



Promise Academy I Charter School

A partner of



Harlem Children's
ZONE

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Achil Petit
Superintendent

KiKi Walton
Principal
Lower Elementary School
245 West 129th Street
New York, NY 10027
Tel 646.556.6290

Joseph Cordero
Principal
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Kashif Hameed
Principal
Middle School
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Zahida Aminy
Principal
High School
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New York, NY 10027
Tel 646.556.6275

AGENDA

Promise Academy I Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, April 19th, 2017

at

The Harlem Children's Zone
245 West 129th Street
New York, NY 10027

- I. Acceptance of the Minutes
- II. Superintendent's Updates (*Achil Petit*)
- III. Promise Academy I Updates
 - i. Lower Elementary School (*KiKi Walton*)
 - ii. Upper Elementary School (*Joseph Cordero*)
 - iii. Middle School (*Kashif Hameed*)
 - iv. High School (*Zahida Aminy*)
- IV. Board Member Election (*Anne Williams-Isom*)
- V. Financial Report (*Jim Hutter*)
- VI. Student Presentation (*Judy Palacios*)

The Harlem Children's Zone Promise Academy I Charter School

Board Meeting

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

245 West 129th Street

Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Stan Druckenmiller, Mitch Kurz, Anne Williams-Isom, Willie Mae Lewis, Alfonso Wyatt (via phone), Zahida Aminy, Candice Ashby, Leslie-Bernard Joseph, Ari Browne, Joseph Cordero, Tracey Costello, Annice Fisher, Tiffany Fountain, Michelle Germaine, Debbie Gonzalez, Kashif Hameed, Katherine Hurtado, Marilyn Joseph, Jim Hutter, Shondell James, Debbie Kim, Jazmine Lewis, Justin Maker, Mindy Miller, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Judy Palacios, Achil Petit, Sheryl Ragland, Susan Rydz, Lauren Scopaz, Marquitta Speller, KiKi Walton, Bessie Wilkerson, and Tonya White.

Acceptance of Minutes (Geoffrey Canada)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 am and a motion was called to approve the meeting minutes from February 28, 2017. The motion was unanimously approved.

Superintendent's Updates (Achil Petit)

Anne Williams-Isom presented a draft newsletter to the Board of Trustees for their review and feedback. The newsletter highlights events and initiatives across Promise Academy schools and will be distributed to parents.

Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is at 1,116 for Promise Academy I and at 977 for Promise Academy II.

Dr. Petit also spoke on test preparation reporting that scholar attendance at Saturday Academy has increased and scholars are doing well. He also reported that Chairman Geoffrey Canada's presence at Saturday Academy was inspiring to the teachers.

Dr. Petit reported that town hall meetings took place on March 6th to inform parents about the change in the summer program for both PAI and PAII. He reminded the Board that students requiring additional academic help will attend an intensive academic program to ensure that they reach grade level. Scholars who do not require additional academic support will attend HCZ's summer enrichment camp, which will provide a combination of academics, sports and fun activities.

Geoffrey Canada commended the principals and the teachers for the Saturday Academy program, which he reported was well structured and the staff members, energetic.

HCZ Promise Academy I Lower Elementary School (KiKi Walton)

The lower elementary school's attendance was at 95% for February. The school will continue to work with parents to ensure that attendance is increasing.

Kindergarten students are in their “All About Books” writing units of study, choosing topics they’re familiar with and that they can teach to others. First- and second-graders are writing like scientists, creating lab reports, observing science experiments in the classroom, taking notes, and reporting out.

March was Mindfulness Month at lower elementary. The creative movement teacher has been guiding the students through various breathing and stretching activities to help center them. At the end of the month, there will be a culminating activity to show what they’ve learned. There will also be a three-part mindfulness event for parents. The social work team will come in and provide additional information to teach parents self-care and to reduce their stress levels.

This month, the school started “Read with Me Wednesday” with the HCZ Uptown Gems program. Assistant Principal Amy Deal escorted a few students to the Gems site, where lower elementary students read to the pre-kindergarten students. The school will repeat the effort later in the school year at the Singleton Early Childhood site.

The garden grower series at Swindler’s Cove has continued, with kindergarten students exploring habitats, and first and second-graders planting, tending to the plants, taking notes, and reporting.

HCZ Promise Academy I Upper Elementary School (Joseph Cordero)

The upper elementary school’s attendance was at 95% for February. A bout of the flu and the winter snowstorm affected attendance but the school continues to work with parents.

The school continues its “4T” strategy for state exam preparation. Children are practicing multiple choice, open response questions for math, and short and extended response questions for ELA. More than a third of the school has been attending Saturday Academy each week. A Winter Academy was held over the mid-winter recess and guidance counselors have sent home tips for parents to help children prepare for the exams such as getting a good night’s sleep and reinforcing positive encouragement.

