MINUTES
Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, August 26, 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
Robert Santana

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

Board of Trustees Absent:
Susan Samueli

Guests Present:
None

CALL TO ORDER

Chris Scheithauer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed all attendees to the August 26, 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

Sandi Jackson made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 22, 2025 Meeting. Richard Arum seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes, 0 – Nays

Sandi Jackson made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 28, 2025 Meeting. Robert Santana seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes, 0 – Nays

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

REPORTS

BOARD CHAIR

None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Anthony Saba presented the Executive Director report. The campus is full with students. Great start to the year. The Samueli Academy Gala is one month away and there are a few sponsorships and tickets available. Please spread the word.

The OCDE Review is in one month and staff are preparing for the visit.

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Lee Fleming presented the Head of School Report. Campus is very busy. It has been a strong start to the year. The Class of 2026 is the founding 7th grade class of Samueli Academy. The Seniors took a trip to Six Flags Magic Mountain to start off the year and it was attended by at least 95% of the Senior class.

There are some new staff on campus which is always exciting. The first dinner in the dorms with administrative staff was held last night and it was a great experience for all.

ORANGEWOOD FOUNDATION

Chris Simonsen presented the Orangewood Foundation update. Three of the Samueli Academy graduates from YCP last year have started college. The program is almost 18 homes. The new program with probation is in process and we are looking to launch the program in October.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

GOVERNANCE

Student Enrollment and Public Random Drawing/Lottery

The Board reviewed the updated Student Enrollment and Public Random Drawing/Lottery policy. The policy was revised to reflect lottery is for 7th grade entry only and new wait list procedures. This policy has been approved by Governance and Academic Committees. Legal will review and it will be placed in the Charter Renewal.

A motion was made by Sandi Jackson to approve the Student Enrollment and Public Random Drawing/Lottery policy. Susan Samueli seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Dispute Resolution and Arbitration Agreement

The Dispute Resolution and Arbitration Agreement was reviewed. There are no changes. This is just the annual review.

Susan Samueli made a motion to approve the Dispute Resolution and Arbitration Agreement. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Board Retreat Update

Chris Scheithauer reminded board members that the board retreat will take place at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, October 13th. There will be a reception that follows, and your plus ones are invited. The reception will begin at 5:00 p.m.

FINANCE

Liz Dorn Parker reviewed the June 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 was a great fundraising year.

Transfer from SA Alumni Endowment to SA Operational Endowment

The Finance Committee presented the request to move $100,000 from the Alumni Endowment to the Operational Endowment.

A motion was made by Sandi Jackson to move $100,000 from the Alumni Endowment to the Operational Endowment. Robert Santana seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Move of Janitorial from Contract to In-House

John Luker presented the proposal to move Janitorial services from Contract to in-house and shared the benefits.

Sandi Jackson made a motion to approve the proposal to move Janitorial services from Contract to In-house. Susan Samueli seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

ACADEMIC

Comprehensive School Safety Plan

Richard Arum presented the updated Comprehensive School Safety Plan. This new plan includes the addition of a School Continuity Plan.

Sandi Jackson made a motion to approve the updated Comprehensive School Safety Plan. Richard Arum seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Sandi Jackson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Richard Arum seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

RICHARD ARUM, SECRETARY