

Promise Updates

04/05/2011

This is the thirteenth installment of Promise Updates, a bi-monthly summary of information, research, and news coverage dealing with the Kalamazoo Promise or one of the other related reforms across the country. If you have suggestions about items to add to the list or ideas about how we can improve this service, you can e-mail us at Promiseupdates@gmail.com. The current Promise Updates covers a selection of items from February 2010 to March 2011. An archive of the Promise Updates is available on our Kalamazoo Promise Evaluation website:

<http://www.wmich.edu/kpromise>

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KALAMAZOO PROMISE

KALAMAZOO SAW 20 PERCENT GAIN IN ITS ENROLLMENT 3/5/11

- Since the Promise took off, more than 2,000 of the city graduates attended college and the enrollment has increased.

<http://nems360.com/bookmark/11395632>

DID THE STRYKERS STRIKE AGAIN WITH ANONYMOUS DONATION? 3/23/11

- Kalamazoo suspects Bill Johnston and the Stryker family as being two of the major contributors of the Kalamazoo Promise.

<http://blogs.forbes.com/joanmuller/2011/03/23/did-the-strykers-strike-again-with-anonymous-donation/>

RACE TO THE TOP HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT CHALLENGE 3/11/11

- Applications, including essays and statistical information required, invited public high schools in the country to compete in demonstrating how their high school prepares for college and careers.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/commencement>

KPS CLASS OF 2017 DESCENDS ON WMU 3/4/11

- Kalamazoo Public Schools sixth graders are taken on a tour of WMU's campus to get them to start thinking about their college education and how they can use the Kalamazoo Promise.

<http://www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/2011/03/012.shtml>

KALAMAZOO WOMAN FINDS PASSION HELPING OTHERS IN AFRICA, THEN RETURNS HOME TO 'GET GROUNDED AGAIN' 2/27/11

- Woman that graduated from high school near Kalamazoo, MI, moves back from helping others in Africa to allow her child to receive the Kalamazoo Promise.

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2011/02/post_121.html

AS STATE POPULATION GROWTH SLOWS, THE PROMISE HELPS KALAMAZOO PICK UP SPEED 2/6/11

- The population increased by 4 percent in the years between 2000 and 2009.

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2011/02/as_state_population_growth_slo.html

A number of articles regarding the Kalamazoo Promise are included in the Excelsior newsletter monthly.

- Obama visits Kalamazoo.

<http://www.kalamazoopublicschools.com/departments/business-communications-and-operations/communications/excelsior-back-issues/2011-excelsi>

2011 State Recipient for Champions for children: The Kalamazoo Community for the Kalamazoo Promise

<http://gomasa.org/champion-children>

OTHER PROMISE RELATED PROGRAMS

EL DORADO PROMISE (El Dorado, AR.)

COLLEGE-GOING RATE RISES TO 80 PERCENT AFTER EL DORADO PROMISE GUARANTEES SCHOLARSHIPS 3/8/11

- The number of college going students has risen in El Dorado and declined in surrounding cities.

<http://www.dailyjournal.net/view/story/2492042bc9ac4b38840a8f0a5e51a0f5/AR--El-Dorado-Promise/>

Related Articles-

<http://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2011/mar/08/college-going-rate-80-scholarship-pledge/>

<http://www.kspr.com/sns-ap-ar--eldoradopromise,0,3976993.story>

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/2492042bc9ac4b38840a8f0a5e51a0f5/AR--El-Dorado-Promise/>

<http://www.todaysthv.com/news/story.aspx?storyid=147463>

<http://www.5newsonline.com/news/sns-ap-ar--eldoradopromise,0,6715906.story>

PROMISE DOESN'T STOP DECLINE IN POPULATION 2/24/11

- There has been a population decline regardless of the Promise efforts.
- The population dropped by 12.29 in the last ten years.

<http://www.eldoradonews.com/news/localnews/2011/02/24/promise-doesn-t-stop-decline-in-populati-19.php>

I PROMISE 2/17/11

- Students sign their promise at Hugh Goodwin Academy of Arts.

<http://www.eldoradonews.com/news/localnews/2011/02/17/i-promise-19.php>

COLLEGE BOUND FROM EL DORADO 2/6/11

- A personal view of how El Dorado improves hopes for college with their scholarship.

<http://www.rexnelsonsouthernfried.com/?p=1979>

PITTSBURGH PROMISE (Pittsburgh, PA.)

THE PITTSBURGH PROMISE, PART II: CHARITY ON CONTEXT 3/6/11

- Matt Rippin argues that although the Pittsburgh Promise and charity are both good things, whether or not it is working on improving the city.

<http://www.examiner.com/economy-in-pittsburgh/the-pittsburgh-promise-part-ii-charity-context>

PITTSBURGH PROMISE OKS BIG BUMP IN COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS 2/15/11

- Beginning with the class of 2010, those who graduate from Pittsburgh Public Schools can now get up to \$20,000 under the Promise program.

