

# Promise Updates

04/09/2010

This is the fourth installment of Promise Updates, a monthly summary of information, research, and news coverage dealing with the Kalamazoo Promise or one of the many 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](mailto:Promiseupdates@gmail.com). The current Promise Updates covers a selection of items from March 2010. An archive of the Promise Updates is available on our K Promise Evaluation website: <http://www.wmich.edu/kpromise>

## KALAMAZOO PROMISE

- The Kalamazoo Promise has been used in numerous instances to market the City of Kalamazoo.
- Here is a new instance of the community's effort to be selected as one of the "Google Fiber for Communities."

<http://www.kalamazoogoogle.com/home/education>

### NEW WORKING PAPER

- A new working paper was just added to the web site.
- "Latinos and the Kalamazoo Promise: An Exploratory Study of Factors Related to Utilization of Kalamazoo's Universal Scholarship Program."
- This working paper examines how Latinos perceive the Promise, how they are impacted by the Promise, and what obstacles prevent them from taking advantage of the Promise.

[http://www.wmich.edu/kpromise/documents/WorkingPaper8\\_Latinos-KPromise.pdf](http://www.wmich.edu/kpromise/documents/WorkingPaper8_Latinos-KPromise.pdf)

Press Release: <http://www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/2010/04/025.shtml>

### PROMISE SEASON: KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS WORK TO CREATE A COLLEGE-GOING CULTURE 3/15/10

- Promise season will involve activities to help students ready for college and succeed in college.

<http://www.americantowns.com/mi/kalamazoo/news/promise-season-kalamazoo-public-schools-work-to-create-a-college-going-culture-266199>

### COLLEGE PREP TO START EARLY AT KPS: DISTRICT LOOKING TO CREATE "COLLEGE-GOING CULTURE" BY MIDDLE SCHOOL 3/12/10

- Promise scholarship recipients from Western Michigan University will return to their middle school in the spring to speak with students.

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/03/college\\_prep\\_to\\_start\\_early\\_at.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/03/college_prep_to_start_early_at.html)

**THE PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP IS A NATIONAL MODEL, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICIAL SAYS 3/11/10**

- Peter C. Groff met with members of ISSAC and with 150 people in Battle Creek to talk about education.
- Groff discussed Promise and its relation to boosting the economy.

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/03/the\\_promise\\_scholarship\\_is\\_a\\_n.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/03/the_promise_scholarship_is_a_n.html)

**KPS-SIXTH GRADERS GET LOOK AT COLLEGE LIFE AT WMU 3/11/10**

- WMU/KPS partner to encourage sixth graders to consider college and take advantage of the Kalamazoo

<http://www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/2010/03/031.shtml>

**PROMISE TO EDUCATE 3/10/10**

- Benefits of Kalamazoo Promise

[http://www.kalamazoocurlingclub.com/wpcurl/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/TED\\_10march2010.pdf](http://www.kalamazoocurlingclub.com/wpcurl/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/TED_10march2010.pdf)

**OTHER PROMISE RELATED PROGRAMS**

***DETROIT COLLEGE PROMISE (Detroit, MI)***

**DETROIT COLLEGE PROMISE ASKS LETTER WRITERS TO ENCOURAGE FRESHMEN 3/18/10**

- Launched a letter-writing campaign to give students confidence and keep them on college-track.

<http://www.craigslist.com/article/20100318/FREE/100319831#>

***DENVER SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION (Denver, Colorado)***

**NEWSLETTER: DENVER SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION NAMES DEAN PRINA AS CHAIRMAN-ELECT 3/17/10**

- Denver Scholarship Foundation Board of Directors name four new board members.

<http://www.denverscholarship.org/Document.Doc?id=424>

***MUSKEGON OPPORTUNITY (Muskegon, Michigan)***

**GRANHOLM THANKS MUSKEGON OPPORTUNITY LEADERS FOR  
'COMMITMENT TO HIGHER EDUCATION' 3/11/10**

- Promise Zones initiative's pilot program would be the Muskegon Promise, which would be given money for three years to come.

[http://blog.mlive.com/chronicle/2008/03/faxbox\\_opportunity\\_what\\_a\\_prop.html](http://blog.mlive.com/chronicle/2008/03/faxbox_opportunity_what_a_prop.html)

***PEORIA PROMISE (Peoria, Illinois)***

**ICC OFFICIALS SAY RECESSION LIKELY CAUSE OF APP INCREASE  
3/21/10**

- There is an increase in scholarship applications, due to economy, Peoria Promise, and trying to complete applications earlier.

***PITTSBURGH PROMISE (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)***

**A JOB 'WHALE' DONE MOTIVATES PITTSBURGH STUDENTS 3/26/10**

- Schools in Pittsburgh turn around bad behavior to set a tone and pathway to the Pittsburgh Promise.

<http://www.thepittsburghchannel.com/news/22967015/detail.html>

**THE PITTSBURGH PROMISE EXPANDS ELIGIBLE SCHOOL CHOICE FOR  
STUDENTS 3/19/10**

- Beginning this summer, all tuition from public and private universities and colleges in Pennsylvania will be covered by the Pittsburgh Promise for students graduating from the Pittsburgh Public Schools.

[http://www.pittsburghpromise.org/press/expands\\_school.pdf](http://www.pittsburghpromise.org/press/expands_school.pdf)

**STUDENT STIMULUS: DONORS SEE A GOOD THING IN THE PITTSBURGH  
PROMISE 3/2/10**

- Lists donors
- Promise will help with college costs, but also lure families to Pittsburgh

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/09061/952546-192.stm>

***EL DORADO PROMISE (El Dorado, Arkansas)***

**BUSH TO SPEAK AT EL DORADO PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP CEREMONY  
3/31/10**

- George W. Bush, 43<sup>rd</sup> President of the United States will be keynote speaker on April 22<sup>nd</sup> for recipients of the El Dorado Promise for Academic Signing Day.

<http://arkansasnews.com/2010/03/31/bush-to-speak-at-el-dorado-promise-scholarship-ceremony/>

*RELATED NEWS*

**“PromiseNet 2010” CONFERENCE**

- In June: "Investing in Youth for Community Transformation" conference  
<http://www.promisenet.us/>