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Amanda Neal  
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Elementary School**  
70 East 112<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10035  
Tel 212.360.3236

Ryan Carroll  
**Principal  
Middle School**  
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New York, NY 10035  
Tel 212.360.3237

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

**AGENDA**

Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) Promise Academy II  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
at  
245 West 129<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY

- I. Acceptance of the Minutes
- II. CEO Report (*Kwame Owusu-Kesse*)
- III. Superintendent's Updates (*Achil Petit*)
- IV. HCZ Promise Academy II Updates
  - i. Elementary School (*Amanda Neal*)
  - ii. Middle School (*Ryan Carroll*)
  - iii. High School (*Kaitlynn Conwright*)
- V. Financial Report (*Connor Fournier*)
- VI. Resolution
  - i. HCZ Promise Academy Family Handbook (*Candice Ashby*)

**Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) Promise Academy II Charter School  
Board Meeting  
Wednesday, September 13, 2023  
245 West 129th Street**

*Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Mitch Kurz, Fatime Cadoo, Stan Druckenmiller, Ken Langone, Willie Mae Lewis, Alfonso Wyatt, Candice Ashby, Saskia Brown, Ari Browne, Ryan Carroll, Kaitlynn Conwright, Amy Deal, Connor Fournier, LaKiesha George, Madelaine German-Schultz, Jenn Klein, Jazmine Lewis, Stephanie Lilavois, Justin Maker, Katherine Martinez, Liam McCarthy, Amanda Neal, Anna Owusu, Achil Petit, and Toya Stilley.*

**CEO Report (Kwame Owusu-Kesse)**

Chief Executive Officer Kwame Owusu-Kesse reported that the HCZ Promise Academy High School Graduation was held on June 23, with 100% of seniors being accepted to college.

Mr. Owusu-Kesse also reported that HCZ's William Julius Wilson Institute (WJWI) partnered with EdRedesign Lab at Harvard Graduate School of Education to host Transforming Place Through Neighborhood Leadership. Hosted for the second year in a row on the campus of Harvard University, the event brought together more than 200 leaders for panels, workshops, and community building, focusing on accelerating the impact of organizations advancing place-based cradle-to-career solutions. Mr. Owusu-Kesse, HCZ President and Founder Geoffrey Canada, and members of the WJWI team spoke at the event.

On August 9, HCZ held its 29th Annual Rasuli Lewis Children's March for Peace. At the event, thousands of scholars, parents, and HCZ staff members marched through the streets, demanding an end to gun violence in the community. Following the march, attendees gathered at the HCZ Armory for inspiring performances and remarks from HCZ scholars, staff, and community members. The late Mr. Lewis was a leader at HCZ who organized the annual March for Peace.

**Superintendent's Update (Dr. Achil Petit)**

Superintendent Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is 1,188 for HCZ Promise Academy I and 1,034 for HCZ Promise Academy II.

Dr. Petit thanked Deputy Superintendent Dr. Brown and school leadership for their work over the last year to help scholars meet benchmarks and graduate from high school.

Dr. Petit introduced LaKiesha George, the new principal of HCZ Promise Academy I Elementary School. Ms. George said a few words about her career in education:

Ms. George is devoted to fostering innovation and evolving education to help young people reach the highest levels of excellence. She holds a BA in Psychology from Lehman College and a Master's in Education from Mercy College. Ms. George has 18 years of experience in education, including eight years as a principal. She is looking forward to continuing her work to transform education for our scholars.

## **HCZ Promise Academy II Elementary School (Amanda Neal)**

Principal Amanda Neal reported the Elementary School's attendance was 77% for the summer.

During the summer, the Elementary School focused on reading skills for kindergarten and first-grade scholars. Principal Neal thanked the reading specialists for working diligently to provide foundational skills for elementary scholars.

The Elementary School's co-ed basketball team won the New York City Elementary School Sports League Championship and is officially the Manhattan District Champions and the New York City Champions.

