



Promise Academy I Charter School

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AGENDA

Promise Academy I Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, May 19th, 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 (*Susan Rydz*)
- V. Financial Report (*Connor Fournier*)

The Harlem Children's Zone Promise Academy I Charter School

Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 21, 2021

Video Conference

Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Mitch Kurz, 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, Jessica Lake, Jazmine Lewis, Stephanie Lilavois, Justin Maker, Liam McCarthy, Achil Petit, Wesner Pierre, Hayling Price, Susan Rydz, Madelaine Schultz, Troy Smith, and Toya Stillely

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 March 16, 2021 was unanimously approved.

CEO Report (Kwame Owusu-Kesse)

Chief Executive Officer Kwame Owusu-Kesse reported that Harlem Children's Zone continues to inform the community and dispel myths about the COVID-19 vaccine. HCZ held Just the Facts: COVID Vaccine Virtual Town Hall the first week of April, with guest speakers Dr. Julia Iyasere, Vice President of the Center for Health Justice at New York-Presbyterian, and Dr. Olajide Williams, Professor and Chief of Staff of the Department of Neurology at the Columbia University Vagelos College. More than 500 people attended the Town Hall, and it has been posted on the HCZ website for public viewing.

Mr. Owusu-Kesse also reported that there had been 9,948 COVID-19 tests conducted at the HCZ Armory to date. Human Resources Senior Managing Director Justin Maker and his team continue to disaggregate this data to ensure that the community's COVID-19 positivity rate is being monitored effectively.

HCZ Founder and President Geoffrey Canada and Mr. Owusu-Kesse sat down for an interview with CNN's News Anchor Poppy Harlow to discuss the pandemic recovery challenges facing hard-hit communities of color – and what Harlem Children's Zone is doing to address them.

On April 20, Mr. Owusu-Kesse gave a guest lecture on governance at Harvard Medical School.

Mr. Owusu-Kesse reported that he has a conversation scheduled with the Northside Achievement Zone in Minneapolis, and 450 people have signed up to attend so far.

Superintendent's Update (Dr. Achil Petit)

Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is currently 1,139 for Promise Academy I and 1,050 for Promise Academy II.

Dr. Petit is working with school leaders to celebrate Teacher's Appreciation Week and thank staff members for their hard work during a challenging year. Dr. Petit also treated the Facilities and Safety Teams to lunch to thank them for their hard work.

Dr. Petit met with principals who are working toward creating assessments that mock New York State exams.

Dr. Petit thanked Chief Operating Officer Nana Annan for her efforts to find temporary space for Promise Academy II Elementary School in the fall. Construction of a new site for the Elementary School is slated to be complete in time for the 2022-2023 school year.

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

Principal Dr. Joseph Cordero reported the Elementary School's attendance was 94% for March.

The Elementary School continues to provide intervention services for students during Academic Hour and Saturday Academy.

Dr. Cordero reported that the school's weekly jam sessions for parents have helped keep families informed and updated on school practices and events.

The school held virtual parent/teacher conferences with 482 parents attending.

The parents of incoming kindergarten scholars attended orientation with school leaders answering questions about expectations for the next school year.

The School celebrated Women's History Month and Black History Month. The School hosted a virtual panel of professionals, including a doctor, an art curator, and a Supreme Court Justice who answered scholars' questions.

The month's character trait was "imagination," highlighted by the book-of-the-month, "Astronaut Annie" by Suzanne Slade.

School leaders held a professional development event on Superintendent's Day to educate teachers about trauma-informed practice.

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

Principal Madelaine German-Schultz reported that the Middle School's attendance was 97% for March.

This month, the school held a hybrid information session to inform parents about in-person hybrid instruction for scholars. The school provided a video tour of the Promise Academy I building to show parents the safety measures that have been put in place.

The Middle School held parent/teacher conferences with about 100% of parents attending.

For Women's History Month, the Middle School invited inspirational women to speak to scholars at a panel discussion.

HCZ Promise Academy I High School (Susan Rydz)

Deputy of Special Projects Susan Rydz reported that the High School's attendance was 91% for March.

The High School held a college readiness night for the families of 11th grade scholars. School leaders spoke about annual summer exposure programs, which will be virtual this year. Junior scholars also got a head start on their application portfolios in preparation for next year.

Parent/teacher conferences were held with over 100 parents participating.

Both Promise Academy I and II high schools partnered to provide their staff with professional development opportunities on Superintendent's Day. The professional development session was virtual, and teachers participated in a "paint and chat" event with Success in Motion.

The High School held a Masters and Mentors speaker series event for scholars, with COO Nana Annan as one of the presenters.

Staff members attended a virtual event on self-care.

Financial Update (Connor Fournier)

CFO Connor Fournier reported that Promise Academy I's enrollment is 1,139, which is 20 favorable versus the budget. The School's revenue is on target with the budget. It is \$800,000 favorable, with expenses at \$14.5M. There is no HCZ contribution through nine months of FY21.

HCZ Promise Academy I

April 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
4/5	83	647	87%	11	257	96%	36	235	85%
4/6	46	647	93%	5	257	98%	33	235	86%
4/7	42	647	94%	13	257	95%	36	235	85%
4/8	50	647	92%	5	257	98%	28	235	88%
4/9	69	647	89%	9	257	96%	33	235	86%
4/12	47	647	93%	4	257	98%	25	235	89%
4/13	35	647	95%	4	257	98%	28	235	88%
4/14	42	647	94%	7	257	97%	26	235	89%
4/15	44	647	93%	8	257	97%	32	235	86%
4/16	49	647	92%	4	257	98%	30	235	87%
4/19	40	647	94%	5	257	98%	30	235	87%
4/20	34	647	95%	6	257	98%	26	235	89%
4/21	34	647	95%	11	257	96%	26	235	89%
4/22	44	647	93%	7	257	97%	24	235	90%
4/23	57	647	91%	7	257	97%	30	235	87%
4/26	34	647	95%	5	257	98%	33	235	86%
4/27	38	647	94%	6	257	98%	29	235	88%
4/28	57	647	91%	4	257	98%	28	235	88%
4/29	47	647	93%	10	257	96%	32	235	86%
4/30	54	647	92%	7	257	97%	19	235	92%
Average	47	647	93%	7	257	97%	29	235	88%



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

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>	<u>Full Year Budget</u>
Enrollment	1,119	1,139	20	1,119
DOE and other gov't funding (a)	\$ 17.7	\$ 17.7	\$ -	\$ 21.3
Expenses:				
Salaries	11.1	10.7	0.4	13.2
Benefits	3.4	3.4	-	4.1
OTPS	3.1	2.6	0.5	3.7
Total Expenses (b)	17.6	16.7	0.9	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.