



# Promise Academy I Charter School

A partner of



**Harlem Children's  
ZONE**

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**KiKi Walton**

**Principal**

**Lower Elementary School**

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**New York, NY 10027**

**Tel 646.556.6290**

**Joseph Cordero**

**Principal**

**Upper Elementary School**

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**Kashif Hameed**

**Principal**

**Middle School**

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**Zahida Aminy**

**Principal**

**High School**

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**Tel 646.556.6275**

## AGENDA

**Promise Academy I Board of Trustees Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**at**

**The Harlem Children's Zone**

**245 West 129<sup>th</sup> Street**

**New York, NY 10027**

- I. Acceptance of the Minutes
- II. Superintendent's Updates (*Achil Petit*)
- III. College Readiness Updates (*Marquitta Speller*)
- IV. 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*)
- V. Financial Report (*Jim Hutter*)
- VI. Student Presentation (*Kashif Hameed*)

**The Harlem Children's Zone Promise Academy I Charter School**

**Board Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 10, 2018**

**245 West 129th Street**

*Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Mitch Kurz, Anne Williams-Isom, Ellanor "Bodie" Brizendine, Fatime Cadoo, Stan Druckenmiller, Willie Mae Lewis, Alfonso Wyatt (via phone), Zahida Aminy, Candice Ashby, Ari Browne, Alpha Conteh, Joseph Cordero, Tiffany Fountain, Sherri Geng, Michelle Germaine, Debbie Gonzalez, Kashif Hameed, Jim Hutter, Katherine Hurtado, Katrina James, Shondell James, Betina Jean-Louis, Tracey Jenkins, Leslie-Bernard Joseph, Marilyn Joseph, Jazmine Lewis, Justin Maker, Mindy Miller, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Judy Palacios, Achil Petit, Sheryl Ragland, Jessica Rawlins, Susan Rydz, Marquitta Speller, Toya Stilley, KiKi Walton, and Bessie Wilkerson.*

**Acceptance of Minutes (Geoffrey Canada)**

The meeting was called to order at 7 a.m. and a motion was called to approve the meeting minutes from March 14, 2018. The motion was unanimously approved.

**CEO's Report (Anne Williams-Isom)**

Anne Williams-Isom reported that the HCZ Values are in the process of being rolled out to staff members in an initiative that is intended to align the culture of the organization across all programs.

Ms. Williams-Isom reminded the board that the evening of April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018, scholars who participate in the Forces of Nature dance company will perform at Aaron Davis Hall.

Ms. Williams-Isom also reported that a former student who later became an employee at HCZ, Cirtrondon Legrand, Jr., passed away and was honored at his funeral with testimonies that included his love for the game of chess.

**Superintendent's Update (Achil Petit)**

Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is at 1,138 for Promise Academy I and at 993 for Promise Academy II.

**College Readiness Updates (Marquitta Speller)**

Dr. Speller reported that to date, 100% of Promise Academy high school seniors have been accepted into at least one college. High-school students are currently in the process of starting the transition to working with the College Success Office (CSO). The high school principals are meeting with the CSO team to review each student's academic records in order to guide them into their first year of college.

On April 10, 2018, 43 high school students will be interviewing for the Geoffrey Canada scholarship. Across the zone, 180 students have applied for the scholarship, which are 20% more scholars than last year.

Dr. Speller introduced three seniors who are top students from Promise Academy I and II. The three students have all been accepted into top colleges, including University of Buffalo, Pace University, Stony Brook University, University of Pennsylvania and Cornell University.

### **HCZ Promise Academy I Lower Elementary School (KiKi Walton)**

The lower elementary school's attendance was at 95% for March. There were a few low days of attendance at the beginning of the month due to inclement weather. The school continues efforts by using incentives to get students into school every day.

Lower elementary celebrated Women's History Month with teachers and scholars discussing women who have made significant contributions to their community. Students also read and learned about historically significant women of color such as Billie Holiday, Zora Neale Hurston and Dr. Betty Shabazz.

The school held a spirit week with different events every day before the spring break.

Lower elementary held another financial literacy workshop this year for parents. The workshop encouraged parents to have conversations with their children around saving money for the future. Marilyn Joseph, senior manager of the Parent Center, recommended the book to parents, *Make Your Kid a Money Genius (Even if You're Not)* by Beth Kobliner. Parents also discussed budgeting and saving for college. Scholars were allowed to attend and ask questions.

### **HCZ Promise Academy I Upper Elementary School (Joseph Cordero)**

The upper elementary school's attendance was at 96% for March. The lowest attendance day was due to a nor'easter. In February, some scholars were absent due to cold and flu.

In March, the school's top performers went to see *Cinderella* at the Player's Theater in downtown Manhattan.

Upper elementary held a mini-Olympics where parents paired off with students to engage in a series of athletic activities.

School leaders took fourth-graders to the Brooklyn Super Hero Supply Company where they had the opportunity to talk about storytelling. The students also participated in a bookmaking workshop. A few students are independently working on their own comic book.

Chef Andrew and the school's culinary staff talked to the scholars at and held an event called, Fraction Pizza. Scholars were able to take the lesson and apply it to making pizzas.

The book of the month was *The Rainbow Fish* by Marcus Pfister, which explored the character trait "generosity." Some HCZ staff members participated by reading to the scholars and having discussions on the character trait.

### **HCZ Promise Academy I Middle School (Kashif Hameed)**

The middle school's attendance was at 96% for March.

Both teachers and students have stayed positive about the upcoming State exams. Teachers and academic coaches have been preparing students using data driven and small group instruction.