<http://www.wtae.com/high-school-playbook/26873181/detail.html>

Related Articles-

http://www.newpittsburghcourieronline.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3964%3Apittsburgh-promise-doubled&catid=38%3Ametro&Itemid=27

<http://blogs.sites.post-gazette.com/index.php/opinion/open-letters/25548-three-cheers-for-the-pittsburgh-promise-program>

PROMISE RAMPS UP SCHOLARSHIP TO REWARD TEST SCORES 2/16/11

- The Promise college scholarship program declared what the performance must be on standardized tests to get up to \$20,000 more.

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/11047/1125652-53.stm>

Related Articles:

<http://www.smartbrief.com/news/ascd/storyDetails.jsp?issueid=95285D37-0C44-4E37-9E3E-495625CD403E©id=D65DFEF7-3F82-447C-9651-F1A992503749>

<http://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/news/2011/02/15/pittsburgh-promise-raises-scholarship.html>

PITTSBURGH HALF MARATHON

- The marathon will be held on May 15, some may run for the Pittsburgh Promise Scholarship.
- The following website allows for donations:

<http://www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/lindsayaroesty/pittsburgh-half-marathon>

DETROIT COLLEGE PROMISE (Detroit, MI.)

WHAT'S GOING ON IN METRO DETROIT? 2/3/11

- Listed under a Sunday of the 6th, "A Lesson Before Dying" performance took place to benefit the Detroit College Promise.

<http://detnews.com/article/20110203/ENT05/102030324/1422/ENT05/What-s-goin--on-in-Metro-Detroit>

- Newsletters for February and March have been released.

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<http://www.detroitcollegepromise.com/dcpnews.html>

MUSKEGON OPPORTUNITY (Muskegon, MI.)

MARCH IS COLLEGE AWARENESS MONTH IN MUSKEGON COUNTY 3/14/11

- The Muskegon Opportunity is sponsoring a month of college awareness to aid in promoting a college-going culture.

<http://www.whitelakebeacon.com/news/23803-march-is-college-awareness-month-in-muskegon-county>

MUSKEGON OPPORTUNITY FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP 2/14/11

- Muskegon Opportunity hosted a workshop on February 16 to help post-college goals and financial aid.

<http://www.whitelakebeacon.com/news/23581-muskegon-opportunity-financial-aid-workshop>

JACKSON LEGACY PROGRAM (Jackson, MI.)

JACKSON LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE IS MARCH 1 2/16/11

- The maximum amount for each student receiving the scholarship for the next academic year has not been determined.

http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2011/02/jackson_legacy_scholarship_d ea.html

PROMISE ZONES (MI.)

ANOTHER VIEW: UNDERSTAND SCHOLARSHIP PROMISE ZONE, AND GET INVOLVED TO MAKE SAGINAW BETTER 2/11/11

- Column by a Saginaw community member, explaining the Promise Zone scholarships and the benefits.

http://www.mlive.com/opinion/saginaw/index.ssf/2011/02/another_view_understand schola.html

NEW HAVEN PROMISE (New Haven, CT.)

THE PROMISE AND THE PREP 2/4/11

- New Haven Promise has stricter academic requirements, when compared to other Promise-related scholarships.
- The hope with the requirements is to draw a suburban middle class to move to New Haven, raise property values, and bring in more money to public schools.

<http://yaleherald.com/topstory/the-promise-and-the-prep/>

ROCKFORD PROMISE (Rockford, ILL.)

LETTER: STUDENT AID HELP TODAY 2/2011

- Encouragement for those attending Rockford demonstrated.

<http://www.rrstar.com/gnt/whatyoursaying/x1179522932/Letter-Student-aid-help-today>

ROCKFORD STUDENTS GET COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP HELP 2/2011

- Presentations were given by certified public accountants about financial aid at Rock Valley College's downtown campus.

http://mystateline.com/fulltext-news?nxd_id=229066

BENTON HARBOR (MI.)

BENTON HARBOR MAKES A PROMISE TO YOUNG PEOPLE 3/3/11

- For the graduates of Benton Harbor High School, Dream Academy and Countryside Academy, beginning in the spring of 2011, a Promise including fully funded tuition and all mandatory fees for two years of secondary education will be available.

<http://swmichigan.secondwavemedia.com/devnews/BHpromise0303.aspx>

SPARKMAN (ARK.)

SMALL ARKANSAS TOWN RAISES MONEY FOR PROGRAM TO PAY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS' COLLEGE TUITION 3/12/11

- In Sparkman, more than \$42,000 has been raised for tuition for the town's high school graduates (14). However, the program could be established with \$27,000, said the leaders.

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/881ed722d8d443d5b3bf4cf4335362de/AR--Sparkman-Promise/>

For the PDF file of Promise Updates, go to
<http://www.wmich.edu/kpromise/updates.htm>

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