview St.*
*Santa Ana, CA 92706*

ROLL CALL

Board of Trustees Present:
Richard Arum
Susan Barua
Susan Samueli
Sandi Jackson
Robert Santana

Board of Trustees Absent:
Chris Scheithauer
Liz Dorn-Parker

Academy/Orangewood Staff Present:
Anthony Saba
John Luker
Lee Fleming
Enrique Montiel
Tracy Garcia

Guests Present:

CALL TO ORDER

Richard Arum called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed all attendees to the March 25, 2025, meeting of the Samueli Academy Board of Trustees. At the beginning of the meeting and before agenda items that were subject to approval, anyone from the public might address the board for three minutes.

Robert Santana exited the room to answer a call.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sandi Jackson made a motion to approve the minutes from the 3/25/2025 Meeting. Susan Barua seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes, 0 – Nays.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

REPORTS

BOARD CHAIR

No report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Anthony Saba presented the Executive Director report.

The public lottery for incoming 7th graders was held. Registration is now underway for the students that were selected in the lottery.

Little Shop of Horror play is taking place and it is a fabulous production. The VIP night was very well received.

Decision Day rally is coming up on April 25th.

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Lee Fleming presented the Head of School report.

The Career Ignition Conference was held last week. Students are gearing up for their upcoming internships.

The boys volleyball team has been doing great. There is great energy in the gym for the home games.

This year the music department held their musical shows over 2 weekends. It was very well attended.

The science fair was very successful this year and students projects were exceptional. The middle school program has a history project that qualified to the State competition in Orlando, Florida.

ORANGEWOOD FOUNDATION

Enrique Montiel presented the Orangewood Foundation update.

There are currently 8 youth and 16 families in the program. One youth toured the facility today and is considering joining the program. The staff is hosting a bake off at the dorms today and the youth are very excited.

Next week there will be an on-site reaccreditation on Thursday and Friday.

The staff is participating in a tabling event at Firewolf Fest and will have giveaways.

One youth in the program just received an acceptance letter to Hawaii University.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

GOVERNANCE

Whistleblower Policy

The board reviewed the revised Whistleblower Policy.

Susan Barua made a motion to approve the updated Whistleblower Policy as presented. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 4- Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Water Intrusion Policy

Anthony Saba presented the Water Intrusion Policy. The Facilities Manager customized the template for Samueli Academy. The insurance company recommended Samueli Academy adopt a policy for Water Intrusion.

Sandi Jackson made a motion to approve the Water Intrusion Policy. Susan Barua seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Hazardous Chemical Communication Plan

Anthony Saba presented the Hazardous Chemical Communication Plan.

Susan Barua made a motion to approve the Hazardous Chemical Communication Plan. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 4- Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Title IX Policy

Anthony Saba presented the updated Title IX policy that was changed based on recent legislation.

Sandi Jackson made a motion to approve the updated Title IX policy. Susan Barua seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

FINANCE

John Luker shared the January 2025 Financial Statements. We are well above our plan and cash reserves are strong.

OCDE 2nd Interim Report

John Luker shared the OCDE 2nd Interim Report.

Sandi Jackson made a motion to send the 2nd Interim Report to OCDE. Susan Samueli seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Operational Campaign

We are well above our fundraising goal, and the endowment is strong. It has been a strong fundraising year.

ACADEMIC

2025-2026 School Calendar

Richard Arum presented the 2025-2026 School Calendar. Robert Santana asked to add a key with a color code to indicate the various holidays and days off, etc.

Susan Barua made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 School Calendar with the addition of the key and color code. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

OTHER BUSINESS

Susan Barua shared that she will be retiring on May 30th and will be stepping down from the Board and Academic Committee.

Robert Santana announced that he was going to increase his commitment for scholarships and college-bound students. He will share more in the future. Robert also shared he is the new CEO of the Buena Park Boys and Girls Club with a potential merger on the horizon.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Robert Santana, seconded by Sandi Jackson, and carried to approve the March 25, 2025, meeting of the Samueli Academy Board of Trustees be adjourned with a vote of 5 - Ayes and 0 - Nays.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 6:00 pm.

RICHARD ARUM, SECRETARY