



Promise Academy II Charter School

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AGENDA

Promise Academy II 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 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. Financial Report (*Jim Hutter*)

The Harlem Children's Zone Promise Academy II 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 II Lower Elementary School (Sheryl Ragland)

The lower elementary school's attendance was at 96% for the month of November and 93% for the month of December.

Lower elementary students performed in a holiday concert with many parents attending. The school also held a play organized by the Theatre of Arts teacher, which parents also attended.

Ms. Ragland thanked HCZ and volunteers who wrapped thousands of holiday gifts which were given to HCZ scholars including Promise Academy lower elementary students. The school used the gifts as incentives to ensure good attendance during the holiday season.

The school is beginning to have interventions with children who are not meeting the benchmarks and require additional support.

The school is having ongoing professional development in literacy for specialist teachers. This will make it possible for specialist teachers to push into classrooms to facilitate small group instruction.

In the area of writing, students are learning about book reviews. In reading, students are learning about non-fiction books.

HCZ Promise Academy II Upper Elementary School (Shondell James)

The upper elementary school's attendance was at 96% for the month of November and 95% for the month of December.

In November, there were 41 fifth-grade honor roll students. There are 87 third- and fourth-graders who are on the dean's list.

The school has continued with their theme of productive struggle for both students and teachers by reinforcing the idea of using feedback effectively and to perceive one's own growth as a result of those efforts.

In an effort to get parents more involved, the school has initiated a student reading challenge. Parents are charged with the task of taking pictures of their children reading at home and sending it back to the school for display.

The upper elementary has initiated a mentorship, where designated staff members are teaching socialization skills to those children who struggle with maintaining appropriate behavior.

Saturday school continues and the school is being very thoughtful about the students who will benefit the most from the extra instruction.

In December, the school's art teacher and dance teacher spearheaded the Harlem Nutcracker, a musical in which the upper elementary students performed.

HCZ Promise Academy II Middle School (Judy Palacios)

The middle elementary school's attendance was at 96% for the month of November and 95% for the month of December.

The middle school teachers have been focusing on getting children back into a learning rhythm after the Christmas break. In ELA, students are learning about historical fiction, where they are reading texts that deal with topics such as the Great Depression, WWII and the Holocaust. It's also an opportunity for social studies and ELA teachers to collaborate with each other.

In math, sixth-graders have entered the study area of equations and expressions. In seventh-grade, students are engaged in percentages. In eighth-grade, they continue to work on systems of equations.

In social studies and science, students are being given opportunities to continue with interactive lessons, presentations and group work by acting as colonists, explorers and scientists.

The school held an award ceremony in November highlighting students that exemplified citizenship, highest improvement, scholarly achievement and those with perfect attendance.

The school held its first school-wide event, which was a staff versus student basketball game.

The boys lacrosse team participated in the Harlem bowl tournament on Randall's Island. The Promise students won the competition.

Director of Music and Arts Shelly Bauer and her team worked with PAI and PAII middle school students to put on a winter music concert.

This year, sixth grade math teacher Mr. Joseph has been working with 15 middle school students three times a week in an investment club. In this small group instruction, the students are learning about stocks, creating market plans for companies and have started mock virtual accounts of their own. Before the break, the students went on two different field trips: to the American Museum of Finance and to the Time Warner building. Students met with sales representatives for different companies that they were interested in investing in.

HCZ Promise Academy II High School (Ashley Blount)

The high school's attendance was at 94% for the month of November and 93% for the month of December. The school's goal is to work with families to improve attendance.

The school is preparing students for upcoming Regents exams held in January.

For the month of December, the high school held their National Honor Society breakfast to honor 47 students who were inducted this year. Parents were invited to a ceremony to celebrate the scholars. One of their first projects was a community service day at Harlem Hospital, where students had the opportunity to give out toys and boxed goods to people in need.

In December, the school held its junior overnight retreat, which gave staff a chance to bond with students outside of the school setting and continue with mentoring sessions as students transition into their senior year. Students also went horseback riding, snow tubing and swimming.

Guidance and college teams from both high schools have been meeting on a bi-weekly basis to ensure that the college process is aligned and that we are sharing best practices. School leaders thanked board member Mitch Kurz for meeting with both high school teams to speak about the counseling process.

Within the last month, several schools have come to do onsite admissions, including St John's University and the University at Buffalo. Two of the high school's top scholars were accepted into Seton Hall's 5-year M.B.A. program and Seton Hall's Physician's Assistant program with scholarship opportunities. The school's focus moving forward is to continue the college application process and to make sure that high school students are matched with the school that is best for them.

Financial Report (Jim Hutter)

The HCZ contribution through six months of FY17 is on target. PAII's enrollment is at 984, which is 6 students favorable. PAII is on target with expenses.

HCZ Promise Academy II

January 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	
1/3	32	288	89%	20	259	92%	
1/4	19	288	93%	8	259	97%	
1/5	15	288	95%	11	259	96%	
1/6	21	288	93%	18	259	93%	
1/9	21	288	93%	14	257	95%	
1/10	18	288	94%	9	257	96%	
1/11	18	288	94%	10	257	96%	
1/12	10	288	97%	9	257	96%	
1/13	13	288	95%	6	257	98%	
1/17	19	288	93%	10	257	96%	
1/18	9	288	97%	4	257	98%	
1/19	14	288	95%	5	257	98%	
1/20	15	288	95%	4	257	98%	
1/23	25	288	91%	18	257	93%	
1/24	15	288	95%	7	257	97%	
1/25	13	287	95%	5	257	98%	
1/26	16	287	94%	9	257	96%	
1/27	17	287	94%	7	257	97%	
1/30	20	287	93%	8	257	97%	
1/31	15	287	95%	5	257	98%	
Average	17	288	94%	9	257	96%	

HCZ Promise Academy II

January 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			
1/3	24	237	90%	17	200	92%			
1/4	13	237	95%	10	200	95%			
1/5	7	237	97%	7	199	96%			
1/6	15	237	94%	16	199	92%			
1/9	11	237	95%	10	199	95%			
1/10	8	237	97%	9	199	95%			
1/11	9	237	96%	15	199	92%			
1/12	14	237	94%	11	199	94%			
1/13	14	237	94%	14	199	93%			
1/17	12	237	95%	11	199	94%			
1/18	10	237	96%	14	199	93%			
1/19	4	237	98%	10	199	95%			
1/20	5	237	98%	9	199	95%			
1/23	13	237	95%	24	199	88%			
1/24	8	237	97%	Regents Tests					
1/25	10	237	96%						
1/26	11	237	95%						
1/27	11	237	95%						
1/30	10	237	96%	16	199	92%			
1/31	7	237	97%	10	198	95%			
Average	11	237	95%	13	199	94%			

Promise Academy II

FY 2017 January YTD Budget vs. Actual

\$ millions

	Budget	Actual ⁽¹⁾	Fav/(Unfav)	Full Year Budget
Enrollment	978	978	-	978
Grades	K - 12	K - 12	-	K - 12
DOE and other gov't funding	\$ 9.6	\$ 9.6	\$ -	\$ 16.5
Expenses:				
Salaries	6.7	6.7	-	11.7
Benefits	2.2	2.1	0.1	3.6
OTPS	1.7	1.8	(0.1)	3.0
Total Expenses	10.6	10.6	-	18.3
HCZ Contribution	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0	\$ (0.0)	\$ 1.8
per student (whole \$)	\$ 1,022	\$ 1,022	\$ (0)	\$ 1,840

(1) Excludes bonus, growth fund, occupancy and "in-kind" contributions.
Budget amounts have been adjusted to better reflect anticipated 2017 activity.