



# Promise Academy I Charter School

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

Madelaine German-Schultz  
**Principal**  
**Middle School**  
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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  
Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020

at

The Harlem Children's Zone  
Video Conference

- I. Acceptance of the Minutes
- II. CEO Report (*Kwame Owusu-Kesse*)
- 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 (*Bridget O'Neill*)
- V. Financial Report (*Jim Hutter*)

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

## **Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, November 4, 2020**

### **Video Conference**

*Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Mitch Kurz, Ken Langone, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Fatime Cadoo, Stan Druckenmiller, Willie Mae Lewis, Sara Alvarado, Nana Annan, Candice Ashby, Ari Browne, Joseph Cordero, Amy Deal, Tiffany Fountain, Kashif Hameed, Jim Hutter, Shondell James, Jennifer Klein, Jazmine Lewis, Justin Maker, Liam McCarthy, Bridget O'Neill, Achil Petit, Wesner Pierre, Hayling Price, Susan Rydz, Madelaine Schultz, and Toya Stilley*

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m., and a motion to approve the meeting minutes from October 14, 2020 was unanimously approved.

#### **CEO Report (Kwame Owusu-Kesse)**

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Kwame Owusu-Kesse reported that HCZ, in partnership with Mobile Health, has tested 3,000 individuals. In conjunction with social distancing and other safety measures, frequent testing continues to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

HCZ proactively encouraged people within the community to vote in the 2020 election, through mail or in person.

Mr. Owusu-Kesse thanked operations, facilities, after-school, kitchen, and administrative staff members for their consistent, supportive service in keeping scholars and employees safe.

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

Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is currently 1,155 for Promise Academy I and 1,064 for Promise Academy II.

Both Promise Academy schools held professional development sessions.

Promise families who chose remote learning received a survey allowing them to switch their children to a hybrid learning plan for the second marking period. More than 100 parents have decided to switch over to hybrid so far.

Saturday school and Academic Hour sessions have been virtual this school year.

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

The elementary school's attendance was 94% for October. The school continues to reach out to families whose children have chronic absences or latenesses.

School leaders continue to hold weekly jam sessions with parents.

The school celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with a virtual presentation, including musical performances by scholars in Spanish and art presentations. At the end of Hispanic Heritage Month, the principal baked *tres leches* cupcakes for the staff.

Saturday Academy and Academic Hour sessions have been going well, with scholars consistently logging on to receive academic support.

The school held parent/teacher conferences for mid-marking period check-ins to inform parents about their scholar's progress.

The month's character trait is "kindness," with scholars reading the book of the month, *I Am Every Good Thing*, by Derrick Barnes and Gordon C. James.

Scholars celebrated Unity Day by wearing orange to symbolize kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.

The school has held fire drills using social distancing measures to keep children and staff members safe.

Professional development sessions were held for teachers on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

School leaders have been working with teachers to review academic data that indicates scholar performance.

The school is currently in the process of strengthening its video library.

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

The middle school's attendance was 98% for October.

The school packaged art supplies and sent them home with scholars, which allowed scholars to create artwork during remote learning. Their artwork was displayed in a virtual art gallery.

The middle school held parent/teacher conferences with a high level of attendance from families.

To cultivate a sense of community among staff members, school leaders created a group that meets with teachers to share positive messages and stories during their daily morning huddles.

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

The PAI high school's attendance was 97% for October.

The school has begun holding college activities, including FAFSA night. With 93% of scholars attending college next year, scholars received support completing and submitting their financial aid applications. Seniors also won raffle prizes and learned about the website "Going Merry," which allows users to find and apply for college scholarships.

The school held parent/teacher conferences on October 14<sup>th</sup>, with more than 50 families attending.

Both Promise Academy High Schools launched virtual lunches for juniors and seniors to meet representatives and admissions officers from Dartmouth, Seton Hall University, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, and Boston University. The lunches will continue throughout November. The school is also planning a "College Week."

On October 21, the school held a senior event, with each senior receiving a Grubhub gift card to order their lunch for the virtual Zoom party. During the virtual party, seniors shared ideas and designed the 2021 High School Yearbook.

**Financial Update (Jim Hutter)**

PAI's enrollment is at 1,155, which is 36 favorable versus the budget. PAI revenue is on target with the budget. PAI is \$400,000 favorable, with expenses at \$6.5M. There is no HCZ contribution through four months of FY21.

Grant Thornton has completed the financial statement and compliance audit, with an unqualified opinion and no control issues. The PAI financial statements were filed with the New York State Education Department for the November 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline.

# HCZ Promise Academy I

## November 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
11/2	20	657	97%	2	260	99%	10	236	96%
11/4	38	658	94%	6	260	98%	5	236	98%
11/5	27	658	96%	3	260	99%	4	236	98%
11/6	37	658	94%	2	260	99%	11	236	95%
11/9	40	658	94%	5	260	98%	3	236	99%
11/10	29	658	96%	3	260	99%	3	236	99%
11/12	24	658	96%	6	260	98%	6	236	97%
11/13	53	658	92%	0	260	100%	8	236	97%
11/16	33	658	95%	7	260	97%	9	236	96%
11/17	49	658	93%	6	260	98%	8	236	97%
11/18	29	657	96%	7	260	97%	3	236	99%
11/19	30	657	95%	4	260	98%	10	236	96%
11/20	26	657	96%	5	260	98%	5	236	98%
11/23	44	657	93%	4	260	98%	4	236	98%
11/24	43	657	93%	5	260	98%	3	236	99%
11/25	62	656	91%	9	260	97%	21	236	91%
11/30	45	656	93%	3	260	99%	10	236	96%
<b>Average</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>97%</b>



**Promise Academy I**  
**FY 2021 November YTD Budget vs. Actual**  
 \$ millions

		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>	<u>Full Year Budget</u>
Enrollment		1,119	1,151	32	1,119
DOE and other gov't funding	(a)	\$ 8.9	\$ 8.9	\$ -	\$ 21.3
<b>Expenses:</b>					
Salaries		5.5	5.4	0.1	13.2
Benefits		1.8	1.7	0.1	4.1
OTPS		1.5	1.0	0.5	3.7
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>21.0</b>
Expenses in excess of public funding		-	-	-	-
<b>Contribution Components:</b>					
HCZ Contribution		-	-	-	-
per student (whole \$)		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

*(a) Excludes Government Funding (SBA loan forgiveness).  
 Awaiting determination of NYS one-time funding - historically about \$0.2M.*

*(b) Excludes bonus, growth fund, PA COVID/Emergency relief & HCZ allocations.*