



# Promise Academy I Charter School

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

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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

Bridget O'Neill  
**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  
Wednesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020  
at  
The Harlem Children's Zone  
Conference Call

- I. Acceptance of the Minutes
- II. CEO Report (*Kwame Owusu-Kesse*)
- III. Superintendent's Updates (*Achil Petit*)
- IV. Virtual Learning Update (*Amy Deal*)
- V. Financial Update (*Jim Hutter*)

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

### **Annual Board Meeting**

**Tuesday, June 9, 2020**

### **Conference Call**

*Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Mitch Kurz Ken Langone, Anne Williams-Isom, Ellanor (Bodie) Brizendine, Stan Druckenmiller, Keith Meister, Alfonso Wyatt, Candice Ashby, Victor Boadum, Ari Browne, Joseph Cordero, Amy Deal, Madelaine German-Schultz, Kashif Hameed, Shondell James, Jazmine Lewis, Justin Maker, Bridget O'Neill, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Achil Petit, Hayling Price, Susan Rydz, and Toya Stilley*

#### **Acceptance of Minutes (Geoffrey Canada)**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m., and a motion to approve the meeting minutes from May 13, 2020, was unanimously approved.

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

The Promise Academy I & II Board of Trustees conveyed their gratitude for the great work of Anne Williams-Isom in her roles as Chief Executive Officer of Harlem Children's Zone and President of the Promise Academy Boards of Trustees. The Board also welcomed CEO-elect Kwame Owusu-Kesse in his new role.

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

Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is currently 1,116 for Promise Academy I and 1,011 for Promise Academy II.

Dr. Petit reported on his plan to create more opportunities for professionals to speak to scholars about racial equality in the upcoming school year.

A planning committee is currently in place to create reopening plans for Promise Academy schools in the fall, with a strong focus on safety for all staff and students.

The Promise Academy High School graduation will be held virtually on June 26, 2020, at 10 a.m.

Dr. Petit thanked principals, Kashif Hameed, Dr. Joseph Cordero, and Amy Deal; and HCZ human resources recruiters for holding a webinar for potential teachers last week, with 84 participants attending the event.

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

The elementary school's attendance was 95% for May.

Students, teachers, and social workers spoke together about social unrest and civil justice to help scholars process the protests and discussions sparked by the death of George Floyd. The principal also wrote a letter to staff members to encourage them.

The school deans have been conducting a virtual reading room series from 12-1 p.m. daily, which also allows students to access Accelerated Reader.

The school is in the process of completing Instructional Reading Level (IRL) testing to ensure that scholars are meeting benchmarks.

The scholars continue to take virtual field trips.

The book of the month explored the character trait “patience.”

“Moving Up” graduation ceremonies for kindergarten scholars and graduation celebrations for fifth graders are scheduled for June 22, 2020. Dr. Cordero thanked Ms. Schultz for meeting with the parents of transitioning sixth-grade scholars.

Director of Social-Emotional Learning Deirdre Schwiring had a jam session with parents to share best practices in speaking to children about the COVID-19 crisis.

Professional development events for staff members have helped to inform them of the HCZ services that are available for students.

Teachers received tokens of appreciation for Teacher Appreciation Week. Additionally, the staff participated in a virtual game event.

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

The middle school’s attendance was 98% for May.

To address the current social unrest, school leaders have been checking in with scholars and teachers during morning meetings. Staff members have been able to voice concerns and receive guidance on how to handle distress and conversations on civic injustice.

During history and ELA classes, students have engaged in student-led advocacy to create safe ways to have their voices heard, such as writing letters to political leaders in their borough and city.

Students participated in a virtual poetry slam, which gave them a creative outlet to express their feelings. School leaders have been collaborating with the social work team for additional support.

In science classes, students engaged in a virtual scavenger hunt.

The school continues to host “Fun Fridays” with virtual games for staff.

The middle school has shared best practices with staff to help with the learning process.

PAI High School Principal Bridget O’Neill spoke with parents of eighth-grade scholars about their transition to high school.

75% of students have participated in study hall during breaks.

The middle school has partnered with PAI Elementary School to have jam sessions for the parents of transitioning fifth graders.

### **HCZ Promise Academy I High School (Bridget O’Neill)**

The high school’s attendance was 94% for May.

School leaders continue to give teachers opportunities to express concerns about teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic.

High school students are working with the learning community to express their feelings.

Operations director Sean Harrell, head dean Charlene Nevett, and Ms. Schwiring gave talks about racial injustice.

On June 4<sup>th</sup>, there was a professional development session with team-building exercises and a stress workshop for staff members led by the Success in Motion wellness organization.

School leaders met with teachers to discuss the HCZ Pillars of Wellness and Mental Health and how best to support high school scholars.

A 10<sup>th</sup>-grade scholar, Valley Diallo, was chosen to be the ambassador for the O'Brien Youth Leadership this summer.

The school has continued partnering with Robin Pogrebin, a "New York Times" reporter. Ms. Pogrebin offers writing guidance for our rising seniors as they prepare personal statements for college applications.

Scholars who are working to meet benchmarks continue to attend Saturday Academy for extra support.

Preparation is underway for the Promise High School virtual graduation ceremony on June 26<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.

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

PAI's enrollment is at 1,116, which is 12 unfavorable versus the budget. PAI revenue is \$500,000 unfavorable versus the budget. PAI is \$500,000 favorable, with expenses at \$20.9M. There is no HCZ contribution through 11 months of FY20.

