



# Promise Academy I 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**

Ellanor (Bodie) Brizendine  
Stanley Druckenmiller  
Denise Fuller  
Willie Mae Lewis  
Keith Meister  
Aisha Tomlinson  
Alfonso Wyatt

Achil Petit  
**Superintendent**

Joseph Cordero  
**Principal  
Elementary School**  
245 West 129<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10027  
Tel 212.360.3232

Madelaine German-Schultz  
**Principal  
Middle School**  
245 West 129<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10027  
Tel 212.360.3233

**Principal  
High School**  
245 West 129<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10027  
Tel 212.360.3234

## AGENDA

Promise Academy I Board of Trustees Meeting  
Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019

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 I Updates
  - i. Elementary School (*Joseph Cordero*)
  - ii. Middle School (*Madelaine German-Schultz*)
  - iii. High School (*Susan Rydz*)
- V. Financial Report (*Jim Hutter*)
- VI. Student Presentation (*Achil Petit*)

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

**Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 30, 2019**

**245 West 129th Street**

*Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Mitch Kurz (by phone), Anne Williams-Isom, Bodie Brizendine, Stan Druckenmiller, Denise Fuller, Willie Mae Lewis, Keith Meister, Aisha Tomlinson, Alfonso Wyatt (by phone), Sara Alvarado, Candice Ashby, Victor Boadum, Rowland Boateng, Ari Browne, Joseph Cordero, Amy Deal, , Kashif Hameed, Jennifer Klein, Shondell James, Betina Jean-Louis, Justin Maker, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Achil Petit, Susan Rydz, Madelaine Schultz, Troy Smith, and Toya Stilley*

**Acceptance of Minutes (Geoffrey Canada)**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. and a motion was called to approve the meeting minutes from September 11, 2019. The motion was unanimously approved.

**CEO Report (Anne Williams-Isom)**

Anne Williams-Isom and Dr. Betina Jean-Louis spoke about the work of Dr. Michael Lindsay - professor and executive director of the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at NYU. Dr. Lindsay is a child and adolescent mental health researcher whose work focuses on the impact of mental health in the African American community. He has partnered with Promise Academy and the Institute of Family Health to identify children who may be suffering from depression to support their families with appropriate resources.

Ms. Williams-Isom distributed a booklet about Promise Academy's Cultivating Excellence Initiative to the board, a document that clearly defines the schools' efforts to build on strengths and identify weaknesses to improve practices across the Promise Academy Charter Schools.

**Superintendent's Update (Dr. Achil Petit)**

Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is at 1,144 for Promise Academy I and at 1,044 for Promise Academy II. Dr. Petit also thanked the principals and the Promise Academy Central Office for their outreach efforts during the enrollment period.

Dr. Petit reported the resignation of Promise Academy I High School principal Zahida Aminy. Education Director Bridget O'Neill will be acting principal until the role is filled. Dr. Petit also thanked the Central Office Director of Operations, Toya Stilley, PAI High School Educational Director of STEM Dr. Chanelle Cox, and the PAI High School Operations Director Monique Misty for their efforts to support the high school during this time of transition.

Deputy of Special Projects Susan Rydz will give the updates for PAI High School.

### **HCZ Promise Academy I Elementary School (Dr. Joseph Cordero)**

The elementary school's attendance was at 95% for September. School leaders continue to meet with parents to discuss the importance of getting their scholars to school every day.

To further efforts regarding social-emotional learning, PAI Elementary has been starting each day with "community circles" in the classrooms. These restorative practices continue to help build a sense of community, emotional awareness and empathy among students.

In honor of a former student who passed away from sickle cell anemia, Promise Academy I recited the Promise Academy Creed together on Sickle Cell Awareness Day.

"Back-to-school" night was held on September 12<sup>th</sup> with 301 parents attending.

The first parent-teacher conference of the year was held to discuss students' progress with 412 parents attending.

The newly elected board of the Promise Academy I Parents Association (PAPA I) met with principal Dr. Cordero to discuss ways in which they can work with the administrative staff to support the school.

### **HCZ Promise Academy I Middle School (Madelaine Schultz)**

The middle school's attendance was at 97% for September. School staff members will make efforts to ensure high attendance.

Academic Dean Camil Alassan created the "Brothers Initiating Growth and Greatness" program (B.I.G.G.) to ensure that middle school boys are consistently mentored and engaged in community service to help build character.

Middle school girls are volunteering with City Harvest to distribute produce to the residents of the Saint Nicholas community.

Parent-teacher conferences were held on October 17<sup>th</sup> with 150 parents attending.

### **HCZ Promise Academy I High School (Susan Rydz)**

The high school's attendance was at 96% for September. Staff members will continue outreach efforts to ensure good attendance.

