MINUTES
Board of Trustees Meeting
Monday, July 28, 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
Robert Santana
Richard Arum

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

Board of Trustees Absent:
Susan Samueli

Guests Present:

CALL TO ORDER

Chris Scheithauer called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and welcomed all attendees to the July 28, 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

Sandi Jackson made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 29, 2026 Meeting. Liz Dorn-Parker seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes, 0 – Nays.

REPORTS

CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Chris Scheithauer shared that the location of the Board Retreat has been determined and the retreat will be held at Orange Coast College. More details will follow.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Anthony Saba presented the Executive Director report. Camps are finishing up on campus. It has been a very busy summer at the school. Anthony attended the Annual Charter School meeting this morning and shared that Samueli Academy continues to be highly regarded in the Charter School community. The annual review by OCDE will take place on November 5th this year. Maureen Cox will no longer be our liaison to OCDE. The responsibilities for sites has shifted and we will have a new staff liaison. We will miss Maureen Cox and appreciate her dedication and guidance to Samueli Academy.

Anthony distributed and reviewed the year of excellence and achievements during the 2025-2026 school year.

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Lee Fleming shared the Head of School report. The Firewolf Foundations Camp is taking place this week on campus. All the incoming 7th graders and about 20-30 incoming high school students are in attendance. There are 145 students in total participating this week. The week culminates with an Angels Game on Friday night.

Staff return to campus next week for professional development days.

ORANGEWOOD FOUNDATION

Chris Simonsen presented the Orangewood Foundation update. The probation program has 3 males participating now. The Young Moms program has moved into the 1st floor of the dorms and there is 1 mom and child participating.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

GOVERNANCE

The Governance Committee reviewed all board member and committee member attendance over the past year. There are no areas of concern for any board or committee members. The Governance and Academic Committees are looking to recruit additional members. Any potential members please forward their information to Chris Scheithauer.

2026-2027 Shared Services Agreement

Chis Scheithauer presented the redline version of the 2026-2027 Shared Services Agreement for review. These redline edits were made by Administrative Staff and Legal.

Liz Dorn-Parker made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 Shared Services Agreement. Robert Santana seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes, 0 – Nays, and 1 – Abstain (Sandi Jackson)

FINANCE

Liz Dorn-Parker reviewed the May 2026 Financial Statements.

Anthony Saba reviewed the Annual (Operational) Campaign financial information.

Transfer of $100,000 from Alumni Support to Operational Endowment

Anthony Saba shared the proposed transfer of $100,000 from Alumni Support to Operational Endowment.

A motion was made by Sandi Jackson to transfer $100,000 from Alumni Support to the Operational Endowment. Liz Dorn-Parker seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Shared Services Additional Allocation

John Luker Shared Services Additional Allocation. The actual costs came in higher than anticipated costs. John Luker detailed these cost overages.

Liz Dorn-Parker made a motion to approve the Shared Services Additional Allocation. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 4 – Ayes, 0 – Nays, 1 – Abstain (Sandi Jackson).

ACADEMIC

2026-2027 Parent / Student Handbook

Richard Arum shared the updates and changes to the 2026-2027 Parent/Student Handbook.

Sandi Jackson made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 EPA Parent/Student Handbook as presented. Richard Arum seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays

2026-2027 Athletic Handbook

Richard Arum shared the updates and changes to the 2026-2027 Athletic Handbook.

Liz Dorn-Parker made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 Athletic Handbook as presented. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays

CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to California Gov. Code Sec. 54957, the Board will meet in a closed session to review performance evaluations for Executive Director, Head of School and CFO.

Sandi Jackson made a motion to move into closed session. Liz Dorn-Parker seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Report – Discussed performance evaluations for Executive Director, Head of School and CFO.

Performance Evaluations of the Head of School, Executive Director, and CFO

Liz Dorn-Parker made a motion to approve the Performance Evaluations of Executive Director, Head of School and CFO. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Resolution of the Board of Directors

Chris Scheithauer presented the resolution that was recommended by our attorneys to reflect the unique responsibilities and expertise of Samueli Academy's Executive Director. These expectations are slightly different than the responsibilities of others at local charter schools. This should be taken into consideration when determining the compensation.

The Year of Excellence data sheet from 2025-2026 was shared and exhibits excellence in all areas.

Add this to the Compliance Calendar for Governance to review in June each year.

Liz Dorn-Parker made a motion to approve the Resolution of the Board of Directors. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays

Compensation for the Executive Director and Head of School

Compensation Study was reviewed for both the Executive Director and Head of School.

Current compensation package for both the Executive Director and Head of School was reviewed.

Robert Santana made a motion to approve a 5% increase to base compensation for the Executive Director along with a $15,000 one time off schedule payment and the remainder of the compensation package the same. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5- Ayes and 0 – Nays.

Robert Santana made a motion to approve a 5% increase to base compensation for the Head of School along with a $15,000 one time off schedule payment, and the remainder of the compensation package the same. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion and the motion carried with a vote of: 5- Ayes and 0 – Nays.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Liz Dorn Parker made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sandi Jackson seconded the motion, and the motion carried with a vote of: 5 – Ayes and 0 – Nays.

RICHARD ARUM, SECRETARY