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Superintendent

Joseph Cordero

Principal

Elementary School

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Madelaine German-Schultz

Principal

Middle School

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Amy Deal

Principal

High School

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AGENDA

Promise Academy I Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, November 9th, 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 (*Amy Deal*)
- V. Financial Report (*Connor Fournier*)

The Harlem Children's Zone Promise Academy I Charter School

Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Video Conference

Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Mitch Kurz, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Ellanor (Bodie) Brizendine, Fatime Cadoo, Stan Druckenmiller, Willie Mae Lewis, Keith Meister, Alfonso Wyatt, Sara Alvarado, Nana Annan, Candice Ashby, Saskia Brown, Ari Browne, Ryan Carroll, Kaitlynn Conley, Joseph Cordero, Amy Deal, Connor Fournier, Shondell James, Jennifer Klein, Jessica Lake, Jazmine Lewis, Stephanie Lilavois, Justin Maker, Achil Petit, Hayling Price, Susan Rydz, Madelaine Schultz, Troy Smith, Toya Stilley, and Peter Weiss

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 September 15, 2021, was unanimously approved.

CEO Report (Kwame Owusu-Kesse)

Chief Executive Officer Kwame Owusu-Kesse reported that Promise Academy scholars returned to in-person learning on October 4, 2021. Mr. Owusu-Kesse thanked HCZ staff members for their support for Promise Academy during the first week of school.

Mr. Owusu-Kesse also reported that Gateway COVID-19 testing continues at the Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) Armory. Since September 13, about 3200 PCR and rapid tests have been administered with a 0.15 positivity rate. Since HCZ enacted a COVID-19 vaccine, all staff members have been vaccinated. Senior leaders are planning to enact vaccine mandates for scholars participating in extracurricular activities, including sports, dance, woodwind instrument playing, and all other activities deemed high-risk for contracting COVID-19.

Geoffrey Canada continues to be a leading voice on the importance of getting vaccinated to protect young people, Mr. Owusu-Kesse said.

Superintendent's Update (Dr. Achil Petit)

Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is currently 1,156 for Promise Academy I and 1,050 for Promise Academy II.

Dr. Petit introduced two new staff members to the board:

Superintendent Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is currently 1,156 for Promise Academy I and 1,050 for Promise Academy II.

Dr. Petit introduced two new staff members to the Board:

Peter Weiss, executive director of Training and Development, is formerly the principal of Achievement First Public Charter Schools. Armed with more than ten years of experience, Mr. Weiss will work over the next two years to enhance teacher coaching and high-quality

instruction. Mr. Weiss thanked principals for welcoming him into their classrooms to begin this important work.

Dr. Saskia Brown, the new deputy superintendent, comes to Promise Academy with more than 15 years of experience in education. An accomplished leader in education, Dr. Brown has served as a general education and special education teacher, Title I school program coordinator and school administrator in both public and charter school environments. Dr. Brown is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Higher Education from Seton Hall University; her current research focuses on the implications of race in the college choice process for Black students. She holds a BA in Psychology and graduate degrees in Special Education and Educational Leadership, with a research focus on enhancing parental involvement in urban school districts.

Dr. Petit thanked the Safety team, and Troy Smith, managing director of Promise Afterschool programs, for supporting the return of scholars to in-person learning. He also thanked the principals for their leadership during this transition.

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

Principal Dr. Joseph Cordero reported the Elementary School's attendance was 92% for September.

Dr. Cordero thanked Mr. Canada and Mr. Owusu-Kesse for participating in brainstorming sessions to prepare the schools to transition from remote to in-person learning. He also thanked Mr. Smith and the Promise Academy Afterschool team for their support.

A back-to-school night was held, with more than 300 parents attending. The Elementary School also had a meet-the-teacher night, which was also well attended.

School leaders continue to have jam sessions every week with parents to provide updates about school activities and protocols. Parents also have the opportunity to ask school leaders questions.

