

AGENDA

Promise Academy II Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, December 13th, 2022
at
The Harlem Children's Zone
245 West 129th Street
New York, NY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Geoffrey Canada
Chairman

Kwame Owusu-Kesse
President/CEO

Mitch Kurz
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Ellanor (Bodie) Brizendine
Fatime Cadoo
Stanley Druckenmiller
Denise Fuller
Willie Mae Lewis
Keith Meister
Alfonso Wyatt

Achil Petit
Superintendent

Saskia Brown
Deputy Superintendent

Amanda Neal
**Principal
Elementary School**
2005 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10035
Tel 212.360.3236

Ryan Carroll
**Principal
Middle School**
35 East 125th Street
New York, NY 10035
Tel 212.360.3237

Kaitlynn Conwright
**Principal
High School**
35 East 125th Street
New York, NY 10035
Tel 212.360.3238

- 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 (*Amanda Neal*)
 - ii. Middle School (*Ryan Carroll*)
 - iii. High School (*Kaitlynn Conwright*)
- V. Financial Report (*Connor Fournier*)

Harlem Children's Zone Promise Academy II Charter School

Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Video Conference

Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Mitch Kurz, Fatime Cadoo, Stan Druckenmiller, Willie Mae Lewis, Keith Meister, Aisha Tomlinson, Alfonso Wyatt, Nana Annan, Candice Ashby, Sabrica Barnett, Saskia Brown, Ari Browne, Ryan Carroll, Kaitlynn Conwright, Joseph Cordero, Amy Deal, Connor Fournier, Jenn Klein, Jazmine Lewis, Stephanie Lilavois, Justin Maker, Katherine Martinez, Liam McCarthy, Amanda Neal, Anna Owusu, Achil Petit, Madelaine Schultz, Toya Stilley, and Jenny Zhou.

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, 2022, was unanimously approved.

CEO Report (Kwame Owusu-Kesse)

Chief Executive Officer Kwame Owusu-Kesse reported that on November 3, 2022, Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) held an alumni event focused on economic mobility and narrowing the racial wealth gap. The talk was led by Director of the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation Benita Melton, Mr. Owusu-Kesse, and HCZ Founder and President Geoffrey Canada.

Mr. Owusu-Kesse congratulated Anna Owusu on her promotion to managing director of Social Services and welcomed Dr. Sabrica Barnett to the role of managing director of Research and Evaluation.

Anna Owusu has been part of the HCZ Promise Academy Social Services team for eight years and said that she is looking forward to expanding her work with HCZ.

Dr. Sabrica Barnett joined HCZ in April 2022, and she was previously the director of the Girl Scout Research Institute for 10 years. Dr. Barnett has a Ph.D. in Social Psychology.

Superintendent's Update (Dr. Achil Petit)

Superintendent Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is 1,133 for Promise Academy I and 1,008 for Promise Academy II.

Dr. Petit also reported that he and Deputy Superintendent Dr. Saskia Brown held a leadership retreat on November 11, 2022, focusing on the theme of "Excellence." Dr. Petit thanked Ms. Owusu and the Social Work team for facilitating some of the sessions during the event.

State Test Scores (Dr. Achil Petit / Dr. Saskia Brown)

Dr. Petit reported exam results for HCZ Promise Academy scholars and compared them to those of public school and charter school students across New York State (NYS) for grades three through eight.

In ELA, HCZ Promise Academy scholars outperformed NYS charter schools, NYS Black students, NYS white students, and NYS students as a whole. HCZ Promise Academy scholars also performed comparably to other New York City (NYC) charter schools. HCZ Promise Academy Middle School scholars outperformed their NYC and NYS peers by five or more percentage points, while HCZ Promise Academy Elementary School scholars' scores were comparable to their NYS peers. Additionally, HCZ Promise Academy scholars with disabilities had a proficiency rate of 32% in ELA and they outperformed their peers in the city and state.

Dr. Brown spoke about ELA key strategies and initiatives implemented this year to target areas in need of improvement among scholars on the state exams and other assessments. School leaders created small

groups focusing on strategies based on formative data analysis. To prepare scholars, school leaders also increased independent practice time in literacy blocks.

The School implemented targeted teacher supports, including instructional rounds to identify gaps, guidance to normalize the instructional lens, and develop teachers' foundational skills. To leverage the school's extended day programs, the School further developed strategic planning and support for Saturday School and Academic Hour for the 22-23 school year

Dr. Petit reported that HCZ Promise Academy scholars exceeded both their NYC and NYS peers in proficiency and performed comparably to other NYC and NYS charter school students in their math test results. HCZ Promise Academy seventh and eighth graders outperformed their NYC peers by five or more percentage points. Scholars with disabilities outperformed their peers in NYC overall.

Dr. Brown reported the current school year's key math strategies and initiatives included targeted scholar supports that strengthen their mastery of content. The school also implemented teacher supports, including weekly data reviews and reteach opportunities, targeted coaching, and increased feedback and teacher collaboration.

