



Promise Academy II Charter School

A partner of



**Harlem Children's
ZONE**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Geoffrey Canada
Chairman**

**Anne Williams-Isom
President/CEO**

**Mitch Kurz
Secretary & Treasurer**

**Kenneth Langone
Chairman Emeritus**

**Ellanor (Bodie) Brizendine
Fatime Cadoo
Stanley Druckenmiller
Denise Fuller
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**

**Judy Palacios
Principal
Middle School
35 East 125th Street
New York, NY 10035
Tel 646.437.1481**

**Katherine Hurtado
Principal
High School
35 East 125th Street
New York, NY 10035
Tel 646.437.1484**

AGENDA

Promise Academy II Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, May 16th, 2018

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. College Readiness Updates (*Marquitta Speller*)
- 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 (*Katherine Hurtado*)
- V. Financial Report (*Jim Hutter*)
- VI. Student Presentation (*Kashif Hameed*)

The Harlem Children's Zone Promise Academy II 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 10th, 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 II Lower Elementary School (Sheryl Ragland)

The lower elementary school's attendance was at 93% for March, with the lowest day due to inclement weather.

The school celebrated Women's History Month, highlighting women who have made notable contributions.

Three scholars made the dean's list and were celebrated during the monthly assembly. There were also 12 students that were celebrated for having perfect attendance this school year to date. The parents of those students were also celebrated.

The school started teacher appreciation celebrations early by giving out appreciation notes to the teachers along with gifts.

School leaders are assessing scholars and reviewing data points to see which children need additional help to meet benchmarks. Close reading has also been a strong focus in academics.

HCZ Promise Academy II Upper Elementary School (Shondell James)

The upper elementary school's attendance was at 95% for March.

In March, the school has been engaged in test preparation. School leaders have been strategic about supporting students for the ELA exam by incorporating reading in all content areas. Coaches have been working individually with teachers in their classrooms. There has also been an intense focus on independent reading. Additionally, the art teacher has introduced zentangles, a new method of abstract drawing that promotes an increased sense of personal well-being in order to keep stress levels down for scholars and staff members.

Scholars have been asked to consider the quote of the week, "Not everything that can be counted, counts. And not everything that counts, can be counted."

HCZ Promise Academy II Middle School (Judy Palacios)

The middle school's attendance was at 95% for March with a couple of low days due to inclement weather.

Scholars and staff members continue to work hard in preparation for the ELA State exam. School leaders have worked towards maintaining morale across the board.

The school held a fun Friday for sixth-graders just before the break. There is also a celebration planned for the end of the exams.

The school has officially announced their girls lacrosse program for grades sixth through nine. Scholars in the program have been practicing twice a week. The lacrosse coach and the program that the school is partnering with are being intentional in supporting with academics to ensure that scholars are keeping up with their studies.

The school held its yearly scientific event, with Cornell University scientists visiting middle school scholars and guiding them through a hands-on STEM project. Students created their own microscopes and discussed the steps to becoming a scientist.

HCZ Promise Academy II High School (Katherine Hurtado)

The high school's attendance was at 93% for March. The lowest attendance day was due to inclement weather. Administrators will continue to meet with families and put interventions in place to ensure that attendance improves.

On March 14th, the school held a Black History showcase. PAII high school collaborated with the after-school program, as scholars used performing arts to draw parallels between activist groups such as the Black Panthers, NAACP and the Young Lords to the current Black Lives Matter movement. Teachers also engaged in conversations with the scholars, discussing the best ways to mobilize when facing a challenge.

On March 16th, the student government organized a St. Patrick's Day celebration. Scholars wrote good wishes on a shamrock and also wrote thank you notes to their peers and their teachers. The student body president also shared facts on the origins of St. Patrick's religious relevance in Irish culture.

For part of the end-of-the-year activities, scholars were taken to the Palisades Center Mall in West Nyack. Students visited entertainment centers such as Dave & Buster's and the Autobahn and engaged in fun activities. Teachers also used the opportunity to speak with scholars about their college applications and particularly, their college acceptances.

School leaders are finalizing Saturday Academy and Academic Hour plans to prepare for Regents exams scholars will take in May and June.

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)

PAII's enrollment is at 993, which is 40 students unfavorable versus the budget. PAII revenue is \$300,000 unfavorable versus the budget. PAII is \$500,000 favorable with expenses at \$13.9M. The HCZ contribution through nine months of FY18 is \$200,000 favorable.

HCZ Promise Academy II

April 2018 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	
4/9	15	301	95%	5	253	98%	
4/10	16	300	95%	10	253	96%	
4/11	4	300	99%	3	253	99%	
4/12	6	300	98%	2	253	99%	
4/13	14	300	95%	6	253	98%	
4/16	39	300	87%	28	253	89%	
4/17	11	300	96%	6	253	98%	
4/18	9	300	97%	4	253	98%	
4/19	68	300	77%	12	253	95%	
4/20	18	300	94%	13	253	95%	
4/23	22	300	93%	15	253	94%	
4/24	6	298	98%	16	253	94%	
4/25	16	298	95%	16	253	94%	
4/26	18	298	94%	13	253	95%	
4/27	16	297	95%	14	253	94%	
4/30	17	297	94%	21	253	92%	
Average	18	299	94%	12	253	95%	

HCZ Promise Academy II

April 2018 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
4/9	5	224	98%	11	215	95%
4/10	3	224	99%	12	215	94%
4/11	1	224	100%	8	215	96%
4/12	2	224	99%	21	215	90%
4/13	5	224	98%	14	215	93%
4/16	28	224	88%	33	215	85%
4/17	3	224	99%	10	215	95%
4/18	3	224	99%	7	215	97%
4/19	9	224	96%	14	215	93%
4/20	8	224	96%	16	215	93%
4/23	14	224	94%	12	215	94%
4/24	10	224	96%	10	215	95%
4/25	4	224	98%	26	215	88%
4/26	5	224	98%	15	215	93%
4/27	9	224	96%	23	215	89%
4/30	14	224	94%	19	215	91%
Average	8	224	97%	16	215	93%



Promise Academy II

FY 2018 Apr YTD Budget vs. Actual \$ millions

	Budget	Actual ⁽¹⁾	Fav/(Unfav)	Full Year Budget
Enrollment	1,033	986	(47)	1,033
DOE and other gov't funding	\$ 15.1	\$ 14.8	\$ (0.3)	\$ 18.1
Expenses:				
Salaries	9.8	9.4	0.4	12.1
Benefits	3.2	3.0	0.2	3.9
OTPS	2.9	2.9	-	3.5
Total Expenses	15.9	15.3	0.6	19.5
HCZ Contribution	\$ 0.8	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.3	\$ 1.4
per student (whole \$)	\$ 791	\$ 473	\$ 317	\$ 1,355

(1) Excludes bonus, growth fund, "in-kind" contributions and rent paid under HCZ-PAll lease agreement.

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