To support the teachers during testing time, the school set up a snack cart for staff. The teachers were very appreciative.

Teachers held a sip and paint for third- and fourth-graders that have received 80 or more on the mock exams. Scholars painted and drank apple cider in the library.

The fifth-grade GLAM girls had a workshop on the language of peer aggression and how effective communication can turn a negative situation to a positive one.

The book of the month was “A Bad Case of the Stripes” by David Shannon, which focuses on the character trait “pride”.

The boys basketball team won the championship and will be playing at Fordham University as one of the four remaining teams in the city.

HCZ Promise Academy I Middle School (Kashif Hameed)

The middle school’s attendance was at 97% for February. Students and families responded well to incentives and initiatives for the month.

Black History Month celebrations were completed with a commemoration of the 53rd anniversary of the Alabama march from Selma to Montgomery. Students viewed clips from the motion picture, "Selma", were presented with some historical facts about the event and had a moment of silence in appreciation. The middle school brought more than 300 students to the Museum of African American History in Washington, D.C. during the month of February.

The Development department worked with the Charles Hayden Foundation to arrange for 25 middle school students to attend West Point for two weeks. Male students will have the opportunity to receive academic instruction and sports coaching at the prestigious military academy during most of the day but will start and end their day at Promise Academy.

The middle school girls basketball team won the CSAA (Charter School Athletic Association) Manhattan Region and scholar K. Hough won MVP for her region.

The school is preparing students for the upcoming ELA exams with small group instruction, Saturday Academy and a Pep Rally to reduce stress levels.

HCZ Promise Academy I High School (Zahida Aminy)

The high school's attendance was at 91% for February. The school continues efforts to get students to school every day and on time.

Currently each senior student has received at least two college acceptances from schools including Syracuse University, Ithaca College, Morehouse College, Yukon College, Pennsylvania State University, and Bard College. School leaders continue to encourage students to apply for external scholarships.

School leaders are focusing on retaining rising ninth-graders by highlighting to parents the different advanced programs that Promise Academy I High School has to offer. A formal open house is being scheduled for both PAI and PAII high schools.

The school is holding a "Pi-Day" celebration to encourage students in the area of math.

On March 18th, 30 high school girls attended the 10th Annual Sista-2-Sista Youth Summit, a two-day empowerment summit connecting 200 high school girls of African descent from underserved areas across NYC with women making a difference in the areas of media, health and wellness, entertainment, education and personal growth.

The boys and girls basketball teams won in the CSAA semi-finals.

A video was shown that presented highlights from the Black History Month showcase. High school students recited speeches and spoken word poetry, danced and sang.

Financial Report (Jim Hutter)

The HCZ contribution through eight months of FY17 is \$200,000 favorable vs the budget. PAI's enrollment is at 1,116, which is one favorable versus the budget. PAI is \$200,000 favorable with expenses.

A Grant Thornton compliance report has been filed with OMB.

HCZ Promise Academy I

March 2017 Attendance Report

HCZ PAI Lower Elementary School				HCZ PAI Upper Elementary School			
Date	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present	
3/1	8	292	97%	4	291	99%	
3/2	11	292	96%	5	291	98%	
3/3	9	291	97%	6	291	98%	
3/6	20	291	93%	10	291	97%	
3/7	10	291	97%	5	291	98%	
3/8	14	291	95%	3	291	99%	
3/9	5	291	98%	14	291	95%	
3/10	17	291	94%	5	291	98%	
3/13	12	291	96%	17	291	94%	
3/15	22	291	92%	26	291	91%	
3/16	18	291	94%	11	291	96%	
3/17	10	291	97%	8	291	97%	
3/20	8	291	97%	9	291	97%	
3/21	4	291	99%	4	291	99%	
3/22	11	291	96%	11	291	96%	
3/23	6	291	98%	5	291	98%	
3/24	13	291	96%	6	291	98%	
3/27	14	291	95%	4	291	99%	
3/28	6	291	98%	1	291	100%	
3/29	9	291	97%	2	290	99%	
3/30	11	291	96%	1	290	100%	
3/31	10	291	97%	20	290	93%	
Average	11	291	96%	8	291	97%	

HCZ Promise Academy I

March 2017 Attendance Report

HCZ PAI Middle School				HCZ PAI High School			
Date	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present	
3/1	4	267	99%	15	269	94%	
3/2	5	266	98%	14	269	95%	
3/3	2	266	99%	13	269	95%	
3/6	10	266	96%	24	269	91%	
3/7	5	266	98%	14	269	95%	
3/8	4	266	98%	15	269	94%	
3/9	4	266	98%	19	269	93%	
3/10	11	266	96%	31	269	88%	
3/13	2	266	99%	14	269	95%	
3/15	18	266	93%	34	268	87%	
3/16	6	266	98%	22	268	92%	
3/17	11	266	96%	22	268	92%	
3/20	5	266	98%	18	268	93%	
3/21	5	266	98%	12	268	96%	
3/22	3	266	99%	18	268	93%	
3/23	1	266	100%	18	268	93%	
3/24	4	266	98%	24	268	91%	
3/27	9	266	97%	27	268	90%	
3/28	2	266	99%	30	268	89%	
3/29	2	266	99%	26	268	90%	
3/30	0	265	100%	44	268	84%	
3/31	8	265	97%	33	268	88%	
Average	6	266	98%	22	268	92%	

