



# Promise Academy II Charter School

A partner of



Harlem Children's  
**Z O N E**

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Geoffrey Canada  
Chairman

Anne Williams-Isom  
President/CEO

Mitch Kurz  
Secretary & Treasurer

Kenneth Langone  
Chairman Emeritus

Parris Brown  
Stanley Druckenmiller  
Denise Fuller  
Arlene Gibson  
Willie Mae Lewis  
Alfonso Wyatt

Achil Petit  
Superintendent

Sheryl Ragland  
Principal  
Lower Elementary School  
2005 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10035  
Tel 646.556.6285

Shondell James  
Principal  
Upper Elementary School  
2005 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10035  
Tel 646.556.6285

Principal  
Middle School  
35 East 125<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10035  
Tel 646.437.1481

Asif Padela  
Principal  
High School  
35 East 125<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10035  
Tel 646.437.1484

## AGENDA

Promise Academy II Board of Trustees Meeting  
Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016

at

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

- I. Acceptance of the Minutes
- II. CEO Report (*Anne Williams-Isom*)
- III. Superintendent's Updates (*Achil Petit*)
- IV. Promise Academy II Updates
  - i. Lower Elementary School (*Sheryl Ragland*)
  - ii. Upper Elementary School (*Shondell James*)
  - iii. Middle School (*Judy Palacios*)
  - iv. High School (*Asif Padela*)
- V. Financial Report (*Jim Hutter*)

## **The Harlem Children's Zone Promise Academy II Charter School**

### **Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**245 West 129th Street**

*Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Mitch Kurz, Kenneth Langone, Anne Williams-Isom, Stan Druckenmiller, Arlene Gibson (via phone), Willie Mae Lewis, Aisha Tomlinson, Alfonso Wyatt (via phone), Candice Ashby, Sharleen Bernard, Ari Browne, Alpha Conteh, Joseph Cordero, Tracey Costello, Marlene Fox, Tiffany Fountain, Michelle Germaine, Debbie Gonzalez, Kashif Hameed, Jim Hutter, Shondell James, Raychael Jensen, Betina Jean-Louis, Jawana Johnson, Marilyn Joseph, Debbie Kim, Justin Maker, Mindy Miller, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Asif Padela, Achil Petit, Conrad Pinnock, Sheryl Ragland, Susan Rydz, Lauren Scopaz, Marquitta Speller, KiKi Walton, Tonya White, and Bessie Wilkerson.*

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

Anne Williams-Isom asked Geoffrey Canada to speak about Governor Cuomo's task force on the Common Core. Geoffrey Canada explained that there was a report submitted to the Governor. The Common Core State Standards will ultimately be re-written by a group of educators.

Ms. Williams-Isom also mentioned that the U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, came to visit on December 3rd. He spent time with Mr. Canada and Ms. Williams-Isom and met with 70 teachers and about several community members. Duncan said that he would like to come back for another visit.

There will be an event held on January 14, 2016 to honor local police officers.

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

The superintendent reported that current enrollment was 1,124 for PAI (20 above what was budgeted) and 890 for PAII (23 above what was budgeted). Dr. Petit will continue to monitor the enrollment numbers as we progress through the school year.

Dr. Petit also introduced six PAII middle school students who performed a classical piece for the Board, led by Shelly Bauer, the Director of Arts.

Dr. Petit gave a special thanks to staff members for helping to provide a rigorous academic setting for Promise students and all of their hard work throughout the year.

#### **HCZ Promise Academy II Lower Elementary School PAIILE (Sheryl Ragland)**

Attendance is at 94% for the month of November. As an incentive, the class with the best attendance receives a trophy. The trophy is passed around to the class with the highest attendance monthly.

A parent teacher conference was held with 241 parents. Individual meetings were set up with the few remaining parents to discuss their children's progress.

The school held a college spirit day, just before the Thanksgiving break. Afterwards, there was a Thanksgiving feast for parents and students, which was very well attended.

The school held a six-day book fair. Parents purchased books for their children.

On December 17th, the school will hold their school-wide movie night as part of the holiday celebrations. Also, the superintendent visited the school to thank teachers for their hard work.

The school's goal this year has been to help students build independence and retain the skills they learned from the prior year. The principal met with the teachers and performed observations. There was also a focus on transitioning second-graders to the testing grade.

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

Attendance for November was at 95%. The lowest attendance was the day before Thanksgiving, and the school will continue to work on improving attendance on challenging days.

The school held a dean's list award assembly for third- and fourth-graders and an honor roll assembly for fifth-graders. Dean's list awards were given to 44 third-graders and 27 fourth-graders. Also, 25 fifth-graders are on the honor roll, which is a clear indication of the movement that is taking place for our students who scored low last year. There was a successful parent turnout for these events.