The Elementary School held an open house, with 150 family members and their scholars attending to meet teachers, take a tour of the new building, and learn the school's focus for the 23-24 school year. The Food Services team provided a food truck outside for families, and raffle prizes were distributed.

## **HCZ Promise Academy II Middle School (Ryan Carroll)**

Principal Ryan Carroll reported that the Middle School's attendance was 79% for the summer.

Middle School scholars improved in ELA and math during the Summer Boost NYC program. The program has been instrumental in preventing summer regression and promoting readiness for the next grade level.

The Middle School hosted a new family orientation for the families of their incoming sixth-grade scholars. School leaders shared general practices and expectations and gave scholars and families a tour of the building.

On August 21, Middle School leaders welcomed new staff members for a week of orientation and professional development. They welcomed returning staff members on August 28, and all staff engaged in learning sessions. Teachers shared that they enjoyed the session led by Mr. Canada and Mr. Owusu-Kesse.

Principal Carroll thanked Dr. Petit, Dr. Brown, and the Central Office for their support and work during the two weeks of orientation.

## **HCZ Promise Academy II High School (Kaitlynn Conwright)**

Principal Kaitlynn Conwright reported that the High School's attendance was 77% for the summer.

A group of high school seniors worked on credit recovery and prepared for the Regents exam during the summer. Juniors participated in college summer programs at New York University, Harvard University, and Emory University, where they explored life in college. Juniors are also working on personal statements and college applications.

The High School hosted teacher training sessions in August, set up classrooms, and reviewed academic data from the previous school year to ensure that the High School continues to develop plans for the upcoming school year. Principal Conwright thanked the Central Office for providing support during the first few days of school.

Campaigns for student government began, with interested seniors handing out flyers and meeting with scholars to address the needs of the High School.

**Financial Update (Connor Fournier)**

CFO Connor Fournier reported that HCZ Promise Academy II's revenue is \$0.2M unfavorable at an enrollment of 1,034. Expenses are \$1.2M favorable, at \$2.7M. HCZ has not made a contribution through two months of FY24.

## HCZ Promise Academy II

### September 2023 Attendance Report

Date	HCZ PAII Elementary School			HCZ PAII Middle School			HCZ PAII High School		
	Number of Students		% of Students	Number of Students		% of Students	Number of Students		% of Students
	Absent	Enrollment	Present	Absent	Enrollment	Present	Absent	Enrollment	Present
9/6	57	554	90%	33	258	87%	20	223	91%
9/7	40	557	93%	21	255	92%	19	222	91%
9/8	46	560	92%	23	255	91%	20	222	91%
9/11	27	561	95%	12	255	95%	11	221	95%
9/12	31	565	95%	15	254	94%	10	221	95%
9/13	41	567	93%	16	254	94%	11	221	95%
9/14	41	566	93%	14	255	95%	16	221	93%
9/18	54	568	90%	23	257	91%	15	221	93%
9/19	29	572	95%	20	256	92%	15	221	93%
9/20	36	573	94%	14	258	95%	18	221	92%
9/21	36	573	94%	12	258	95%	25	221	89%
9/22	39	573	93%	19	258	93%	24	221	89%
9/26	30	573	95%	14	261	95%	28	220	87%
9/27	36	574	94%	11	261	96%	21	220	90%
9/28	32	574	94%	18	262	93%	20	220	91%
9/29	80	574	86%	26	262	90%	43	220	80%
<b>Average</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>91%</b>



**Promise Academy II**  
**FY 2024 September YTD Budget vs. Actual**  
 \$ millions

		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>	<u>Full Year Budget</u>
Enrollment		1,055	1,050	(5)	1,055
DOE and other gov't funding	(a)	\$ 5.8	\$ 5.6	\$ (0.2)	\$ 23.1
<b>Expenses:</b>					
Salaries		3.7	3.3	0.4	14.7
Benefits		1.1	1.1	(0.0)	4.5
OTPS		1.0	0.7	0.2	3.9
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>23.0</b>
Expenses in excess of public funding		-	-	-	-
<b>Contribution Components:</b>					
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.*