



Promise Academy II Charter School

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Kashif Hameed
Principal
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AGENDA

Promise Academy II Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, April 21st, 2021
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 II Updates
 - i. Elementary School (*Shondell James*)
 - ii. Middle School (*Amy Deal*)
 - iii. High School (*Kashif Hameed*)
- V. Financial Report (*Connor Fournier*)

The Harlem Children's Zone Promise Academy II Charter School

Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

Video Conference

Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Mitch Kurz, Ken Langone, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Bodie Brizendine, Fatime Cadoo, Stan Druckenmiller, Willie Mae Lewis, Keith Meister, Alfonso Wyatt, Sara Alvarado, Nana Annan, Candice Ashby, Ari Browne, Joseph Cordero, Amy Deal, Connor Fournier, Kashif Hameed, Shondell James, Jennifer Klein, Jazmine Lewis, Stephanie Lilavois, Justin Maker, Bridget O'Neill, Achil Petit, Wesner Pierre, Hayling Price, 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 to approve the meeting minutes from February 10, 2021 was unanimously approved.

CEO Report (Kwame Owusu-Kesse)

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Kwame Owusu-Kesse introduced two new executives:

Connor Fournier joined Harlem Children's Zone in February 2021 as the new Chief Financial Officer (CFO). He graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) with a corporate finance degree. Most recently, Connor worked as the Vice President of Finance and Interim CFO at Success Academy.

Stephanie Lilavois joined HCZ as the Managing Director of Communications in February after fifteen years of progressive communication experience for non-profits, including the University of Pittsburg and the City University of New York. She graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a degree in Communications.

Mr. Owusu-Kesse reported that since November, HCZ, in partnership with Mobile Health, has conducted more than 7,000 tests for COVID-19 with a 2% positivity rate. However, last week, 400 tests were conducted with a 5% positivity rate, reflecting the current rise of the rate of infection in Central Harlem. Justin Maker, Senior Managing Director, Human Resources and his team, continue to track data and provide weekly updates to inform HCZ's decision-making and program design.

Mr. Owusu-Kesse also reported that HCZ's internal task force is dedicated to educating the community about vaccines. Planning efforts have included the vaccination of the entire executive team. Additionally, Mr. Owusu-Kesse recently spoke with and received guidance from Dr. Julia Iashare, a senior staff member at New York-Presbyterian and HCZ President and Founder Geoffrey Canada, who continues to address this issue nationally.

Superintendent's Update (Dr. Achil Petit)

Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is currently 1,140 for Promise Academy I and 1,053 for Promise Academy II.

Dr. Petit also reported that the reopening of Promise Academy Charter Schools to hybrid learning had gone smoothly. Dr. Petit thanked the IT, facilities, and safety teams for their efforts in ensuring the safety of HCZ scholars and that they are equipped with the tools necessary for hybrid learning.

Dr. Petit reminded the board of trustees that information on State exams has still not been released following the New York State Education Department's request for an assessment waiver due to the pandemic. If the Federal Government denies a waiver request, Dr. Petit reported, then NYSED will reduce the number of Regents exams and the length of grades 3-8 exams.

HCZ Promise Academy II Elementary School (Dr. Shondell James)

Dr. Shondell James reported that the Elementary School's attendance was 94% for February. The school continues to work with parents and families to get their scholars in school daily, whether remotely or in-person.

The school held a spirit week, giving scholars the opportunity to dress up as and celebrate African American leaders, activists, inventors, and entertainers, while learning about historically Black colleges and universities.

School leaders gave Panera Bread gift cards to staff members and held a virtual luncheon to show them appreciation for their hard work.

Teachers and staff met with parents to prepare them for a return to hybrid learning and answer their questions.

School leaders met individually with staff members for mid-year reviews. They discussed how they are progressing and offered support.

The Elementary School continues to host daily morning circles to give students an opportunity to express their feelings. Breaks from screen time also have been offered for the health and well being of young students.

School counselors, social workers, and deans have been meeting with scholars who require extra support. In addition, social workers have been partnering with the performing arts teacher to build scholar engagement.

HCZ Promise Academy II Middle School (Amy Deal)

Principal Amy Deal reported that the Middle School's attendance was 96% for February.

