MINUTES
Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, April 23, 2024
6:00 PM
Samueli Academy
1901 N. Fairview St.
Santa Ana, CA 92706

ROLL CALL

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

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

Guests Present:
None

CALL TO ORDER

Chris Scheithauer called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm and welcomed all attendees to the April 23, 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 Liz Dorn-Parker, seconded by Susan Samueli, and carried to approve the minutes from the March 26 , 2024, meeting of the Board of Trustees with a vote of: 6 - Ayes and 0 – Nays.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was presented.

REPORTS
BOARD CHAIR

Chris Scheithauer discussed the potential board retreat dates. The discussion will continue in the next Governance Committee Meeting. Suggestion was to replace the September Board Meeting with the Board Retreat.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Anthony Saba presented the Executive Director report.

7th Grade Registration is almost complete with 130 new 7th graders enrolling at Samueli Academy.

30 additional 9th graders will also be enrolled for the upcoming school year.

New student welcome event coming up on Saturday, May 4th.

Dhont Office Space – Space is always a challenge at Samueli Academy. The school is working on a plan to rent the Dhont for additional office space. Discussions will take place during Governance, Finance and Board meetings next month.

The Spring Musical VIP night was a great event and enjoyed by all. We are looking at making this an annual event. Decision Day will take place on campus on Friday at 9:00 a.m.

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Lee Fleming presented the Head of School report. Student surveys have been completed. Student engagement is up which is a great sign.

Lee attended a conference in Denver and it was a very positive experience. The conference focused on getting students back on track post pandemic. It was interesting to hear from other schools in other states what struggles and challenges they are facing post pandemic.

Staff surveys are set ot go out shortly. This year we are adding a Wellness section on the survey.

Samueli Academy has its first teacher retiring this year. Dave Janisch is retiring and has been an Engineering Teacher here for the past 10 years. We will be working on planning a send off for him.

ORANGEWOOD FOUNDATION

Chris Simonsen presented the Orangewood Foundation update. There has been 14 youth served in the program. 9 students are currently in the program. 12 homes have been approved and 2 are in the pipeline.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Liz Dorn-Parker reviewed the February 2024 Financial Statements. The school is in a positive financial position. The Board reviewed all financial statements. We will end the school year in a strong financial position. The finance committee is keeping an eye on cash on hand and cash flow for the future but we are in a strong position.

OCDE 2nd Interim Report

The letter from OCDE was shared with the Board. OCDE is very happy with Samueli Academy and its management.

Operational Campaign numbers through February reviewed – Operational campaign is strong. This has been the best fundraising year to date.

GOVERNANCE

Chris Scheithauer shared that the Governance Committee is currently in the process of initial planning for the Board Retreat.

Overnight Camping Trip – September 2024 – Big Bear, CA

The board reviewed the proposed overnight camping trip to Big Bear, CA in September by the Outdoor Club.

A motion was made by Liz Dorn-Parker to approve the Overnight Camping Trip in September 2024 to Big Bear, CA. Susan Samueli seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 6 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Renewal of Board Terms

Chris Scheithauer and Robert Santana both have expiring board terms in June 2024. The Governance Committee recommended renewal of board terms for both members.

A motion was made by Liz Dorn-Parker to renew the board term of Chris Scheithauer. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes 0 – Nays and 1 – Abstain (Chris Scheithauer)

A motion was made by Liz Dorn-Parker to renew the board term for Robert Santana. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes 0 – Nays and 1 – Abstain (Robert Santana).

Background Checks

Chris Scheithauer shared that Orangewood Foundation has recommended all board members complete background checks. They just completed this process with their board as well. Tracy Garcia will be sending out a link to all board members to complete this background check. Anthony will follow up with Janelle to see if fingerprinting and TB test are required for board members.

ACADEMIC

Richard Arum reported that the Academic Committee has nothing to report at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS — NONE

ADJOURNMENT — A motion was made by Sandi Jackson, seconded by Susan Samueli, and carried to approve the April 23, 2024, 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, May 28, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

RICHARD ARUM, SECRETARY