97% of the senior class has met their graduating testing requirements. School leaders are working with the remaining 3% to meet benchmarks.

Parent-teacher conferences were held in October.

High school juniors took the PSAT exam on October 16<sup>th</sup>. After, students were treated to a trip to the movies.

Seniors went on a college tour to visit SUNY Oswego, Binghamton University and Syracuse University.

On October 10<sup>th</sup>, the school held a "FAFSA Night" to give parents and seniors an opportunity to complete their FAFSA forms. More than 80% of parents attended and had one-on-one meetings with advisors. The remaining parents and seniors completed their forms in the following week.

To further efforts in social-emotional learning, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders have completed group projects on social justice, with a focus on self-identity as well as learning how to relate to others in their social groups. Students in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade have been exploring their passions, their values and their purpose and 12<sup>th</sup> graders have been exploring their strengths and weaknesses, what it means to have a “growth mindset” and the importance of emotional awareness.

### **Financial Report (Sara Alvarado)**

PAI’s enrollment is at 1,144, which is 16 students favorable. PAI revenue is on track with its budget. PAI is \$200,000 favorable with expenses at \$4.8M. There is no HCZ contribution through the first three months of FY20.

Grant Thornton is currently performing the audit of FY18 for PAI. Once the audit is complete, the audited financial statements and report on internal control will be filed with the New York State Education Department by the November 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

### **English Language Learners Preference Resolution (Candice Ashby)**

A motion was called to add an English Language Learners (ELL) preference to the kindergarten lottery for Harlem Children’s Zone Promise Academy I Charter School. The Board unanimously approved the resolution. A detailed version of the resolution can be found within the October 30, 2019 board packet on the Promise Academy website.

<https://hczpromise.org/community/board-meeting-documents/>

### **Teacher Presentation (Dr. Achil Petit)**

Each teacher from Promise Academy I and II who had the highest percentage of scholars earn proficiency on the New York State exams were honored at the board meeting.

In PAI, fifth-grade math teacher Elleace David had 81% of her students score proficient and seventh-grade teacher Kyler Morris had 95% scholar proficiency. At PAII, fifth-grade math teacher O’Mara Galvez’s students earned 75.5% proficiency. 100% percent of the students in Education Director Ryan Carroll’s eighth-grade class scored proficient, with those same students passing the Algebra I Regents exam.

The teachers spoke on their methods in the classroom that contribute to student success, including analyzing data closely and teaching their scholars to have a “growth mindset.”

# HCZ Promise Academy I

## October 2019 Attendance Report

Date	HCZ PAI Elementary School				HCZ PAI Middle School				HCZ PAI High School			
	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present
10/2	30	656	95%	1	240	100%	3	254	99%			
10/3	23	656	96%	11	240	95%	5	254	98%			
10/4	22	654	97%	11	240	95%	7	254	97%			
10/7	27	654	96%	3	240	99%	5	254	98%			
10/8	24	654	96%	5	240	98%	7	254	97%			
10/10	37	653	94%	2	240	99%	8	254	97%			
10/11	23	653	96%	3	240	99%	5	254	98%			
10/15	32	652	95%	7	240	97%	5	253	98%			
10/16	43	652	93%	9	240	96%	7	253	97%			
10/17	28	652	96%	9	240	96%	7	253	97%			
10/18	34	653	95%	5	240	98%	11	253	96%			
10/21	25	653	96%	11	240	95%	7	252	97%			
10/22	21	653	97%	5	240	98%	11	252	96%			
10/23	17	654	97%	3	240	99%	13	252	95%			
10/24	20	654	97%	6	240	98%	15	251	94%			
10/25	138	654	79%	19	240	92%	26	249	90%			
10/28	23	655	96%	7	240	97%	7	248	97%			
10/29	21	655	97%	7	240	97%	6	247	98%			
10/30	25	655	96%	5	240	98%	6	246	98%			
10/31	60	655	91%	26	240	89%	30	246	88%			
<b>Average</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>96%</b>			

## Promise Academy I

### FY 2020 October YTD Budget vs. Actual

\$ millions

	Budget	Actual <sup>(1)</sup>	Fav/(Unfav)	Full Year Budget
<b>Enrollment</b>	1,128	1,135	7	1,128
<b>DOE and other gov't funding</b>	\$ 7.1	\$ 7.1	\$ -	\$ 21.4
<b>Expenses:</b>				
Salaries	3.9	3.9	-	12.7
Benefits	1.2	1.2	-	4.0
OTPS	1.3	1.3	-	3.8
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20.5</b>
<b>Expenses in excess of public funding</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Contribution Components:</b>				
Private Funding	0.4	0.4	-	1.3
HCZ Contribution	-	-	-	-
<b>per student (whole \$)</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

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

FY20 Operating Budget does not include PA Blueprint project