



# Promise Academy II Charter School

A partner of



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Sheryl Ragland  
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Shondell James  
**Principal**  
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Judy Palacios  
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**Principal**  
**High School**  
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## AGENDA

Promise Academy II Board of Trustees Meeting  
Wednesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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. Promise Academy II Updates
  - i. Lower Elementary School (*Sheryl Ragland*)
  - ii. Upper Elementary School (*Shondell James*)
  - iii. Middle School (*Judy Palacios*)
  - iv. High School (*Katherine Hurtado*)
- IV. Board Member Election (*Anne Williams-Isom*)
- V. Financial Report (*Jim Hutter*)
- VI. Student Presentation (*Judy Palacios*)

**The Harlem Children's Zone Promise Academy II 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 Ryz, 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 II Lower Elementary School (Sheryl Ragland)**

The lower elementary school's attendance was at 93% for February. There were a significant number of absences due to inclement weather. The school continues to work towards increasing attendance.

The students held a Black History Month performance with a high parent turnout.

School leaders are doing assessments to ensure students are meeting benchmarks. There is also a focus on increasing rigor and preparing second-graders for moving up to a testing grade.

Kindergarten students are working on persuasive writing and second-graders are focusing on series writing.

This month, school leaders are doing media check-ins and evaluations with teachers.

### **HCZ Promise Academy II Upper Elementary School (Shondell James)**

The upper elementary school's attendance was at 96% for February.

The school continued its series on productive struggle by giving frequent feedback to students and staff. This month, students were encouraged to give teachers feedback on their work to help students be thoughtful about making corrections. This focus is also helping with the preparation for upcoming exams. Students are learning how to be independent and they are showing improvement.

The teachers are mindful that testing time is stressful and have incorporated movement breaks after each task.

Saturday Academy has been successful and the principal thanked Geoffrey Canada for visiting, which encouraged teachers.

The students held a Black History Month show called "A Series of Fortunate Events," which promoted the idea that students can succeed, even when faced with challenges.

Students went on a trip to the National Museum of Mathematics.

### **HCZ Promise Academy II Middle School (Judy Palacios)**

The middle school's attendance was at 96% for February. The school continues to work with families to make sure students are coming to school every day on time.

Test preparation continues for next week's state exams. We continue to receive additional support from the literacy coaches as well as tutors from different HCZ programs. School leaders are being intentional this week about building student confidence by reviewing standards and skills.

In math, all the grades have completed the most recent unit of study and they are focused on reviewing previous lessons, while working in small groups with the coaches.

The school had its third parent-teacher conference and an eighth-grade parent meeting, where the PAII high school principal touched base with the parents.

Representatives from Healthy Harlem and the Health Center talked to middle-school parents about what services exist to support families.

Middle school administrators hosted an Investment Club Fair this month, led by Mr. Joseph and his sixth-grade students. Students showcased what they've learned to parents and staff by setting up booths and presenting four businesses while creating different budget plans and looking at

trends. Mr. Joseph interviewed COO Kwame Owusu-Kesse as part of the event. The principal thanked the CFO Jim Hutter and members of his team, who attended the event for support.

The school is working with the Bard Early College Program to identify middle-school students who are interested in applying. Students who submitted applications participated in Bard seminars and trial classes. Written assessments will commence after the state exams.

Promise Academy II Middle School boys basketball team won its first Public School Championship on Sunday, defeating Harbor Middle School 61-45 in the NYC Middle School Basketball League.

The school hosted a joint Black History Month showcase with the PAII high school.

### **HCZ Promise Academy II High School (Katherine Hurtado)**

The high school's attendance was at 94% for February. The school will continue to reach out to families to communicate the importance of being in school on time.

The principal thanked PAII middle school Science Teacher Jane Luceno for connecting the PAII high school staff with the Cornell Center for Materials Research. Staff from Cornell visited on March 10<sup>th</sup> to present hands-on modules in both chemistry and physics.

For Black History Month, a group of students dressed up as important African-American figures, creating a live wax museum for the rest of the student body. The showcase focused on empowerment.

