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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

Wednesday, December 15th, 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*)

Harlem Children's Zone Promise Academy I Charter School

Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Video Conference

Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Mitch Kurz, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Ken Langone, 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, Liam McCarthy, Achil Petit, Hayling Price, Susan Rydz, Madelaine Schultz, Troy Smith, and Toya Stillely.

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 October 19, 2021, was unanimously approved.

CEO Report (Kwame Owusu-Kesse)

Chief Executive Officer Kwame Owusu-Kesse reported that Gateway COVID-19 testing continues at Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) Armory with a .2% positivity rate currently, and a .29% positivity rate to date for the academic year. Since HCZ enacted a COVID-19 vaccine mandate, 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.

Mr. Owusu-Kesse also expressed his intention to establish a stronger culture of appreciation for employees.

Troy Smith, Senior Managing Director of Programs, discussed the Promise Academy After School Program. Mr. Smith said the Program staff has been working effectively with Promise Academy leaders and staff members and spoke about the Program's high retention rate as well as the health and wellness and athletics efforts.

Superintendent's Update (Dr. Achil Petit)

Superintendent Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is currently 1,147 for Promise Academy I and 1,044 for Promise Academy II.

Dr. Petit reported that Deputy Superintendent Saskia Brown is leading the effort to fill vacant positions at Promise Academy Schools. He thanked the Central Office team, including Training and Development, for their work.

Dr. Petit also thanked the principals for their comprehensive plan to address the needs of struggling scholars. Scholars are successfully utilizing Saturday Academy and Academic Hour, which are designed to help them meet academic benchmarks.

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

Principal Dr. Joseph Cordero reported the Elementary School's attendance was 91% for October.

Staff and scholars have been reacclimating to in-person learning.

The Elementary School celebrated Unity Day. Teachers discussed with scholars what it means to be a unifying force for change. Scholars also wore orange to signify unity.

In partnership with the Helen Keller Institute, scholars had their vision tested and received free glasses as needed.

The Elementary School held ELA and math nights to show parents what their children are learning and to give them the opportunity to meet with teachers.

Dr. Cordero thanked Troy Smith and the Promise Academy After School team for their support of scholars.

School leaders gave a tour to newly enrolled scholars and welcomed them to the school.

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

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

Scholars wore orange to celebrate Unity Day and pink in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Day. Scholars also celebrated Spirit Day with a focus on building community.

The Middle School has had strong participation at Saturday Academy, with 110 scholars attending the most recent session. Scholars have also been participating in Academic Hour to receive additional academic support, and there has been high attendance in the after-school algebra class. As a result, the school has seen an 18% rise in benchmark scores in math compared to last year. There has also been an 11% rise in English Language Arts benchmark scores.

HCZ Promise Academy I High School (Amy Deal)

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

School leaders have been meeting with scholars to discuss their grades and building good habits, such as beginning assignments early and getting enough sleep on school nights. As an incentive, the High School opened the school store and distributed prizes.

The High School celebrated Spirit Week, hosting Unity Day, Breast Cancer Awareness Day, and a homecoming event.

Seniors attended a special lunch, where they engaged with their classmates.

A parent-teacher conference was held on two evenings. Parents had the opportunity to talk about their scholars' progress and learn about safety protocols and upcoming events.

High School leaders have been maintaining a heavy focus on restorative practice through group conversations with scholars.

The High School student government campaign has been going on throughout the month of October. The student body president will be announced on November 9.

Financial Update (Connor Fournier)

CFO Connor Fournier reported that Promise Academy I's enrollment is 1,147, which is 19 favorable versus the budget. The School's revenue is on target with the budget. Expenses are \$200,000 favorable at \$7.2M. HCZ has not made a contribution through four months of FY22.

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 1st deadline.

HCZ Promise Academy I

November 2021 Attendance Report

	HCZ PAI Elementary School			HCZ PAI Middle School			HCZ PAI High School		
Date	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present	Number of Students Absent	Enrollment	% of Students Present
11/1	59	641	91%	13	272	95%	34	238	86%
11/3	52	640	92%	14	272	95%	10	238	96%
11/4	51	640	92%	10	272	96%	9	238	96%
11/5	48	641	93%	9	272	97%	13	238	95%
11/8	49	642	92%	12	272	96%	13	238	95%
11/9	40	641	94%	6	271	98%	14	238	94%
11/10	38	641	94%	10	271	96%	13	238	95%
11/12	55	641	91%	11	271	96%	10	238	96%
11/15	50	640	92%	9	271	97%	12	238	95%
11/16	40	641	94%	7	271	97%	7	238	97%
11/17	43	641	93%	7	271	97%	10	238	96%
11/18	40	641	94%	6	271	98%	8	238	97%
11/19	43	641	93%	10	270	96%	14	238	94%
11/22	62	641	90%	10	270	96%	13	238	95%
11/23	62	641	90%	18	269	93%	16	238	93%
11/24	142	641	78%	28	269	90%	75	238	68%
11/29	51	641	92%	18	269	93%	12	238	95%
11/30	61	641	90%	13	269	95%	8	238	97%
Average	55	641	91%	12	271	96%	16	238	93%



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

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>	<u>Full Year Budget</u>
Enrollment	1,128	1,145	17	1,128
DOE and other gov't funding (a)	\$ 9.1	\$ 9.2	\$ 0.1	\$ 21.8
Expenses:				
Salaries	5.8	5.7	0.1	13.6
Benefits	1.7	1.6	0.1	4.2
OTPS	1.6	1.5	0.1	3.8
Total Expenses (b)	9.1	8.8	0.3	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.