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

ROLL CALL

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

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

Absent
Robert Santana

Guests Present:
None

CALL TO ORDER

Chris Scheithauer called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and welcomed all attendees to the Julyn 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 Susan Samueli, seconded by Sandi Jackson, and carried to approve the minutes from the June 25, 2024, meeting of the Board of Trustees with a vote of: 6 - Ayes and 0 – Nays.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

REPORTS
BOARD CHAIR

Chris Scheithauer discussed the upcoming Board of Trustees Retreat. The date that currently seems to work for all Board members is Monday, November 4, 2024. Please hold that date for the Board Retreat.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Anthony Saba presented the Executive Director report.

This summer has been very busy on campus. Currently the Girls Inc. and OC Sunrise Camps are taking place on campus. So the campus is buzzing with young children. The Firewolf Foundation camp for new and incoming students is also taking place. They will all be going to an Angel Game to finish up the week on Friday.

Summer Interns from Samueli Academy are working at the camps. This includes a foster youth that lives in the dorms. Interns are enjoying the experience.

Enrollment numbers remain strong as we head into the new school year.

Stars and Stripes was a success again this year. A great time was had by all.

Solar is getting installed on campus. Parking has been impacted for the summer but should be completed for the start of the school year.

Gala sponsorships are coming in. The board is encouraged to share the sponsorship opportunities with others. The Back-to-School party for staff is coming up on August 9th. Board members are invited to attend.

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Lee Fleming presented the Head of School report.

Administrators and some staff attended the New Tech conference that centered around Project Based Learning. It was very informative.

Administration (Kim Dawson, Alex Lopez, and Lee Fleming) attended the National Association of Secondary School Principals Conference this summer and enjoyed it. Discussions centered around the trends in Chronic Absenteeism increasing nationally and gaps in learning.

Samueli Academy hired a new music teacher for the upcoming school year. He has a background in School of Rock and will be a great addition to the music department. This was a result of the new Playing for Change partnership.

ORANGEWOOD FOUNDATION

Chris Simonsen presented the Orangewood Foundation update. YCP Staff have moved into the 3rd floor of the dorms and it seems to be working out well.

The program overall has good momentum. Chris Simonsen shared the Youth Surveys, Resource Family Surveys, and FFA Partnership Meeting data with the Board. All surveys were very positive.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

Liz Dorn Parker reviewed the May 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.

Operational Campaign numbers through May 2024 reviewed – Operational campaign is strong. This has been the best fundraising year to date.

Perimeter Security Camera Upgrades

Tyler Kunnel was present to share the background on the perimeter security camera upgrade project. The Board reviewed the information and recommendations for perimeter security camera upgrades. This is primarily due to the installation of the car port solar panels. It created several blind spots so these additional cameras will allow for increased perimeter security surveillance.

Chris Scheithauer made a motion to approve the ADP bid and recommendation by staff to move forward with ADP to make the perimeter security camera upgrades as presented. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 6 – yes and 0- Nays.

The Board thanked Tyler Kunnel for his 4 years of service with Orangewood Foundation. His last day with Orangewood/Samueli Academy is Friday.

Transfer of Video Surveillance to Cloud

Rick Wiepking was present to share background on the transfer of video surveillance to the cloud proposals. Rick presented the challenge and limitations of the current system and the reasoning behind the needed upgrades.

Sandi Jackson made a motion to approve the recommended proposal to transfer the video surveillance to the cloud. Susan Barua seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 6 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

GOVERNANCE

Board Attendance Matrix

Chris Scheithauer shared the Board Attendance Matrix for the 2023-2024 year. All board and committee attendance was reviewed.

ACADEMIC

2024-2025 Athletic Handbook

Richard Arum presented the 2024-2025 Athletic Handbook. There were only minor changes to this year's handbook. Mainly all grammatical changes.

Sandi Jackson made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Athletic Handbook as presented. Susan Barua seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 6 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

2024-2025 Parent / Student Handbook

Richard Arum presented the 2024-2025 Parent / Student Handbook. The Academic committee has reviewed the handbook and recommended approval. Changes for this year include more definitions in the Cyberbullying section and an upgraded Grading Policy for the school.

Sandi Jackson suggested adding Lee Fleming's contact information to page 1.

A motion was made by Susan Barua to approve the 2024-2025 Parent / Student Handbook with the addition of Lee Fleming's contact information included on page one. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 6 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Sandi Jackson and seconded by Susan Samueli to move into closed session to discuss the performance evaluations for the Executive Director, Head of School, and Chief Financial Officer. The motion carried with a vote of 6-Ayes and 0 – Nays.

OPEN SESSION

The Board of Trustees returned to open session. The board reviewed all performance evaluations and finalized and approved all 3 evaluations. These will now be sent on to the respective personnel files.

Liz Dorn-Parker made a motion to increase the salary of the Executive Director and Head of School by 5% retroactive to July 1, 2024 and to provide a one time off schedule payment to the Executive Director of $20,000 and to the Head of School of $15,000. 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 Liz Dorn Parker, and carried to approve the June 25, 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, August 27, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

RICHARD ARUM, SECRETARY