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**Superintendent**

Saskia Brown  
**Deputy Superintendent**

LaKiesha George  
**Principal  
Elementary School**  
245 West 129<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10027  
Tel 212.360.3232

Madelaine German-Schultz  
**Principal  
Middle School**  
245 West 129<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10027  
Tel 212.360.3233

Amy Deal  
**Principal  
High School**  
245 West 129<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10027  
Tel 212.360.3234

AGENDA

Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) Promise Academy I  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
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 I Updates
  - i. Elementary School (*LaKiesha George*)
  - ii. Middle School (*Madelaine German-Schultz*)
  - iii. High School (*Amy Deal*)
- V. Financial Report (*Connor Fournier*)

**Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) Promise Academy I Charter School  
Board Meeting  
Thursday, December 14, 2023  
245 West 129th Street**

*Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Mitch Kurz, Fatime Cadoo, Ellanor (Bodie) Brizendine, Stan Druckenmiller, Willie Mae Lewis, Keith Meister, Alfonso Wyatt, Candice Ashby, Saskia Brown, Ari Browne, Ryan Carroll, Kaitlynn Conwright, Connor Fournier, LaKiesha George, Madelaine German-Schultz, Irais Jones, Jenn Klein, Jazmine Lewis, Stephanie Lilavois, Katherine Martinez, Liam McCarthy, Amanda Neal, Michelle Paige, Achil Petit, Toya Stilley, and Ryan Warren.*

**Acceptance of Minutes (Geoffrey Canada)**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 AM, and a motion to approve the meeting minutes from November 16, 2023, was unanimously approved.

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

Chief Executive Officer Kwame Owusu-Kesse introduced Irais Jones, Harlem Children's Zone's new Chief Human Resources Officer. Ms. Jones joins HCZ with over 20 years of experience. Most recently, she worked as Vice President for Human Resources at Vindex, a technology company, and as the Chief People Officer for C Space, a market research organization.

Mr. Owusu-Kesse also announced that a team of volunteers began reviewing 250 HCZ Scholarship applications submitted from across the Zone.

Mr. Owusu-Kesse returned to his alma mater, Harvard University, to teach a case on his leadership at HCZ to 1000-plus students from Harvard Business School and Harvard Kennedy School.

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

Superintendent Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is 1,174 for HCZ Promise Academy I and 1,037 for HCZ Promise Academy II.

Dr. Petit reported that HCZ Promise Academy I and II are in the second phase of their charter renewal periods. As part of this process, the Charter School Authorization team from the New York City Department of Education (DOE) will visit HCZ Promise Academy I on December 18 and HCZ Promise Academy II on December 19, and each school's Board of Trustees will visit on December 20. A public hearing will take place in January.

Dr. Petit thanked school leaders for their hard work in managing this process.

**HCZ Promise Academy I Elementary School (LaKiesha George)**

Principal LaKiesha George reported the Elementary School's attendance was 91% for November.

The Elementary School celebrated 311 scholars in third through fifth grades as Top Performers. About 40% of those scholars earned 80% or above for the first marking period.

The Elementary School hosted a half-day of professional development with the Training and Development team, focusing on ELA and math.

Principal George announced that she recently earned the Classroom Assessment Scoring System certification for leaders. The Scoring System is an evidence-based tool that helps identify the effectiveness of teacher-child relationships and interactions.

A reading specialist will join the Elementary School in January.

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

Principal Madelaine German-Schultz reported that the Middle School's attendance was 94% for November.

Also in November, the Middle School hosted an Honor Roll Ceremony, with 75% of scholars earning 80% or higher for the marking period.

Middle School scholars participated in community service, including serving food during Thanksgiving and wrapping Christmas gifts for children.

The School distributed turkeys for Thanksgiving to families.

Principal Schultz thanked the Middle School's administrative staff for their hard work during the first marking period.

### **HCZ Promise Academy I High School (Dr. Saskia Brown)**

Deputy Superintendent Dr. Saskia Brown reported that the High School's attendance was 94% for November.

Seniors took their class pictures on November 6.

In November, the Junior Varsity Girls Basketball team won the Charter School Athletic Association championship.

Seniors received college acceptance letters from The State University of New York (SUNY), Monroe College, and Clark Atlanta University.

To celebrate the holidays, the High School created a "warm and fuzzy" wall decorated with notes thanking teachers and staff members for their hard work. Scholars are competing in door decorating contests for their respective classrooms.

### **Financial Update (Connor Fournier)**

CFO Connor Fournier reported that HCZ Promise Academy I's enrollment is 1,174, which is 19 favorable versus the budget. The school's revenue is \$0.1M favorable at \$10.3M. Expenses are \$0.7M favorable, at \$9.2M. HCZ has not made a contribution through five months of FY24.

### **HCZ Promise Academy Waitlist Applicants' Weighted Preference (Candice Ashby)**

A motion was called to approve a revision to the HCZ Promise Academy I Charter, which would implement weighted preferences for waitlisted applicants who are residents of Saint Nicholas Housing or have siblings enrolled in HCZ Promise Academy I Charter School. The motion was approved, and the revision was submitted to the School's authorizer to obtain approval from the New York State Education Department.

## HCZ Promise Academy I December 2023 Attendance Report

Date	HCZ PAI Elementary School			HCZ PAI Middle School			HCZ PAI 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
12/1	62	652	90%	11	264	96%	8	257	97%
12/4	55	652	92%	13	264	95%	15	257	94%
12/5	45	652	93%	10	264	96%	12	257	95%
12/6	159	651	76%	38	264	86%	42	257	84%
12/7	42	651	94%	9	264	97%	15	257	94%
12/8	63	651	90%	22	264	92%	22	257	91%
12/11	58	651	91%	12	264	95%	12	257	95%
12/12	55	650	92%	12	264	95%	13	257	95%
12/13	44	650	93%	9	264	97%	10	257	96%
12/14	49	650	92%	13	264	95%	14	257	95%
12/15	75	650	88%	18	264	93%	13	257	95%
12/18	113	650	83%	29	264	89%	36	257	86%
12/19	62	650	90%	12	264	95%	15	257	94%
12/20	57	650	91%	14	264	95%	16	257	94%
12/21	77	650	88%	17	264	94%	27	257	89%
12/22	136	650	79%	44	264	83%	37	257	86%
<b>Average</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>89%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>93%</b>



**Promise Academy I**  
**FY 2024 December YTD Budget vs. Actual**  
 \$ millions

		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>	<u>Full Year Budget</u>
Enrollment		1,155	1,169	14	1,155
DOE and other gov't funding	(a)	\$ 12.2	\$ 12.4	\$ 0.2	\$ 24.4
<b>Expenses:</b>					
Salaries		7.5	7.0	0.5	15.0
Benefits		2.3	2.4	(0.1)	4.6
OTPS		2.1	2.0	0.1	4.2
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(b)</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>23.8</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.*