



Promise Academy I Charter School

A partner of



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ZONE**

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

**Joseph Cordero
Principal
Upper Elementary School
245 West 129th Street
New York, NY 10027
Tel 646.556.6271**

**Kashif Hameed
Principal
Middle School
245 West 129th Street
New York, NY 10027
Tel 646.556.6273**

**Zahida Aminy
Principal
High School
245 West 129th Street
New York, NY 10027
Tel 646.556.6275**

AGENDA

Promise Academy I Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, February 28th, 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. Financial Report (*Jim Hutter*)

The Harlem Children's Zone Promise Academy I Charter School

Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 11th, 2017

245 West 129th Street

Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Mitch Kurz, Anne Williams-Isom, Fatime Cadoo, Stan Druckenmiller, Zahida Aminy, Candice Ashby, Leslie-Bernard Joseph, Ashley Blount, Ari Browne, Alpha Conteh, Joseph Cordero, Tracey Costello, Tiffany Fountain, Michelle Germaine, Debbie Gonzalez, Kashif Hameed, Jim Hutter, Katrina James, Shondell James, Raychael Jensen, Betina Jean-Louis, Justin Maker, Mindy Miller, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Judy Palacios, Achil Petit, Conrad Pinnock, Sheryl Ragland, Susan Rydz, Lauren Scopaz, Marquitta Speller, KiKi Walton, 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 November 16, 2016. The motion was unanimously approved.

Superintendent's Updates (Achil Petit)

Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is at 1,131 for Promise Academy I and at 984 for Promise Academy II.

Dr. Petit thanked the Development department for connecting with Simon and Schuster, which donated 15,000 books to Promise Academy.

Preparations for the New York State exams have begun. Students are scheduled to take the ELA exams from March 28th to March 30th.

HCZ Promise Academy I Lower Elementary School (KiKi Walton)

The lower elementary school's attendance was at 94% for the month of November and 94% for the month of December. The school continues efforts to improve attendance.

Kindergarten students are working on procedural writing by learning how to write step-by-step instructions. First-graders are writing opinion pieces along with information that supports their ideas. Second-graders are working with poetry and using figurative language.

The school held a character education assembly, where students presented poetry and skits with the theme of the character trait assigned to their class.

The school held holiday caroling, where music teachers brought groups of students to different classrooms to sing holiday songs.

Before the Christmas break, staff had a baby picture competition where they brought in a baby picture to paste on the wall of the conference room. Staff members had a great time trying to match the baby pictures with the appropriate co-workers.

The high school students who had visited the Island School last year, worked with the school's second-graders in science. The high school students shared their experience in the Bahamas with the young students and interacted with them.

The elementary school had a Take & Go Breakfast for the parents. As parents dropped off their young ones, they were able to take a cup of coffee and muffin. The school also gave out adhesive card holders to parents with the Promise Academy logo.

The school is holding its 100th day celebration this coming Friday, where students will do various projects in the classroom and share it among their classmates.

HCZ Promise Academy I Upper Elementary School (Joseph Cordero)

The upper elementary school's attendance was at 96% for the month of November and 96% for the month of December.

The school is preparing for the upcoming State tests with a four-step approach. (1) Identifying students who need the most help; (2) providing after school intervention to about 70 students; (3) providing additional help during Saturday Academy; and (4) planning for small group instruction during the winter breaks.

PAI and PAII third-graders that are in "code camp" with the Spence School created design programs.

The school's service class decided to do a canned-food drive just before the Christmas break and donated over 150 cans to the Salem Church food pantry.

The upper elementary school had a math night for parents to review what children are learning in class.

Students took a trip to the Museum of Arts and Design where they had the opportunity to look at a fusion of math, marine biology, and feminist art practices. They looked at and created large landscapes of plastic and yarn.

The school held a top-performer trip to see "A Christmas Carol" downtown with 165 students attending.

The school held a winter showcase in December with 314 guests attending.

The book of the month was "The Dandelion Seed" which focused on bravery, the character trait of the month.

The school's GLAM girls club held "hot chocolate chats" to discuss what they were planning over the holidays.

The school held spirit days as an incentive to get children to come to school just before the holidays, which is typically a challenging time for attendance.

HCZ Promise Academy I Middle School (Kashif Hameed)

The middle school's attendance was at 96% for the month of November and 96% for the month of December. The school continues efforts to keep attendance up with incentives for parents and students.

The school is focusing on test preparation, especially for students who need additional support. School leaders are talking about how best to meet the needs of struggling students. The school has partnered with college students/tutors, who are helping with small group instruction during the after school program.

The social work team connected the middle school teachers with an art therapy group to give them a chance to de-stress during high peak times.

HCZ Promise Academy I High School (Zahida Aminy)

The high school's attendance was at 96% for the month of November and 93% for the month of December. The school is continuing to follow up during parent meetings to improve attendance.