HCZ Promise Academy II Elementary School (Amanda Neal)

Principal Amanda Neal reported the Elementary School's attendance was 91% for October.

The Elementary School held its Book-O-Ween Halloween celebration, where scholars and staff dressed as characters from their favorite books. The Elementary School's administrative team played the role of "book fairies," raffling off two books to each classroom.

Saturday school continues to be a successful program, as the number of scholars attending the program has increased month over month.

On November 18, school leaders have planned a professional development event for teachers that will focus on team building, classroom partnership, and data collection systems practices. Success in Motion will also facilitate self-care activities.

A group of second- through fifth-grade scholars saw *Wicked* on Broadway. The principal thanked PAll Middle and High schools for providing extra tickets.

HCZ Promise Academy II Middle School (Ryan Carroll)

Principal Ryan Carroll reported that the Middle School's attendance was 94% for October.

Middle School scholars in seventh-grade went on a field trip to the Museum of Natural History.

The Middle School held a town hall for each grade level, celebrating scholars of the month and of the week. Scholars won raffles including free lunch with an administrative staff member or movie tickets.

School leaders held a professional development session for staff, addressing school culture and setting expectations across grade teams. Staff members who had perfect attendance through September and October were celebrated and all staff members were given lunch before the session. Shout-out boards were created to encourage positive notes for staff members and scholars.

HCZ Promise Academy II High School (Kaitlynn Conwright)

Principal Kaitlynn Conwright reported that the High School's attendance was 94% for October.

The National Honor Society (NHS) committee reviewed applications and elected scholars from grades 10 through 12. NHS focuses on scholarship, service, character and leadership, and all accepted scholars demonstrate excellence in those categories. NHS held elections for the Leadership Board and they are planning an in-person induction.

In anticipation of the November 1 deadline, 18 scholars applied to early decision colleges. Scholars have begun to receive college acceptance letters from institutions including Virginia State University, which

accepted 12 Promise Academy High School scholars. Four of the scholars accepted to Virginia State University received presidential scholarships of \$10,000 and five received scholarships of \$6,500.

High School scholars attended a two-night college tour which included visits to Syracuse University, Binghamton University, University of Buffalo, and SUNY Oswego. Scholars toured campuses, spoke with admission representatives, and attended a Syracuse basketball game. HCZ Promise Academy alumni attending each of the colleges spoke to Promise Academy High School scholars about college life.

Financial Update (Connor Fournier)

CFO, Connor Fournier, reported that Promise Academy II's enrollment is 1,008, which is 26 unfavorable versus the budget. The school's revenue is \$0.2M unfavorable at \$7.0M. Expenses are \$0.4M favorable at \$6.6M. HCZ has not made a contribution through four months of FY22.

HCZ Promise Academy II November 2022 Attendance Report

Date	HCZ PAII Elementary School			HCZ PAII Middle School			HCZ PAII High School		
	Students	Enrollment	Present	Students	Enrollment	Present	Students	Enrollment	Present
11/1	82	521	84%	13	262	95%	15	225	93%
11/2	82	521	84%	14	262	95%	19	225	92%
11/3	73	521	86%	14	262	95%	16	225	93%
11/4	87	521	83%	23	262	91%	16	225	93%
11/7	46	522	91%	24	262	91%	11	225	95%
11/8	86	522	84%	25	262	90%	26	225	88%
11/9	39	522	93%	27	262	90%	6	225	97%
11/10	52	522	90%	24	262	91%	9	225	96%
11/14	56	522	89%	25	262	90%	10	225	96%
11/15	43	521	92%	22	262	92%	10	225	96%
11/16	32	521	94%	15	262	94%	11	225	95%
11/17	38	520	93%	15	262	94%	11	225	95%
11/18	174	520	67%	49	262	81%	19	225	92%
11/21	45	520	91%	15	262	94%	9	225	96%
11/22	56	520	89%	15	262	94%	14	225	94%
11/23	102	520	80%	38	262	85%	35	225	84%
11/28	61	520	88%	21	262	92%	16	225	93%
11/29	40	520	92%	11	262	96%	17	225	92%
11/30	29	520	94%	12	261	95%	15	225	93%
Average	64	521	88%	21	262	92%	15	225	93%



Promise Academy II
FY 2023 November YTD Budget vs. Actual
 \$ millions

		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>	<u>Full Year Budget</u>
Enrollment		1,034	1,003	(31)	1,034
DOE and other gov't funding	(a)	\$ 9.0	\$ 8.7	\$ (0.3)	\$ 21.7
Expenses:					
Salaries		5.5	5.2	0.3	13.2
Benefits		1.9	1.6	0.2	4.5
OTPS		1.4	1.3	0.0	3.3
Total Expenses	(b)	<u>8.7</u>	<u>8.2</u>	<u>0.5</u>	<u>21.0</u>
Expenses in excess of public funding		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Contribution Components:					
HCZ Contribution		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
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.