In ELA, our fifth-graders are researching and writing about aspects of westward expansion. Fourth-graders are focusing on reading and understanding historical fiction. Students are reading "Number the Stars" by Lois Lowry, which is set in the Holocaust. Third-graders are learning how to understand characters and writing literary essays.

In math, third-graders are focused on area in geometry and fourth- and fifth-graders are focused on fractions. Recently, representatives from Eureka held a cross-district professional development for math teachers, which detailed important strategies for conceptual understanding. The principal has observed those strategies being used in the classroom.

Science Technology Engineering Arts and Music (STEAM) is being implemented into the classrooms with great progress in critical thinking among the students.

The school held a parent/teacher conference meeting with 187 parents attending. Staff reached out to those parents who missed the meeting to reschedule. Parents have commented that they appreciate the level of communication.

Students participated in College Spirit Day and the school's flag rugby team came in second place at the armory.

### **HCZ Promise Academy II Middle School PAIIMS (Sharleen Bernard)**

Attendance was at 95%. We continue efforts to improve attendance.

The school has held academic hours and Saturday school to target students who require extra academic attention. Staff members are also collaborating with PAIMS to share best practices and strengthen alignment.

A gathering was held at one of the teacher's homes to celebrate the holiday season.

Dr. Petit came by, talked to staff and gave out thank you cards.

As part of its speaker series, the school invited a professor from Columbia University to visit on December 17<sup>th</sup> to talk about nano-technology. Scholars will be creating hands-on experiments.

The school held a parent-teacher conference, and there was a robust turnout of parents, especially those of eighth-graders.

### **HCZ Promise Academy II High School PAIHS (Asif Padela)**

Attendance was at 94% for the month of November. Staff has been meeting with parents to identify particular challenges with which students have been dealing. Debbie Gonzalez and the social work team have been supporting the students.

Staff members took male students on a college tour to Fordham University and junior-level students to City College. The school is currently planning a trip to upstate SUNY colleges. Students are being prepared to take Regents exams, and all tenth-graders have been encouraged to sit for the Global Studies exams. Although it typically takes two years to complete the Global Studies course, Promise high school students have completed the course in a year and seem academically ready to pass the exam.

The school held a winter musical with students in grades 9-11. Director of Arts Shelly Bauer and her team have encouraged and guided many of the students, who have joined the orchestra and the jazz band.

The school collaborated with PAIIMS to prepare eighth-grade students for transition to high school. The school held a parent/teacher conference, where parents were exposed to the Bard Early College program and Dr. Kristy McMorris answered questions.

Dr. Speller has been having coffee breaks with teachers to give them guidance. Ms. Williams-Isom also had lunches with teachers to mentor them.

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

Jim Hutter covered Promise Academy II's financial report: PAI is 23 students ahead of budget for enrollment. Revenue and expenses are overall on target. Expenses will be monitored over the remaining seven months.

In response to the board's request, the cost of current Promise Academy vendors were compared to New York City Department of Education-authorized vendors. In many cases, costs were the same. A closer look at the existing process will continue.

### **Student Presentations (Jawana Johnson / Shelly Bauer)**

Dr. Speller introduced the girls volleyball team, led by their coaches, Simone Summers and Zahida Aminy. The students spoke about their experiences on the volleyball team and what they learned about accountability, confidence, and leadership. The coaches played a slideshow for the Board, of the team at play. The team recently won first place in the CSAA.

Dr. Petit introduced six students from the middle school orchestra led by Ms. Bauer. Ms. Bauer also introduced music teacher Soah Narm, who teaches 55 students across the Promise Schools. The children performed the classical piece "Troika" by Prokofiev.

## **Judy D. Palacios**

107-59 92<sup>nd</sup> Street, Ozone Park, NY 11417 • (347) 665-3867 • Email: J.Palacios125@gmail.com

---

### **Education**

The College of St. Rose: CITE, Queens, NY, *In process*

Major: Certificate of Advanced Study: Educational Leadership & Administration (SBL/SDL)

GPA: 3.91

Queens College, Queens, NY, May 2011

Initial Certification in English Language Arts Grades 7-12

GPA: 3.95

St. John's University, Jamaica, NY, May 2007

Master of Arts in English

St. John's University, Jamaica, NY, May 2006

Major: English Minor: Theology

Honors: Member of the Phi Beta Sigma Honor Society

Member of the Hispanic National Honor Society

Deans List 2004-2006

### **Experience**

**Harlem Children's Zone: Promise Academy II Charter Middle School**

New York, NY

Assistant Principal

July 2014- Dec 2015

- Support principal in creating schedules, class rosters, implanting systems and procedures, and as needed
- Conduct informal and formal observations with staff
- Analyze data from classwork, benchmarks, and other data points in ELA in order to target interventions that will ensure academic success of all students
- Coordinated all ELA mock exams and ELA professional developments with consultant and TC staff developer