The school hosted a celebration for staff members called, "The Festival of Colors," in honor of Jewish holidays. Staff members who celebrate these days joined students during lunchtime to discuss the purpose of the celebration and share traditional Jewish treats.

Two high school students in the Bard Early College program presented to PAII middle school parents of eighth-graders during a parent/teacher conference to communicate the benefits of the Bard program.

The school will host its first women's scavenger hunt while focusing on important accomplishments of female figures.

### **Financial Report (Jim Hutter)**

The HCZ contribution through eight months of FY17 is \$100,000 unfavorable vs the budget. PAI's enrollment is at 977, which is one unfavorable versus the budget. PAII is \$100,000 over budget with expenses.

A Grant Thornton compliance report has been filed with OMB.

# HCZ Promise Academy II

## March 2017 Attendance Report

HCZ PAII Lower Elementary School				HCZ PAII Upper Elementary School			
Date	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present	
3/1	14	287	95%	6	257	98%	
3/2	11	287	96%	6	257	98%	
3/3	15	287	95%	8	257	97%	
3/6	11	287	96%	12	257	95%	
3/7	14	287	95%	5	257	98%	
3/8	9	287	97%	1	257	100%	
3/9	9	287	97%	10	257	96%	
3/10	17	287	94%	13	257	95%	
3/13	12	287	96%	16	257	94%	
3/15	48	286	83%	25	257	90%	
3/16	17	286	94%	11	257	96%	
3/17	15	286	95%	7	257	97%	
3/20	13	286	95%	10	257	96%	
3/21	16	286	94%	12	257	95%	
3/22	6	286	98%	17	257	93%	
3/23	14	286	95%	8	257	97%	
3/24	21	286	93%	9	257	96%	
3/27	10	286	97%	5	257	98%	
3/28	18	286	94%	4	257	98%	
3/29	15	286	95%	2	257	99%	
3/30	14	286	95%	3	257	99%	
3/31	17	286	94%	10	257	96%	
<b>Average</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>96%</b>	

# HCZ Promise Academy II

## March 2017 Attendance Report

		HCZ PAII Middle School			HCZ PAII High School		
Date	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present	
3/1	5	236	98%	6	197	97%	
3/2	4	236	98%	8	197	96%	
3/3	12	236	95%	10	197	95%	
3/6	5	235	98%	7	197	96%	
3/7	5	235	98%	14	197	93%	
3/8	6	235	97%	4	197	98%	
3/9	8	235	97%	12	197	94%	
3/10	11	235	95%	8	197	96%	
3/13	16	235	93%	14	197	93%	
3/15	32	235	86%	32	197	84%	
3/16	8	235	97%	12	197	94%	
3/17	4	235	98%	11	197	94%	
3/20	11	235	95%	7	196	96%	
3/21	6	235	97%	5	196	97%	
3/22	13	235	94%	12	196	94%	
3/23	9	235	96%	8	196	96%	
3/24	12	235	95%	10	196	95%	
3/27	7	235	97%	9	196	95%	
3/28	3	235	99%	11	196	94%	
3/29	3	235	99%	9	196	95%	
3/30	2	235	99%	9	196	95%	
3/31	11	235	95%	19	196	90%	
<b>Average</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>95%</b>	

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

	Budget	Actual <sup>(1)</sup>	Fav/(Unfav)	Full Year Budget
Enrollment	978	974	(4)	978
Grades	K - 12	K - 12		K - 12
DOE and other gov't funding	\$ 12.4	\$ 12.3	\$ (0.1)	\$ 16.5
Expenses:				
Salaries	8.5	8.5	-	11.7
Benefits	2.8	2.8	-	3.6
OTPS	2.2	2.3	(0.1)	3.0
Total Expenses	13.5	13.6	(0.1)	18.3
HCZ Contribution	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.3	\$ (0.2)	\$ 1.8
per student (whole \$)	\$ 1,125	\$ 1,335	\$ (210)	\$ 1,840

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

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