Ellanor N. Brizendine
1088 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10128

Education

Johns Hopkins University
M.L.A. 1980
Towson State University
B.S. English, 1976

Teaching and Administrative Experience

2007-Present	The Spence School New York, New York	Head of School
1995-2007	Marin Academy San Rafael, California	Head of School
1994-1995	The Bryn Mawr School Baltimore, Maryland	Interim Head
1990-1994	San Francisco University High School San Francisco, California	Dean of Students Assistant to the Head English Teacher
1981-1990	The Bryn Mawr School Baltimore, Maryland	Director of Outreach Director of Admissions and Financial Aid English Teacher & Dean
1977-1979	Immaculate Heart of Mary Baltimore, Maryland	English Teacher

Trusteeships (current and past)

- ◆ School Year Abroad (2013-present)
- ◆ A Better Chance (2012-2016)
- ◆ The Country Day School Headmasters' Association of the United States, President (2016-2017)
- ◆ Early Steps (2012-present)
- ◆ Teach for America (2012-present)
- ◆ Summer Steps (2011-present)
- ◆ The Guild of Independent Schools (2009 – present)
- ◆ Bay Area Teacher Development Collaborative (2002 – 2007)
- ◆ The Hamlin School (2001 – 2007)
- ◆ California Association of Independent Schools (1999 – 2003)
- ◆ Marin Horizon School (1999 – 2002)
- ◆ Independent Educational Services (1997 – 2001)
- ◆ National Association of Principal of Schools for Girls (1996 – 1999)
President (2003 – 2007)
- ◆ Katherine Delmar Burke School (1993 - 1999)

Trusteeships continued...

- ◆ Mid-Atlantic Multicultural Alliance, Advisory Board (1994 – 1996)
- ◆ Summerbridge Advisory Board, San Francisco (1991 - 1996)

Professional Activities

- ◆ NYSAIS Commission on Accrediation (2012 – present)
- ◆ Interschool
- ◆ Member, Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand's Education Working Group (2009-present)
- ◆ ISAAGNY Committee on Trustees (2009 – present)
- ◆ Member, Education Advisory Council, New York University Child Study Center (2007-2009)
- ◆ Faculty Member, NAIS: Institute For New Heads (2001 – 2009)
- ◆ Consultant, The George Lucas Educational Foundation (1996 – 2000)
- ◆ Workshop Presenter at NAIS, IES, CAIS, and The Multicultural Alliance
- ◆ Chair of accreditation teams for WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission for Schools) (1998 – 2007)
- ◆ Director of Beginning Teachers Institute (with California Association of Independent Schools and Association of Independent Schools of Maryland) (1986 – 1993)
- ◆ Evaluator, Multicultural Assessment Program (NAIS) (1989 – 1992)
- ◆ Coordinator, Independent Schools and Children at Risk Conference (Bryn Mawr School 1990)
- ◆ Fellowship, Geraldine Dodge Seminar on Inclusive Curriculum with Peggy McIntosh (1985 – 1986)

Memberships

- ◆ New York Interschool (2007-present)
- ◆ National Association of Principal of Schools for Girls (1996 – present)
- ◆ The Country Day School Headmasters' Association of the United States (1999 – present)
- ◆ Headmistresses of the East (1997 – present)

Promise Academy I
FY 2017 March YTD Budget vs. Actual
 \$ millions

	Budget	Actual ⁽¹⁾	Fav/(Unfav)	Full Year Budget
Enrollment Grades	1,115 K - 12	1,113 K - 12	(2)	1,115 K - 12
DOE and other gov't funding	\$ 14.1	\$ 14.0	\$ (0.1)	\$ 18.8
Expenses:				
Salaries	8.8	8.7	0.1	12.0
Benefits	3.2	3.1	0.1	4.3
OTPS	2.9	2.8	0.1	3.9
Total Expenses	14.9	14.6	0.3	20.2
HCZ Contribution	\$ 0.8	\$ 0.6	\$ 0.2	\$ 1.4
per student (whole \$)	\$ 717	\$ 539	\$ 178	\$ 1,256

(1) Excludes bonus, growth fund, occupancy and "in-kind" contributions.

Budget amounts have been adjusted to better reflect anticipated 2017 activity.