



Promise Academy I Charter School

A partner of



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Bridget O'Neill
**Principal
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AGENDA

Promise Academy I Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, March 16th, 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 I Updates
 - i. Elementary School (*Joseph Cordero*)
 - ii. Middle School (*Madelaine German-Schultz*)
 - iii. High School (*Bridget O'Neill*)
- V. Financial Report (*Connor Fournier*)

The Harlem Children's Zone Promise Academy I Charter School

Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

Video Conference

Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Mitch Kurz, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Bodie Brizendine, Fatime Cadoo, Stan Druckenmiller, Keith Meister, Sara Alvarado, Nana Annan, Candice Ashby, Ari Browne, Joseph Cordero, Amy Deal, Conner Fournier, Kashif Hameed, Jim Hutter, Shondell James, Jennifer Klein, Jazmine Lewis, Willie Mae Lewis, Justin Maker, Liam McCarthy, 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 January 20, 2021 was unanimously approved.

CEO Report (Kwame Owusu-Kesse)

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Kwame Owusu-Kesse reported that staff members have begun returning to the office on a hybrid schedule this week. The remaining staff are slated to return throughout February. Scholars will return to hybrid learning on March 1, 2021. The executive team will continue to maintain a hybrid schedule as they have done throughout the remote period.

Mr. Owusu-Kesse also reported that 4,356 HCZ and Promise Academy staff members and students have been tested to date in partnership with Mobile Health. Students and staff members continue to be tested in preparation for their return to the classroom.

Mr. Owusu-Kesse opened the Promise Academy I Parent Association (PAPA I) meeting held on February 9, 2021. Parents showed gratitude for the efforts from school leadership and staff members and discussed the challenges of remote learning.

Superintendent's Update (Dr. Achil Petit)

Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is currently 1,142 for Promise Academy I and 1,055 for Promise Academy II.

Dr. Petit also reported that the enrollment period for the 2021-2022 school year has begun. Dr. Petit and his team are working with Human Resources to fill teaching and other vacancies at the schools in preparation for the upcoming academic year.

Saturday Academy and Academic Hour continue to be successful with strong attendance from scholars who require additional help to meet academic benchmarks.

In partnership with wellness affiliates Success in Motion, Dr. Petit joined famed chef Jason Ellis in a virtual cooking class for staff members.

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

The elementary school's attendance was 94% for January.

School leaders have increased time for Academic Hour and Saturday Academy to give scholars more opportunities to meet academic benchmarks. The school is providing extra support for scholars on Mondays and Tuesdays and curriculum assistance Wednesdays through Saturdays.

The elementary school has held town hall meetings on response to intervention, challenges scholars are facing, and what supports can be provided for them.

Scholars in grades 1-5 are participating in a reading challenge leading up to Valentine's Day. Prizes will be given to scholars who read the most books.

The character trait celebrated for the month was "enthusiasm" highlighted by the book club's current read -"Under My Hijab" by Hena Khan.

The school continues weekly "jam sessions" to give parents updates and allow them to ask questions.

School leaders provided i-Ready Assessment training and positive education training for elementary school teachers. The school continues to focus on building professional learning communities.

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

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

Scholars participated in a virtual tour of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial in honor of the national holiday. Scholars were asked to record their own dreams and positively affirm their goals.

Families of eighth-grade middle school students were invited to a virtual meeting in which high school staff answered questions about scholars' transition to high school.

The school held a homework and homeschooling parenting workshop to support parents during remote learning.

The school relaunched the "Ladies of Promise Academy" initiative, which allows high-performing female students opportunities to mentor their peers.

The middle school held a virtual honor roll ceremony for children who are exceeding expectations, as well as those scholars who have made significant academic strides during the marking period. Teachers shared testimonials about scholars who have shown growth.

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

The high school's attendance was 94% for January.

The school continues its partnership with the J.P. Morgan Chase Project Live, Inc. program. Four scholars were chosen to participate for 2021. The scholars meet weekly with an assigned mentor to learn about financial literacy and compete in team challenges.

The principal thanked COO Nana Annan for introducing an opportunity for nine junior and senior high school scholars to be mentored in partnership with M&T Bank. For four weeks, scholars focused on financial literacy, exploring topics such as growing wealth. The school received positive feedback from M&T Bank about the participating scholars' engagement and prior knowledge.

Promise Academy high schools continued their monthly Masters and Mentors speaker series. This month, American journalist, activist, and educator Herb Boyd held a virtual session with scholars to discuss his experience working alongside civil rights leader Malcolm X and how Harlem has changed over the years.

The school held a second Roadmap to College event for families of eighth-grade scholars. More than 40 family members attended the virtual event to convene with college coordinators and school counselors on academic, social-emotional, and college readiness supports for high school students.

Financial Update (Jim Hutter)

PAI's enrollment is at 1,142, which is 23 favorable versus the budget. PAI revenue is on target with the budget. PAI is \$500,000 favorable, with expenses at \$11.5M. There is no HCZ contribution through seven months of FY21.

HCZ Promise Academy I

February 2021 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
2/1	55	649	92%	3	258	99%	42	235	82%
2/2	53	649	92%	9	258	97%	30	235	87%
2/3	34	649	95%	5	258	98%	27	235	89%
2/4	31	648	95%	5	258	98%	25	235	89%
2/5	43	648	93%	5	258	98%	27	235	89%
2/8	29	648	96%	8	258	97%	35	235	85%
2/9	31	648	95%	4	257	98%	35	235	85%
2/10	25	648	96%	6	257	98%	21	235	91%
2/11	35	648	95%	10	257	96%	18	235	92%
2/22	57	648	91%	4	257	98%	30	235	87%
2/23	35	648	95%	4	257	98%	34	235	86%
2/24	35	648	95%	5	257	98%	17	235	93%
2/25	43	648	93%	6	257	98%	21	235	91%
2/26	46	648	93%	7	257	97%	19	235	92%
Average	39	648	94%	6	257	98%	27	235	88%



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

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>	<u>Full Year Budget</u>
Enrollment	1,119	1,140	21	1,119
DOE and other gov't funding (a)	\$ 14.2	\$ 14.2	\$ -	\$ 21.3
Expenses:				
Salaries	8.5	8.3	0.2	13.2
Benefits	2.7	2.6	0.1	4.1
OTPS	2.5	2.1	0.4	3.7
Total Expenses (b)	13.7	13.0	0.7	21.0
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.