The high school is focusing on test preparation for the January Regents exams.

The freshman class read the play "Fences" by August Wilson as a part of their ninth-grade ELA curriculum. The students were then taken to see the Oscar-nominated film so that they could see an interpretation of what they read. To promote STEM and empowerment, female high school students are being taken to see the Oscar-nominated film "Hidden Figures" about three African-American women who worked at NASA during the first American orbital flight.

The school is continuing to provide professional development for teachers through Promise's partnerships with Bard and the Penn Literacy Network. Last month, the school had select teachers create and run mini professional development sessions for the entire staff.

In early December, the high school had onsite admissions office visits from the University at Buffalo. Two of the high school students received immediate acceptances. Seniors are beginning to receive acceptances from different schools.

The guidance and college teams from both PAI and PAII are continuing joint sessions and aligning processes to provide students with the best and strongest support. As the applications are complete, the school's next push is for the scholarship applications and making sure scholars are choosing the schools best-suited for them. The principal also thanked board member Mitch Kurz for his support and guidance in meeting with the high school team last week.

A freshman was selected and honored by the National Council of Negro Women for her academic success, her overall character and her consistent community service.

A select group of seniors participated in community service with the Habitat for Humanities in November and December.

Three of our sophomores who attended the Island School trip worked with PAI second-graders to teach them about the work they did in the Bahamas. The high school students communicated a new respect for teachers and the challenges they face.

Students who are part of the National Honor Society worked with the student body to send handwritten “thank you” letters to soldiers currently deployed in Iraq for the holidays.

The school held homecoming last week with Promise Academy alumni students from PAI participating in a panel discussion about college life and the transition from high school to college. The event ended with alumni games in volleyball and basketball.

Financial Report (Jim Hutter)

The HCZ contribution through six months of FY17 is on target. PAI’s enrollment is at 1,131, which is 16 favorable. PAI is on target with expenses.

HCZ Promise Academy I January 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	
1/3	23	295	92%	17	292	94%	
1/4	15	294	95%	11	292	96%	
1/5	16	294	95%	15	292	95%	
1/6	15	294	95%	12	292	96%	
1/9	12	294	96%	12	293	96%	
1/10	8	294	97%	5	293	98%	
1/11	9	294	97%	7	293	98%	
1/12	8	294	97%	8	293	97%	
1/13	18	294	94%	11	293	96%	
1/17	16	294	95%	8	293	97%	
1/18	19	294	94%	12	293	96%	
1/19	16	293	95%	11	293	96%	
1/20	16	293	95%	6	293	98%	
1/23	30	293	90%	23	293	92%	
1/24	21	293	93%	24	293	92%	
1/25	22	293	92%	4	293	99%	
1/26	22	293	92%	14	293	95%	
1/27	25	293	91%	14	293	95%	
1/30	18	293	94%	15	293	95%	
1/31	16	293	95%	13	293	96%	
Average	17	294	94%	12	293	96%	

HCZ Promise Academy I January 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			
1/3	17	270	94%	16	273	94%			
1/4	14	270	95%	13	272	95%			
1/5	7	269	97%	18	272	93%			
1/6	9	269	97%	16	272	94%			
1/9	13	269	95%	20	272	93%			
1/10	7	269	97%	16	272	94%			
1/11	8	269	97%	16	272	94%			
1/12	7	269	97%	11	272	96%			
1/13	6	269	98%	20	272	93%			
1/17	13	269	95%	16	272	94%			
1/18	2	269	99%	16	272	94%			
1/19	0	269	100%	13	272	95%			
1/20	5	269	98%	19	272	93%			
1/23	11	269	96%	45	272	83%			
1/24	12	268	96%	Regents Tests					
1/25	11	268	96%						
1/26	3	268	99%						
1/27	7	268	97%						
1/30	4	268	99%						
1/31	4	268	99%	20	271	93%			
Average	8	269	97%	15	271	94%			
				18	272	93%			

Promise Academy I

FY 2017 January YTD Budget vs. Actual

\$ millions

	Budget	Actual ⁽¹⁾	Fav/(Unfav)	Full Year Budget
Enrollment	1,115	1,122	7	1,115
Grades	K - 12	K - 12		K - 12
DOE and other gov't funding	\$ 11.0	\$ 11.0	\$ -	\$ 18.8
Expenses:				
Salaries	6.9	6.8	0.1	12.0
Benefits	2.5	2.4	0.1	4.3
OTPS	2.2	2.3	(0.1)	3.9
Total Expenses	11.6	11.5	0.1	20.2
HCZ Contribution	\$ 0.6	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.1	\$ 1.4
per student (whole \$)	\$ 538	\$ 446	\$ 92	\$ 1,256

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

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