Education directors continue to provide professional development opportunities for teachers and staff across both middle schools, including video studies of exemplary work and best practices across all disciplines.

Black History Month celebrations were held throughout February with assemblies every Friday. They included displays of virtual student artwork from both middle schools.

The school's physical education teacher held a TikTok fitness challenge in which staff and students created videos of themselves performing their favorite fitness workout. The videos were collaged and shown at a celebration for the scholars.

The school held an Army of Love challenge on February 14, with scholars dressing in pink, red, and fatigue prints.

The Promise Academy II Parent Association (PAPA II) had a game night in February, using Black History Month questions in a Jeopardy-style event.

The school's social worker created a presentation on COVID-19 fatigue to help teachers identify ways to ensure scholars get screen breaks.

HCZ Promise Academy II High School (Kashif Hameed)

Principal Kashif Hameed reported that the High School's attendance was 92% for February. The school celebrated 44 students achieving perfect attendance and rewarded them with gift cards.

The school celebrated Black History Month with virtual events including a cooking class with celebrity Chef Jason Ellis. The principal assisted as the sous chef, with staff and students cooking apple crumb pie and stewed chicken.

The high school opened up its Titans' Treasure school store, which offered the opportunity for scholars who had accumulated "kickboard points" to purchase items. The school store was put in place to encourage continued positive behavior.

100 percent of PAII High School students applied for the Geoffrey Canada Scholarship along with two other internal scholarships. Only eight students have yet to receive college acceptances, as CUNY is currently evaluating applications.

The school had a meet and greet with PAII Middle School's eighth graders to talk to their parents about the transition to high school. Another virtual meet and greet is scheduled for eighth-grade students.

Three students with individualized education plans (IEPs) were declassified due to the consistent supports they received.

All of the principals are meeting with different colleges to inform student and teachers of the opportunities that exist at HCZ Promise Academy.

Financial Update (Connor Fournier)

CFO Connor Fournier reported that PAII's enrollment is at 1,053, which is 25 favorable versus the budget. PAII revenue is on target with the budget. PAII is \$500,000 favorable, with expenses at \$12.7M. There is no HCZ contribution through eight months of FY21.

HCZ Promise Academy II

March 2021 Attendance Report

Date	HCZ PAII Elementary School			HCZ PAII Middle School			HCZ PAII 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
3/1	50	574	91%	12	265	95%	25	212	88%
3/2	29	574	95%	8	265	97%	28	212	87%
3/3	36	574	94%	10	265	96%	16	212	92%
3/4	48	574	92%	9	265	97%	12	212	94%
3/5	37	574	94%	13	265	95%	7	212	97%
3/8	47	574	92%	15	265	94%	20	212	91%
3/9	23	574	96%	11	265	96%	23	212	89%
3/10	24	574	96%	2	265	99%	21	212	90%
3/11	36	574	94%	2	265	99%	16	212	92%
3/15	47	574	92%	15	265	94%	26	212	88%
3/16	42	574	93%	7	265	97%	34	212	84%
3/17	40	574	93%	12	265	95%	9	212	96%
3/18	36	574	94%	6	265	98%	14	212	93%
3/19	46	574	92%	7	265	97%	12	212	94%
3/22	34	574	94%	11	265	96%	25	212	88%
3/23	31	574	95%	6	265	98%	36	212	83%
3/24	40	574	93%	7	265	97%	8	212	96%
3/25	44	574	92%	12	265	95%	15	212	93%
3/26	61	574	89%	13	265	95%	20	212	91%
Average	40	574	93%	9	265	96%	19	212	91%



Promise Academy II
FY 2021 March YTD Budget vs. Actual
 \$ millions

		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>	<u>Full Year Budget</u>
Enrollment		1,028	1,050	22	1,028
DOE and other gov't funding	(a)	\$ 15.2	\$ 15.2	\$ -	\$ 20.3
Expenses:					
Salaries		9.4	9.2	0.2	12.8
Benefits		3.0	2.9	0.1	4.1
OTPS		2.4	2.1	0.3	3.2
Total Expenses	(b)	14.8	14.2	0.6	20.1
Expenses in excess of public funding		-	-	-	-
Contribution Components:					
HCZ Contribution		-	-	-	-
per student (whole \$)		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

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

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