



# Promise Academy Charter School

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Harlem Children's  
**ZONE**

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Stanley Druckenmiller

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Mitch Kurz

Willie Mae Lewis

Aisha Tomlinson

Alfonso Wyatt

Tonya L. White

**Lower Elementary School**

**Principal**

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

New York, NY 10027

Tel 646.556.6290

Achil Petit

**Upper Elementary School**

**Principal**

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

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Shakira Petit

**Middle School**

**Principal**

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

New York, NY 10027

Tel 646.556.6273

Marquitta T. Speller

**High School**

**Principal**

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

New York, NY 10027

Tel 646.556.6275

## AGENDA

Promise Academy I Board of Trustees Meeting  
Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014

at

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

- I. Acceptance of the Minutes
- II. Overall Updates
  - i. Verizon Wireless Cellular Resolution (*Lauren Scopaz*)
  - ii. Charter Renewal (*Sharleen Morris*)
- III. Promise Academy I Updates
  - i. Lower Elementary School (*Tonya White*)
  - ii. Upper Elementary School (*Achil Petit*)
  - iii. Middle School (*Shakira Petit*)
  - iv. High School (*Marquitta Speller*)
- IV. Girls Athletic Team Highlights (*Shakira Petit*)
- V. Financial Report (*Alpha Conteh*)

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

**Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**245 West 129th Street**

*Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Stan Druckenmiller, Arlene Gibson, Mitch Kurz, Willie-Mae Lewis, Aisha Tomlinson, Alfonso Wyatt (via phone), Candice Ashby, Shana Brodnax, Alpha Conteh, Tracey Costello, Kevin Dougherty, Kathleen Fernald, Tiffany Fountain, Marlene Fox, Michelle Germaine, Debbie Gonzalez, Betina Jean-Louis, Marilyn Joseph, George Khaldun, Debbie Kim, Mindy Miller, Sharleen Morris, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Asif Padela, Achil Petit, Shakira Petit, Conrad Pinnock, Sheryl Ragland, Susan Rydz, Lauren Scopaz, Kate Shoemaker, Marquitta Speller, Tonya White, Bessie Wilkerson and Anne Williams-Isom*

**Acceptance of Minutes (Stan Druckenmiller)**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 am and a motion was called to approve the meeting minutes from December 18, 2013. The motion was unanimously approved.

**State of the Agency Announcement**

In January, Mr. Canada announced that he would be stepping down as CEO of the Harlem Children's Zone this summer. Current COO, Anne Williams-Isom, will take over the role, and Mr. Canada will continue as President of the organization. Mr. Canada congratulated everyone on their teamwork and Nancy Roob, the President of the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation, gave an especially poignant speech that was deeply appreciated by the board members and the HCZ team.

**Charter School Advocacy Day**

On Charter School Advocacy Day, 1200 parents and staff from various charter schools joined together in Albany, New York, to discuss the legislation proposed by Governor Cuomo that charter schools be allowed to provide pre-kindergarten classes. The event was successful with thirty staff and parents from HCZ attending.

**New Chancellor**

Principal Tonya White said she had previous experience with the new N.Y.C. Schools Chancellor Carmen Fariña, who mentored Ms. White some years ago. Ms. Fariña is described as having a no-nonsense approach to making sure children are taught by quality teachers.

## **Charter Renewal Visit**

The Department of Education has postponed the charter renewal site visit and public hearing due to unforeseen circumstances. The public hearing will possibly occur in April and the site visit has been rescheduled to occur on March 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **HCZ Promise Academy I Lower Elementary PAILE (Tonya White)**

Attendance for the month of December was 95% with a drop in January to 92% due to the snow storms.

The school's first winter concert was held in December and featured second-grade children performing in a chorus. Additionally, a PAILE violin program with 25 students participating began in February.

The school's parent/teacher conference was held last week with 208 parents attending.

On the 100<sup>th</sup> school day, Mr. Canada, the staff and students celebrated with fun activities including word games and a 100-question scavenger hunt.

In connection with the afterschool program, PAILE has been celebrating Black History Month by teaching the students about poet Langston Hughes.

The school, in working with the development office, has initiated Parent Core, a parent education program for the families of kindergarten students.

88% of the school's kindergarten students are reading independently and are at or above the benchmark for this year. PAILE has begun a new phonics program called "Foundations", which has been helpful in improving reading levels.

PAILE is partnering with PAI high school students, who will tutor first graders and help them with their writing.

i-Ready diagnostics have shown that second-graders are improving in ELA and math.

Lower elementary is working with Harlem Gems in a partnership for school readiness. The school is helping to build the vocabulary of 4-year olds at Gems who are on their way to kindergarten.

