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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**  
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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, April 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 (*Ralph Stefano*)

**Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) Promise Academy I Charter School  
Board Meeting  
Wednesday, March 20, 2024  
245 West 129th Street**

*Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Kwame Owusu-Kesse, Mitch Kurz, Stan Druckenmiller, Willie Mae Lewis, Keith Meister, Alfonso Wyatt, Candice Ashby, Saskia Brown, Ari Browne, Ryan Carroll, Kaitlynn Conwright, LaKiesha George, Madelaine German-Schultz, Irais Jones, Jenn Klein, Katherine Martinez, Liam McCarthy, Amanda Neal, Michelle Paige, Achil Petit, Ralph Stefano, 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 February 13 was unanimously approved.

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

Chief Executive Officer Kwame Owusu-Kesse reported that he met with HCZ Promise Academy principals to receive feedback on what they need to be successful. Mr. Owusu-Kesse thanked the principals for their transparency and for the opportunity to connect with them.

In early March, Mr. Owusu-Kesse and HCZ senior leaders spent three days in Austin, Texas, for HCZ's first time at SXSW EDU, a conference that brings together the brightest minds in education to share ideas, network, and create the future of teaching and learning. Mr. Owusu-Kesse and HCZ Founder Geoffrey Canada hosted the world premiere screening of Harlem Rising, a documentary about the history of HCZ, and presented how practices developed in Harlem are leading to scalable solutions and systems change impacting over one million young people.

Mr. Owusu-Kesse also reported that he was invited to New York University for a leadership discussion.

In March, PJT Partners invited Mr. Owusu-Kesse to a fireside chat with HCZ Board member and Co-Founder of Dynasty Equity K. Don Cornwell about economic mobility, wealth building, leadership pathways, board governance, and national impact.

On March 20, 19 superintendents who represent over 1.2 million scholars from across the country will visit HCZ for a two-day summit to learn about the organization's cradle-to-career work.

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

Superintendent Dr. Achil Petit reported that enrollment is 1,160 for HCZ Promise Academy I and 1,014 for HCZ Promise Academy II.

The Schools participated in Read Across America week with special guests visiting to read to HCZ Promise Academy Elementary School scholars.

Dr. Petit thanked Deputy Superintendent Dr. Saskia Brown and the Development Team for their support in applying for Summer Boost, a program designed to help rising first through ninth-grade scholars in charter schools achieve academic progress.

Dr. Petit introduced 16 HCZ Promise Academy staff members who have gone above and beyond in supporting scholars academically, working with them during Academic Hour, Saturday Academy, and tutoring sessions to help scholars meet benchmarks. The Board of Trustees introduced themselves to the team and thanked them for their hard work and dedication. Staff members who were thanked by the Board of Trustees included Director of Special Services Gissell Scottborgh, Special Education Coach Hadiyah James-Abraham, Special Education Coach Samara Pelt, Training and Development (T&D) Coach Scott Kercher, Literacy Coach Kelsey Shroyer, PBIS Manager Allison Colacchi, Special Education Coach Stefany Rios, Education Direction Kathryn Okonji, T&D Coach Thurmeke Ward, Director of T&D Dr. Veroniqua Delva, Education Director Jessica Benzian, Assistant Principal Alyssa Solomon, Education Director Chakiya Coles, Education Director LaRen Bierria, Assistant Principal Deborah Pryor and Literacy Coach Carrie Thomas-Carlson.

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

Principal LaKiesha George reported the Elementary School's attendance was 92% for February.

The Elementary School partnered with Managing Director of Curriculum and Instruction Katherine Martinez and the Literacy Team to revise their lesson plans to an annotative structure to strengthen teacher content knowledge. School leaders continue to focus on strengthening instruction and reflecting on data during analysis and common planning meetings.

The Elementary School is focusing on test preparation for grades three through five and creating instructional blocks for exam planning.

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

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

In February, the Middle School celebrated Black History Month with door-decorating contests, spirit week, and words of affirmation.

The Middle School hosted its Sweetheart Dance as its positive behavior bi-monthly incentive.

The Middle School celebrated March Madness and hosted a pep rally, followed by a staff-versus-scholar basketball game to kick off test preparation season.

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

Deputy Superintendent Dr. Saskia Brown reported that the High School's attendance was 94% for February. The School continues to use incentives to improve attendance.

Dr. Deal is working closely with Dr. Petit on daily informal classroom observations and providing teachers feedback.

High School scholars hosted a Black Excellence celebration to honor Black History Month.

School leaders celebrated scholars who had perfect attendance.

### **Financial Update (Ralph Stefano)**

CFO Ralph Stefano reported that HCZ Promise Academy I's January enrollment is 1,165, which is ten favorable versus the budget. The school's revenue is \$0.2M favorable at \$14.4M. Expenses are \$0.4M favorable, at \$13.4M. HCZ has not made a contribution through eight months of FY24.

## HCZ Promise Academy I March 2024 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
3/1	35	645	95%	6	262	98%	10	255	96%
3/4	49	645	92%	16	262	94%	8	255	97%
3/5	49	643	92%	21	262	92%	12	255	95%
3/6	33	643	95%	15	262	94%	13	255	95%
3/7	36	643	94%	22	262	92%	15	255	94%
3/8	47	643	93%	19	262	93%	19	255	93%
3/11	45	643	93%	14	262	95%	18	255	93%
3/12	27	642	96%	7	262	97%	16	255	94%
3/13	37	642	94%	5	262	98%	19	255	93%
3/14	157	642	76%	24	262	91%	29	255	89%
3/15	56	641	91%	31	262	88%	12	255	95%
3/18	55	641	91%	14	262	95%	11	255	96%
3/19	44	641	93%	15	262	94%	14	255	95%
3/20	38	641	94%	6	262	98%	11	255	96%
3/21	42	641	93%	9	262	97%	14	255	95%
3/22	47	641	93%	25	262	90%	17	255	93%
3/25	33	641	95%	16	262	94%	13	255	95%
3/26	46	641	93%	8	262	97%	18	255	93%
3/27	30	640	95%	11	262	96%	12	255	95%
3/28	42	640	93%	10	262	96%	23	255	91%
<b>Average</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>642</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>94%</b>



## Promise Academy I

### FY 2024 February YTD Budget vs. Actual

		Budget	Actual	Fav/(Unfav)	Full Year Budget
Enrollment @ Feb 29	(a)	1,155	1,162	7	1,155
DOE and other gov't funding	(b)	\$ 16.3	\$ 16.5	\$ 0.2	\$ 24.4
<b>Expenses:</b>					
Salaries		10.0	9.5	0.5	15.0
Benefits		3.1	3.3	(0.3)	4.6
OTPS		2.8	2.4	0.4	4.2
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(c)</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>23.8</b>
Expenses in excess of public funding		-	-	-	-
<b>Contribution Components:</b>					
HCZ Contribution		-	-	-	-
<b>per student (whole \$)</b>		<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

(a) Enrollment as of Mar 31: 1,157

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

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