**Harlem Children's Zone: Promise Academy II Charter Middle School**

New York, NY

Literacy Coach

July 2013- July 2014

- Manage and provide instructional support to ELA teachers
- Provide feedback on lesson plans in order to ensure lessons are engaging, rigorous and Common Core aligned
- Analyze data from classwork, benchmarks, and other data points in order to target interventions that will ensure academic success of all students
- Conduct regular classroom observations, video study, professional development, and one-on-one meetings
- Additional support in classrooms, working with small groups and coaching teachers

**Harlem Children's Zone: Promise Academy I Charter High School**

New York, NY

High School English Language Arts Teacher

May 2009- Present

- Provide instruction to high school English Language Arts classes (grades 9-11)
- Organize instructional materials for class projects, group work activities, individual and whole class lessons
- Coordinate classroom activities; attendance, classroom management, assessment, planning, and grading
- Use informal and formal data to drive instruction within classroom

**The Vidal Partnership**

New York, NY

Assistant Account Executive

March 2008- May 2009

- Support Sr. Account Executive and Account Director by executing jobs through the agency on a day-to-day basis
- Create necessary paperwork to support projects such as contact reports, recaps, job estimates
- Review and revise all press materials documents
- Assist with media list development and media kit development
- Maintain client status reports
- Daily contact with vendors, clients, and media

### **Skills**

- Computer proficient in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, and Infinite Campus
- Conversational Spanish

# HCZ Promise Academy II

## December 2015 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	
12/1	13	273	95%	9	241	96%	
12/2	16	273	94%	10	241	96%	
12/3	12	273	96%	13	241	95%	
12/4	9	273	97%	10	241	96%	
12/7	12	273	96%	11	241	95%	
12/8	13	272	95%	14	241	94%	
12/9	10	272	96%	13	241	95%	
12/10	13	272	95%	11	241	95%	
12/11	21	272	92%	19	241	92%	
12/14	14	272	95%	14	241	94%	
12/15	8	272	97%	6	241	98%	
12/16	11	272	96%	8	241	97%	
12/17	21	272	92%	19	241	92%	
12/18	18	272	93%	9	241	96%	
12/21	21	272	92%	13	241	95%	
12/22	22	272	92%	12	241	95%	
12/23	31	272	89%	20	241	92%	
<b>Average</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>95%</b>	

# HCZ Promise Academy II

## December 2015 Attendance Report

HCZ PA II Middle School		HCZ PA II High School				
Date	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present
12/1	5	242	98%	6	136	96%
12/2	8	242	97%	5	136	96%
12/3	10	242	96%	4	135	97%
12/4	8	242	97%	5	135	96%
12/7	12	242	95%	7	135	95%
12/8	6	242	98%	9	135	93%
12/9	8	242	97%	8	135	94%
12/10	10	242	96%	11	135	92%
12/11	14	242	94%	10	135	93%
12/14	8	242	97%	5	135	96%
12/15	12	242	95%	6	135	96%
12/16	4	242	98%	3	135	98%
12/17	13	242	95%	6	135	96%
12/18	14	242	94%	11	135	92%
12/21	12	242	95%	11	135	92%
12/22	19	242	92%	15	135	89%
12/23	27	242	89%	48	135	64%
<b>Average</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>93%</b>





## Promise Academy II

### FY 2016 December YTD Budget vs. Actual

\$ millions

	Budget	Actual <sup>(1)</sup>	Fav/(Unfav)	Full Year Budget
Enrollment	867	886	19	867
Grades	K - 11	K - 11		K - 11
DOE and other gov't funding	\$ 7.2	\$ 7.2	\$ -	\$ 14.4
Expenses:				
Salaries	5.1	5.2	(0.1)	10.1
Benefits	1.4	1.4	-	3.1
OTPS	1.4	1.4	-	2.8
Total Expenses	7.9	8.0	(0.1)	16.0
HCZ Contribution	\$ 0.7	\$ 0.8	\$ (0.1)	\$ 1.6
per student (whole \$)	\$ 807	\$ 903	\$ (96)	\$ 1,845

DOE reimbursement up to 1040 students.

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

Budget amounts have been adjusted to better reflect anticipated 2016 activity.