## **HCZ Promise Academy I Upper Elementary PAIUE (Achil Petit)**

Attendance was at 96% for the month of December but dipped to 93% in January due to inclement weather.

The school's parent/teacher conference meeting took place with 188 parents attending.

The school's parent skills workshop took place and parents were informed about changes to the statewide tests and what they could expect from the Common Core State Standards. There will be another workshop just before the state exam.

Fifty students attended a concert at Jazz at Lincoln Center.

Top academic performers will be awarded with a dinner for them and their families.

The school held a scholastic book fair, which was well attended. The goal is to encourage students to read independently and more often.

PAIUE held an art show, which was displayed in the multi-purpose room where kids performed scenes from *The Gruffalo*. The event was well attended with 278 people showing up.

### **HCZ Promise Academy I Middle School PAIMS (Shakira Petit)**

Attendance took a dip in December to 93% and January to 91% due to the inclement weather. The school is currently making full efforts to get the attendance back up.

Saturday school's intervention attendance increased by 40% in anticipation of Mr. Canada's incentive prizes (trips for level 3's and 4's).

An initiative to recognize academic success was well received with 30% of students celebrating achievements. There is also a ceremony being held on February 12<sup>th</sup> honoring children who've had perfect attendance since September. There will be 141 students being honored at the ceremony.

Fifteen students were chosen from each grade for a celebration held last week where they discussed the characteristics of leadership.

The middle school's student government association has led their first initiative called Study Buddies, where they run tutoring programs in the library during lunch period.

Students participated in the AMC 8 Mathematics Competition and the middle school had five honorable mentions.

The eighth-grade girls group has been reading *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens* by Simon Covey. The students are currently focusing on chapter three, which teaches them how to be proactive. Each student has created a list of goals to focus on from now until college.

The parent/teacher conference was very successful with 76% of parents attending.

### **HCZ Promise Academy I High School PAIHS (Marquitta Speller)**

Attendance was at 94% for the month of December and 92% for January due to inclement weather.

The high school is in the process of beginning its Regents test preparation. The students will take three exams this year as an initiative for college preparatory work. Ninth graders are taking Integrated Algebra, Living Environment, and US History. Tenth graders are taking Global History, Geometry, and Earth Science. A few students also took the English Regents early to determine how well they will perform.

Students who are working with Principal White to tutor PAILE children are excited about having the major responsibility of teaching younger children.

PAIHS is preparing for a college tour for freshmen students, who will travel to Philadelphia for two days and two nights.

**White House/Student Presentation (Marquitta Speller)**

Ms. Speller introduced ninth grade student Kiara Molina, who recently introduced President Barack Obama at the White House before his speech on his “Promise Zones” initiative. Ms. Molina spoke about her experience of the televised event, which she described as exciting.

**Financial Report (Alpha Conteh)**

Enrollment relative to budget has improved since last month. Also, actual year-to-date revenue for Special Education is higher than budgeted. As a result, cumulative revenue is \$200,000 above budget. Expenses are below budget by \$500,000 due to vacancies and timing of OTPS spending.

# HCZ Promise Academy I

## February 2014 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	
2/3	33	293	89%	24	284	92%	
2/4	11	293	96%	7	284	98%	
2/5	92	293	69%	84	284	70%	
2/6	10	293	97%	12	283	96%	
2/7	12	293	96%	14	283	95%	
2/10	9	293	97%	13	283	95%	
2/11	7	293	98%	10	283	96%	
2/12	12	293	96%	6	283	98%	
2/13	111	293	62%	84	283	70%	
2/14	40	293	86%	21	283	93%	
2/24	16	293	95%	10	283	96%	
2/25	7	293	98%	4	283	99%	
2/26	6	293	98%	6	283	98%	
2/27	7	293	98%	7	283	98%	
2/28	13	293	96%	19	283	93%	
<b>Average</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>92%</b>	

# HCZ Promise Academy I

## February 2014 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
2/3	28	245	89%	23	119	81%
2/4	4	245	98%	11	119	91%
2/5	86	245	65%	30	119	75%
2/6	9	245	96%	4	119	97%
2/7	9	245	96%	8	119	93%
2/10	11	245	96%	5	119	96%
2/11	19	245	92%	7	119	94%
2/12	13	245	95%	5	119	96%
2/13	83	245	66%	49	119	59%
2/14	20	245	92%	12	119	90%
2/24	10	245	96%	12	119	90%
2/25	6	245	98%	9	119	92%
2/26	17	244	93%	5	119	96%
2/27	4	244	98%	6	119	95%
2/28	7	244	97%	10	119	92%
<b>Average</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>89%</b>

**WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF  
HARLEM CHILDREN'S ZONE PROMISE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL**

THE UNDERSIGNED, being members of the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of HARLEM CHILDREN'S ZONE PROMISE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL, a New York not-for-profit corporation (the "Corporation"), acting pursuant to the By-Laws of the Corporation and the New York Not-For-Profit Corporation Law for the purpose of taking the action and adopting the resolutions set forth below do hereby waive any notice requirement, take the following action and adopt the following resolutions by written consent to action:

**WHEREAS**, the New York City School Construction Authority, a public benefit corporation ("SCA"), is expected to be the owner of certain real property known as 245 West 129<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, New York, as shown on the Tax Map of the New York County Clerk's Office as Block 1933, Lot 20 (the "Real Property"), along with the building (the "Building") and all associated structures and improvements located thereon (together with the Real Property and the Building, the "Property");

**WHEREAS**, SCA, as lessor, and Civic St. Nicholas LLC, a New York not-for-profit organization ("Civic"), as lessee, will enter into a Lease Agreement, whereby SCA will lease to Civic the Property;

**WHEREAS**, Civic, as sublandlord, and HCZ-Promise LLC, a New York limited liability company ("HCZ-Promise"), as subtenant, will enter into a Sublease Agreement, whereby Civic will sublease to HCZ-Promise the Property;

**WHEREAS**, HCZ-Promise, as sub-sublandlord, and the Corporation, as sub-subtenant, will enter into a Sub-sublease Agreement, whereby Civic will sublease to Corporation the Property;

**WHEREAS**, New York SMSA Limited Partnership, d/b/a Verizon Wireless ("Verizon") desires to obtain a license permitting it to use a portion of the Building for the installation, operation, and maintenance of a communications facility (the "Building and Rooftop License"); and

**WHEREAS**, Verizon desires to design, construct, operate, maintain, repair and upgrade a multi-carrier in-building distributed antenna system ("DAS") to be placed on the Property and to sublicense the use of such DAS to other carriers (the "In-Building License," and together with the Building and Rooftop License, the "Transaction Documents" to consummate the "Transaction").

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board authorizes, approves and consents to the consummation of the Transaction and the taking of actions and such other matters necessary to effect the purpose of the Transaction;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Chairperson, President, Secretary or Treasurer or such other officer as shall have been duly elected by the Board (the "Officers") and



each an “Officer”), or any one of them, be, and they hereby are, authorized and empowered, for and on behalf of the Corporation to negotiate, agree, execute, file and deliver the Transaction Documents, other similar agreements and any ancillary agreements to the extent the Officers, or any one of them, determine, in his or her or their sole discretion, to be necessary, appropriate or desirable to carry out the Transaction;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Officers be, and they hereby are, authorized and empowered, for and on behalf of the Corporation, to negotiate, agree, execute, file and deliver all such other agreements, documents or instruments necessary, appropriate or desirable for the Transaction and the implementation of the foregoing resolution and the performance by the Corporation of its obligations pursuant to the documents and instruments referred to in such resolution, and to do and perform such other acts and things, including the preparation, execution and filing of any instruments, certificates or documents, as the Officers or any one of them determine, in his or her or their sole discretion, to be necessary, appropriate or desirable to carry out any of the foregoing, any such determination to be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery of any such document or instrument or the doing or performing of any such act or thing; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that all actions previously taken by any Officer in connection with the Transaction are hereby adopted, ratified, confirmed, reaffirmed and approved in all respects as the acts and deeds of the Corporation.

*[Remainder of page intentionally blank.]*



# Promise Academy I

## FY14 February YTD Budget Report

\$ millions

	Actual	Budget	Inc/(Dec)	Full Year Budget
<b>Enrollment</b>	<b>939</b>	<b>931</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>931</b>
<b>Grades</b>	<b>K - 10</b>	<b>K - 10</b>		<b>K - 10</b>
<b>DOE and other gov't funding</b>	\$ 9.6	\$ 9.4	\$ 0.2	\$ 14.1
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
<b>Salaries</b>	6.7	6.8	(0.1)	9.9
<b>Benefits</b>	1.9	1.9	-	3.0
<b>OTPS</b>	1.8	2.1	(0.3)	3.1
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>(0.4)</b>	<b>16.0</b>
<b>HCZ Contribution</b>	<b>\$ 0.8</b>	<b>\$ 1.4</b>	<b>\$ (0.6)</b>	<b>\$ 1.9</b>
<b>per student (whole \$)</b>	<b>\$ 852</b>	<b>\$ 1,504</b>		<b>\$ 2,041</b>