MINUTES
Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, August 25, 2026
6:00 PM
Samueli Academy
1901 N. Fairview St.
Santa Ana, CA 92706

ROLL CALL

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

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

Board of Trustees Absent:
Susan Samueli
Robert Santana

Guests Present:

CALL TO ORDER

Chris Scheithauer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed all attendees to the August 25, 2026, 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Liz Dorn-Parker made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 28, 2026 Meeting. Richard Arum seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes, 0 – Nays.

REPORTS

CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Chris Scheithauer shared that the Governance Committee is working hard on planning the Board Retreat and he is excited about how it is coming together.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Anthony Saba presented the Executive Director report. The 2026 Samueli Academy Gala is coming up on Saturday, September 19th. It is going to be a great event. It has been a great start to the school year thus far.

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Lee Fleming shared the Head of School report. It has been a great start to the year. We have added the 2 new specialists this year (Literacy and Math) and it is going great. The new Athletic Director has been hired. Oscar Reyes is moving over to Athletics from Work-based Learning. We are in the process of hiring a new Work-based Learning Coordinator.

ORANGEWOOD FOUNDATION

Chris Simonsen presented the Orangewood Foundation update. There are currently 10 youth in the program and 2 placements in process. There are 3 probation youth in the program. Some successes for the program recently is that one student received his driver's permit, another received their Food Handlers Certificate, and another is a Library Assistant.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

GOVERNANCE

The Governance Committee is working on retreat planning with the facilitators and it is going well.

FINANCE

Liz Dorn-Parker reviewed the June 2026 Financial Statements.

Anthony Saba reviewed the Annual (Operational) Campaign financial information. We finished the fiscal year well above our financial goal.

Transfer from Samueli Academy General Operating to Facilities Reserve

John Luker shared the proposed transfer of $538,000 from the general operating account to Samueli Academy's separate facility reserve. This would bring the facilities reserve account to $1M.

A motion was made by Liz Dorn-Parker to transfer $538,000 from general operating to the facilities reserve. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Transfer from Fundraising to Endowment

John Luker shared the proposal of transferring $1,500,000 from the fundraising account to the Samueli Academy Operating Endowment fund.

Liz Dorn-Parker made a motion to transfer $1,500,000 from the fundraising account to the Samueli Academy operating endowment. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

ACADEMIC

CL-500 Declaration of Need

Richard Arum shared the CL-500 Declaration of Need form. This will be for 3 CTE teachers and 1 Physics teacher.

Richard Arum made a motion to approve the CL-500 Declaration of Need. Liz Dorn-Parker seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes and 0 – Nays

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Liz Dorn Parker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chris Scheithauer seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

RICHARD ARUM, SECRETARY