The school held an ELA Olympics for further test preparation. Scholars were given T-shirts with college logos to represent their different teams. In the afternoons, scholars are allowed to engage in a physical activity to keep stress levels down.

### **HCZ Promise Academy I High School (Zahida Aminy)**

The high school's attendance was at 93% for March. The lowest attendance day was due to inclement weather.

For Women's History Month, students and staff identified facts about women's contributions in various fields and discussed the subject during the morning announcements.

The school hosted its spring parent/teacher conferences at the end of March to review the scholars' progress mid-way through the second term.

The high school is continuing its partnership with West Point Academy. Before spring break, 30 scholars in 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grades participated with West Point cadets in a character-building and leadership workshop.

A committee will be interviewing 11 seniors today for HCZ scholarships. The principal thanked Senior Director Katrina James and the college readiness team for the work they've been doing with the seniors.

Two high school sophomores sang the national anthem at the Jordan Brand Classic game, a basketball game played annually in April, which features the best and most highly recruited high school boy seniors across the nation. The scholars sang from center court. The principal thanked senior manager Leslie-Bernard Joseph for his help in providing the opportunity for the scholars.

The principal also thanked Coach Tiffany Harper and the Lady Panthers, who recently won the varsity basketball championship. Coach Tiffany has been working with the scholars throughout their high-school careers.

### **Athletic Presentation (Leslie-Bernard Joseph)**

Leslie-Bernard Joseph, the senior manager for Promise Academy programs and academic intervention support introduced members of the athletic team and some of the scholars in the athletic program.

Chiené Joy Jones, a director of athletics for Promise Academy II, spoke about the current focus of the athletics department. Ms. Jones joined the organization by way of New York University, where she was a first assistant and recruiting coordinator for the women's basketball team for four years. Before working at NYU, she played for six years on the NYU Women's Basketball team. Ms. Jones' main focus as an athletic director for HCZ has been to help athletic students go to college on full scholarships.

Lawrence Tolbert, a coach at Promise Academy for 12 years, talked about the three years in a row that his team won the championship.

Tiffany Harper, who has been with Harlem Children's Zone for 16 years, spoke about the varsity basketball championship and how pleased the seniors were to have been rewarded for all of their hard work throughout the year.

Promise Academy high school seniors spoke about their experiences in their respective athletics teams. The scholars participate on the varsity basketball and/or varsity volleyball teams and communicated the important character traits that they learned in athletics. All of the students have been accepted into colleges including University of Buffalo, Georgia State, Syracuse University, Bowdoin College, Villanova University, Penn State, University of Virginia, New England College, University of Vermont and University of Delaware. Students will major in subjects such as criminal justice, biology, animal science, sociology and political science.

**Financial Report (Jim Hutter)**

PAI's enrollment is at 1,138, which is one student favorable versus the budget. PAI revenue is \$300,000 favorable versus the budget. PAI is \$800,000 favorable with expenses at \$14.6M. The HCZ contribution through nine months of FY18 is \$800,000 favorable.

# HCZ Promise Academy I

## April 2018 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	
4/9	16	323	95%	8	292	97%	
4/10	9	323	97%	7	292	98%	
4/11	7	324	98%	2	292	99%	
4/12	2	324	99%	1	292	100%	
4/13	7	324	98%	12	292	96%	
4/16	30	324	91%	20	292	93%	
4/17	9	324	97%	7	292	98%	
4/18	4	324	99%	6	292	98%	
4/19	47	324	85%	13	292	96%	
4/20	9	324	97%	38	292	87%	
4/23	12	324	96%	8	292	97%	
4/24	9	324	97%	7	292	98%	
4/25	12	324	96%	13	292	96%	
4/26	11	324	97%	17	292	94%	
4/27	14	324	96%	11	292	96%	
4/30	13	324	96%	5	292	98%	
<b>Average</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>96%</b>	

# HCZ Promise Academy I

## April 2018 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
4/9	7	254	97%	11	268	96%
4/10	6	254	98%	18	268	93%
4/11	1	254	100%	22	268	92%
4/12	2	254	99%	22	268	92%
4/13	5	254	98%	18	268	93%
4/16	21	254	92%	21	268	92%
4/17	6	254	98%	15	268	94%
4/18	5	254	98%	9	268	97%
4/19	5	254	98%	16	268	94%
4/20	5	254	98%	21	268	92%
4/23	4	254	98%	12	268	96%
4/24	1	254	100%	20	268	93%
4/25	7	254	97%	34	268	87%
4/26	4	254	98%	20	268	93%
4/27	9	254	96%	45	268	83%
4/30	7	254	97%	23	268	91%
<b>Average</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>92%</b>



**Promise Academy I**  
**FY 2018 Apr YTD Budget vs. Actual**  
 \$ millions

	Budget	Actual <sup>(1)</sup>	Fav/(Unfav)	Full Year Budget
Enrollment	1,137	1,137	-	1,137
DOE and other gov't funding	\$ 16.3	\$ 16.7	\$ 0.4	\$ 19.5
Expenses:				
Salaries	10.0	9.5	0.5	12.4
Benefits	3.7	3.6	0.1	4.5
OTPS	3.1	3.1	-	3.8
Total Expenses	16.8	16.2	0.6	20.7
HCZ Contribution	\$ 0.6	\$ -	\$ 0.6	\$ 1.2
per student (whole \$)	\$ 484	\$ -	\$ 484	\$ 1,055

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

Budget amounts have been adjusted to better reflect anticipated 2018 activity.