MINUTES
Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, July 22, 2025
6:00 PM
Samueli Academy
1901 N. Fairview St.
Santa Ana, CA 92706

ROLL CALL

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

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

Board of Trustees Absent:
Robert Santana

Guests Present:
None

CALL TO ORDER

Chris Scheithauer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed all attendees to the July 22, 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Liz Dorn Parker made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 24, 2025 Meeting. Susan Samueli seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes, 0 – Nays

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

REPORTS

BOARD CHAIR

None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/ HEAD OF SCHOOL

Anthony Saba presented the Executive Director report and the Head of School report. Campus is very busy these days. Several camps are happening on campus, including Girls Inc. camp and the Sunrise Day Camp.

The administration is working hard on the charter renewal document, and it is going well thus far.

ORANGEWOOD FOUNDATION

Chris Simonsen presented the Orangewood Foundation update. Since our last meeting there has been 1 male added to the program. That brings the total to 10 youth enrolled in the program (7 female and 3 male). There are currently 15 approved families.

Orangewood Foundation received a grant from Cal Optima for a pilot program with OC Probation youth. This program would house OC Probation youth on the 2nd floor of the dorm as they work to reintegrate back with their families. These youth would not attend Samueli Academy but would be transported each day to their home school.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

GOVERNANCE

The committee is working on performance evaluations and potential revisions to the lottery procedures.

FINANCE

Liz Dorn Parker reviewed the May 2025 Financial Statements. We are in a good financial position with reserves and cash on hand.

Anthony Saba reviewed the Annual Campaign financial information. It has been a great fundraising year thus far.

2024-2025 Shared Services Reconciliation

John Luker presented the 2024-2025 Shared Services Reconciliation.

Liz Dorn Parker made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Shared Services Agreement Reconciliation. Richard Arum seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 3 – Ayes (Arum, Scheithauer, and Dorn-Parker) ; 0 – Nays ; and 2 – Abstain (Jackson and Samueli).

ACADEMIC

2025-2026 Parent / Student Handbook

Richard Arum presented the 2025-2026 Parent/Student handbook. The notable changes include the No "D" Policy and the elimination of the A+ model.

The board reviewed the new policy in the handbook and grading scale and had some additional questions for Lee Fleming. Lee was unable to attend the board meeting tonight.

Liz Dorn-Parker made a motion to table the vote on this item for a special meeting to be held within the next week. Richard Arum seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Athletics Handbook

Richard Arum presented the updated Athletics Handbook. The only changes are new sports to be added (wrestling and swimming) and game day dress. The handbook also included that if a student is a no-show / no call for practice, they are suspended from participation.

Liz Dorn-Parker made a motion to approve the Athletics Handbook. Richard Arum seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

CLOSED SESSION

Liz Dorn-Parker made a motion to enter into closed session to review the performance evaluations of the Executive Director, Chief Financial Officer, and the Head of School. Richard Arum seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The board returned from closed session at 7:30 p.m. During the closed session, the board approved the performance evaluations for the Executive Director, Head of School, and CFO. These evaluations will be finalized and forwarded on to HR after the respective committees have met with each staff member.

Liz Dorn Parker made a motion to approve a 4% increase in compensation as budgeted for the Head of School and Executive Director. Richard Arum seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Liz Dorn-Parker made a motion to approve a one-time off-schedule payment of $15,000 for both the Executive Director and Head of School. Richard Arum seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Liz Dorn-Parker made a motion that the 4% increase in compensation would be retroactive back to July 1, 2025, and the one-time off-schedule payment will be on the next payroll that HR can accommodate. Richard Arum seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

ADJOURNMENT

Liz Dorn Parker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Susan Samueli seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

RICHARD ARUM, SECRETARY