### **FY21 Budget (Jim Hutter)**

A motion was called to approve the HCZ Promise Academy I Charter School budget for the fiscal year 2021. The Board unanimously approved the resolution. A detailed version of the resolution can be found within the June 9, 2020 board packet on the Promise Academy website.

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

### **PAI Board Elections (Candice Ashby)**

A motion was called to re-elect HCZ Promise Academy I Board of Trustee members, Geoffrey Canada, Stanley Druckenmiller, Kenneth Langone, Aisha Tomlinson, and Alfonso Wyatt; and to elect a new Board officer, Kwame Owusu-Kesse. The Board unanimously approved the resolution. A detailed list of the approved elected and re-elected Board members can be found within the June 9, 2020 board packet on the Promise Academy website.

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

## HCZ Promise Academy I June 2020 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 |
| 6/1            | 29                        | 644        | 95%                   | 2                         | 236        | 99%                   | 8                         | 236        | 97%                   |
| 6/2            | 28                        | 644        | 96%                   | 6                         | 236        | 97%                   | 15                        | 236        | 94%                   |
| 6/3            | 31                        | 644        | 95%                   | 8                         | 236        | 97%                   | 19                        | 236        | 92%                   |
| 6/5            | 41                        | 644        | 94%                   | 8                         | 236        | 97%                   | 13                        | 236        | 94%                   |
| 6/8            | 44                        | 644        | 93%                   | 9                         | 236        | 96%                   | 21                        | 236        | 91%                   |
| 6/9            | 38                        | 644        | 94%                   | 8                         | 236        | 97%                   | 17                        | 236        | 93%                   |
| 6/10           | 48                        | 644        | 93%                   | 8                         | 236        | 97%                   | 14                        | 236        | 94%                   |
| 6/11           | 38                        | 644        | 94%                   | 5                         | 236        | 98%                   | 15                        | 236        | 94%                   |
| 6/12           | 51                        | 644        | 92%                   | 17                        | 236        | 93%                   | 10                        | 236        | 96%                   |
| 6/15           | 47                        | 644        | 93%                   | 7                         | 236        | 97%                   | 15                        | 236        | 94%                   |
| 6/16           | 44                        | 644        | 93%                   | 6                         | 236        | 97%                   | 5                         | 236        | 98%                   |
| 6/17           | 49                        | 644        | 92%                   | 12                        | 236        | 95%                   | 16                        | 236        | 93%                   |
| 6/18           | 34                        | 644        | 95%                   | 8                         | 236        | 97%                   | 14                        | 236        | 94%                   |
| 6/19           | 55                        | 644        | 91%                   | 14                        | 236        | 94%                   | 32                        | 236        | 86%                   |
| 6/22           | 94                        | 644        | 85%                   | 9                         | 236        | 96%                   | 38                        | 236        | 84%                   |
| 6/23           | 85                        | 644        | 87%                   | 17                        | 236        | 93%                   | <b>Intervention Week</b>  |            |                       |
| 6/24           | 85                        | 644        | 87%                   | 22                        | 236        | 91%                   |                           |            |                       |
| 6/25           | 89                        | 644        | 86%                   | 11                        | 236        | 95%                   |                           |            |                       |
| 6/26           | 121                       | 644        | 81%                   | 20                        | 236        | 92%                   |                           |            |                       |
| <b>Average</b> | <b>55</b>                 | <b>644</b> | <b>91%</b>            | <b>10</b>                 | <b>236</b> | <b>96%</b>            | <b>17</b>                 | <b>236</b> | <b>93%</b>            |

# Promise Academy I

## FY20 Budget vs FY20 Projection & FY21 Budget



| (\$ millions)                        | FY'20 Full Year<br>Budget | FY'20 Full Year<br>Projection | Fav/(Unfav) | FY'21<br>Budget | FY21 B vs FY20 B<br>Fav/(Unfav) |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Enrollment                           | 1,128                     | 1,116 (a)                     | (12)        | 1,119           | (9)                             |
| DOE and other gov't funding          | \$ 21.4                   | \$ 20.9 (b)                   | \$ (0.5)    | \$ 21.3 (c)     | \$ (0.1)                        |
| Expenses:                            |                           |                               |             |                 |                                 |
| Salaries                             | 12.7                      | 12.7                          | -           | 13.2            | (0.5)                           |
| Benefits                             | 4.0                       | 3.9                           | 0.1         | 4.1             | (0.1)                           |
| OTPS                                 | 3.8                       | 3.4                           | 0.4         | 3.7             | 0.1                             |
| Total Expenses (d)                   | \$ 20.5                   | \$ 20.0                       | \$ 0.5      | \$ 21.0         | \$ (0.5)                        |
| Expenses in excess of public funding | -                         | -                             | -           | -               | -                               |
| Contribution Components:             |                           |                               |             |                 |                                 |
| Private Funding                      | 1.3                       | 1.3                           | -           | -               | -                               |
| HCZ Contribution                     | -                         | -                             | -           | -               | -                               |
| per student (whole \$)               | \$ -                      | \$ -                          | \$ -        | \$ -            | \$ -                            |

(a) Average enrollment for FY20 is 1127

(b) Excludes Government Funding (SBA loan forgiveness).

(c) Awaiting determination of NYS one-time funding - historically about \$0.2M.

(d) Excludes bonus, growth fund, PA Blueprint & HCZ allocations.