The Elementary School began an Accelerated Reader challenge. Classes that have read the most books win a pizza party.

Scholars have been assessed for their reading levels with follow-up plans for teachers to address learning loss.

The Elementary School distributed more than 150 laptops to new students.

Female second, third, and fourth graders are learning to code through a partnership with the Spence School for Girls. Lessons will be virtual until further notice.

The School held its first parent-teacher conference of the academic year, with 529 parents attending.

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

Principal Madelaine German-Schultz reported that the Middle School's attendance was 95% for September.

The Middle School held a back-to-school night, with 66% of parents attending.

Middle School leaders focused on the mental health and wellness of scholars and their social-emotional learning needs. Scholars have been encouraged to engage in meditation Fridays and other emotional support activities.

In addition to their regular mathematics courses, several students are taking after-school algebra classes.

Teachers are putting together targeted interventions according to scholar assessment data and collaborating with the Special Education team to provide additional instructional strategies to support Middle School scholars.

HCZ Promise Academy I High School (Amy Deal)

Principal Amy Deal reported that the High School's attendance was 94% for September.

Gift bags were distributed to teachers and scholars to welcome them back to in-person learning.

The High School launched a positive behavior incentive system, in which scholars earn and use points to buy goods at the virtual School Store.

The High School held a virtual back-to-school night. The teachers broke into breakout rooms with families.

Get Real with Deal sessions continue bi-weekly with school leaders updating families on events, activities, and protocols.

The School is working on completing the first round of benchmarks for all subject areas.

Financial Update (Connor Fournier)

CFO Connor Fournier reported that Promise Academy I's enrollment is 1,156, which is 28 favorable versus the budget. The School's revenue is on target with the budget. Expenses are \$100,000 favorable at \$4.8M. HCZ has not made a contribution through three months of FY22.

HCZ Promise Academy I

October 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
10/1	61	652	91%	17	276	94%	18	239	92%
10/4	97	649	85%	17	276	94%	27	239	89%
10/5	62	650	90%	14	275	95%	11	239	95%
10/6	48	649	93%	14	275	95%	10	239	96%
10/7	43	647	93%	7	275	97%	13	239	95%
10/8	47	647	93%	12	274	96%	13	239	95%
10/12	73	646	89%	17	274	94%	17	239	93%
10/13	54	646	92%	10	273	96%	9	239	96%
10/14	52	646	92%	12	273	96%	17	239	93%
10/15	50	646	92%	8	273	97%	18	239	92%
10/18	56	646	91%	16	273	94%	18	239	92%
10/19	45	645	93%	25	272	91%	17	239	93%
10/20	40	645	94%	17	272	94%	19	239	92%
10/21	47	645	93%	17	272	94%	17	239	93%
10/22	39	645	94%	12	272	96%	15	239	94%
10/25	48	644	93%	17	272	94%	8	239	97%
10/26	115	644	82%	15	272	94%	19	238	92%
10/27	30	644	95%	9	272	97%	12	238	95%
10/28	30	644	95%	5	272	98%	14	238	94%
10/29	69	643	89%	6	272	98%	18	238	92%
Average	55	646	91%	13	273	95%	16	239	94%



Promise Academy I
FY 2022 October YTD Budget vs. Actual
 \$ millions

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>	<u>Full Year Budget</u>
Enrollment	1,128	1,147	19	1,128
DOE and other gov't funding (a)	\$ 7.3	\$ 7.3	\$ -	\$ 21.8
Expenses:				
Salaries	4.7	4.7	-	13.6
Benefits	1.4	1.3	0.1	4.2
OTPS	1.3	1.2	0.1	3.8
Total Expenses (b)	7.4	7.2	0.2	21.6
Expenses in excess of public funding	-	-	-	-
Contribution Components:				
HCZ Contribution	-	-	-	-
per student (whole \$)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

(a) Excludes funding from Federal ESSER and Robertson Foundation.

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