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Principal
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Shannon Ortiz-Wong
Principal
High School
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AGENDA

Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) Promise Academy II
Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, May 20, 2025
at
245 West 129th Street
New York, NY

- I. Acceptance of the Minutes
- II. CEO Report (*Kwame Owusu-Kesse*)
- III. Superintendent's Updates (*Saskia Brown*)
- IV. HCZ Promise Academy II Updates
 - i. Elementary School (*Kiana Morris*)
 - ii. Middle School (*Veronica Delva*)
 - iii. High School (*Shannon Ortiz-Wong*)
- V. Financial Report (*Ralph Stefano*)

**Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) Promise Academy II Charter School
Board Meeting
Thursday, April 10, 2025
245 West 129th Street**

Attendees: Geoffrey Canada, Mitch Kurz, Ellanor (Bodie) Brizendine, Willie Mae Lewis, Keith Meister, Alfonso Wyatt, Candice Ashby, Shannon Benson, Saskia Brown, Ari Browne, Amy Shan, Amy Deal, Veronique Delva, Garraud Etienne, Michelle Field, LaKiesha George, Madelaine German-Schultz, Jenn Klein, Jazmine Lewis, Stephanie Lilavois, John Macapagal, Katherine Martinez, Kiana Morris, Shannon Ortiz-Wong, Meredith Peckosh-Soffrin, Ralph Stefano, and Toya Stilley.

Acceptance of Minutes (Geoffrey Canada)

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM, and a motion to approve the meeting minutes from March 18 was unanimously approved.

Superintendent's Update (Dr. Saskia Brown)

Superintendent Dr. Saskia Brown reported that enrollment is 1,144 for HCZ Promise Academy I and 1,017 for HCZ Promise Academy II.

HCZ Promise Academy Elementary and Middle School scholars are preparing for New York State exams. Testing begins the week of April 21 and will be computer-based for all grades.

Chief Program Officer Dr. Michelle Field reported the following athletic updates:

On Wednesday, March 26, the HCZ Promise Academy II High School Boys Basketball Team lost to Eagle Academy in the Charter School Athletic Association (CSAA) semifinal playoff game. The team finished third in New York City (NYC) among all high school charter schools.

On Tuesday, April 1, the HCZ Promise Academy I High School Girls Basketball Team lost in the CSAA NYC Varsity Basketball Championship to Summit Charter School. The team finished the season as the second-ranked high school girls basketball program in NYC.

HCZ Promise Academy I and II fourth- and fifth-grade basketball teams are tied for first place in the Elementary School Sports League (ESSL). Both schools had three players selected for the ESSL City-Wide All-Star Game scheduled for Wednesday, April 9. HCZ Promise Academy Charter Schools has the most scholars chosen from any of the schools in the league.

On April 8, HCZ Promise Academy II's fifth- and sixth-grade boys basketball team defeated Equity Project Charter School, 45 to 10. The girls' team also claimed a win against the Equity Project, scoring 23 to 11.

After winning the Manhattan Borough Championship, the HCZ Promise Academy I Middle School Boys Basketball Team lost to Eagle Academy in the NYC Middle School Basketball League (MSBL) championship. They finished as the second-ranked basketball team in NYC for the varsity basketball season. Dr. Field congratulated players and coaches on their season.

Similarly, after winning the Manhattan Junior Varsity Borough Championship, the HCZ Promise Academy II Middle School Boys Basketball Team lost in the NYC MSBL final four.

HCZ Promise Academy II Elementary School (Kiana Morris)

Principal Kiana Morris reported the Elementary School's attendance was 90% for March.

More than 70 scholars attended Saturday Academy in March, nearly doubling the number of participants from February.

The Elementary School celebrated Spirit Week in March.

Scholars in third- to fifth-grade took mock exams in ELA and math. Fifth-grade scholars also took mock exams in science.

On March 18, Positive Behaviors and Intervention Supports Manager Jamal Johnson helped teachers create behavior plans for scholars who required additional support.

HCZ Promise Academy II Middle School (Dr. Veroniqua Delva)

Principal Dr. Veroniqua Delva reported the Middle School's attendance was 93% for March.

Middle School leaders across HCZ Promise Academy worked together on school culture initiatives.

Approximately 100 middle school parents and guardians attended the final parent-teacher conference of the school year.

Dr. Delva hosted a "Dive-in with Dr. Delva" session, where she spoke with parents about how to support their scholars in school.

HCZ Promise Academy II High School (Shannon Ortiz-Wong)

Principal Shannon Ortiz-Wong reported the High School's attendance was 91% for March.

On March 14, the Middle School celebrated Pi Day, where scholars engaged in math competitions and winners "pied" their teachers. Scholars also received pi-themed pens and pencils.

Senior scholars took their 2025 class photo. They also participated in a college decision event hosted by the College Success Office and HCZ Promise Academy II After School. Guests provided information to help scholars choose colleges and universities.

Financial Update (Ralph Stefano)

Chief Financial Officer Ralph Stefano reported that HCZ Promise Academy II's preliminary Apr 1 enrollment is 1,017, which is 10 favorable versus the budget. The school's revenue through February is \$0.6M favorable at \$15.7M YTD. Expenses are \$0.5M unfavorable, at \$15.4M YTD. HCZ has not made a contribution through eight months of FY25.

Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ) Promise Academy II

April 2025 Attendance Report

	HCZ PAII Elementary School			HCZ PAII Middle School			HCZ PAII High School		
Date	Number of Scholars		% of Scholars Present	Number of Scholars		% of Scholars Present	Number of Scholars		% of Scholars Present
	Absent	Enrollment		Absent	Enrollment		Absent	Enrollment	
4/7	62	558	89%	19	255	93%	19	202	91%
4/8	36	558	94%	17	255	93%	15	202	93%
4/9	40	558	93%	20	255	92%	15	202	93%
4/10	39	558	93%	10	255	96%	15	202	93%
4/11	55	558	90%	26	255	90%	16	202	92%
4/14	89	558	84%	34	255	87%	29	202	86%
4/15	57	558	90%	19	255	93%	34	202	83%
4/16	59	558	89%	21	255	92%	25	202	88%
4/17	103	558	82%	20	255	92%	27	202	87%
4/21	80	557	86%	20	255	92%	24	202	88%
4/22	49	557	91%	21	255	92%	43	202	79%
4/23	45	557	92%	14	255	95%	12	202	94%
4/24	52	557	91%	8	255	97%	22	202	89%
4/25	58	557	90%	11	255	96%	22	202	89%
4/28	52	557	91%	16	255	94%	15	202	93%
4/29	45	557	92%	15	255	94%	22	202	89%
4/30	67	557	88%	15	255	94%	17	202	92%
Average	58	558	90%	18	255	93%	22	202	89%

Promise Academy II

FY 2025 March YTD Budget vs. Actual

		Budget	Actual	Fav/(Unfav)	Full Year Budget
Enrollment @ Mar 31	(a)	1,007	1,015	8	1,007
DOE and other gov't funding		\$ 17.0	\$ 17.7	\$ 0.7	\$ 22.7
Expenses:					
Salaries		10.6	11.3	(0.7)	14.5
Benefits		3.4	3.0	0.4	4.5
OTPS		2.7	2.8	(0.1)	3.6
Total Expenses	(b)	16.7	17.1	(0.4)	22.6
Expenses in excess of public funding		-	-	-	-
Contribution Components:					
HCZ Contribution		-	-	-	-
per student (whole \$)		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

(a) Enrollment as of May 1: 1,014

(b) Excludes PA Initiatives, bonus, growth fund, & other HCZ allocations.