

# Promise Updates

05/05/2010

This is the fifth installment of Promise Updates, a 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](mailto:Promiseupdates@gmail.com). The current Promise Updates covers a selection of items from April to early May 2010. An archive of the Promise Updates is available on our KPromise Evaluation website: <http://www.wmich.edu/kpromise>

## KALAMAZOO PROMISE

### **PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA WILL SPEAK AT KALAMAZOO CENTRAL'S COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY 5/4/10**

- Obama personally chose Kalamazoo Central among the three finalists.

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/05/winner\\_of\\_president\\_barack\\_oba.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/05/winner_of_president_barack_oba.html)

Related Articles:

<http://www.freep.com/article/20100505/NEWS07/5050378/Obama-praises-Kalamazoo-Promise-to-speak-at-Michigan-high-school>

<http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/Education/2010/0504/Kalamazoo-high-school-grads-win-celebrity-speaker-President-Obama>

### **WHITE HOUSE TO ANNOUNCE AT 11 A.M. TUESDAY WHETHER PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA WILL SPEAK AT KALAMAZOO CENTRAL'S COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY 5/3/10**

- Comparing the three finalists: Kalamazoo Central, Denver School of Science and Technology, Clark Montessori Junior and Senior High School

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/05/will\\_president\\_barack\\_obama\\_ch.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/05/will_president_barack_obama_ch.html)

Related Articles:

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/05/obama\\_contest\\_keys\\_on\\_school\\_r.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/05/obama_contest_keys_on_school_r.html)

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/05/a\\_great\\_moment\\_k-central\\_is\\_fi.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/05/a_great_moment_k-central_is_fi.html)

**EDITORIAL: KALAMAZOO SCHOOLS HAVE EARNED OUR SUPPORT 5/2/10**

- Although the state has a declining dedication to education, communities have an inclining commitment.

[http://www.mlive.com/opinion/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/05/editorial\\_kalamazoo\\_schools.html](http://www.mlive.com/opinion/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/05/editorial_kalamazoo_schools.html)

**COLUMN: AS PART OF THE KALAMAZOO PROMISE EFFORT, HIGHER EDUCATION IS KEY TO MICHIGAN'S PROSPERITY 5/2/10**

- Kalamazoo participates in "Yes, I can", which encourages second graders to think about higher education.

[http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2010/05/column\\_as\\_part\\_of\\_the\\_kalamazo.html](http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2010/05/column_as_part_of_the_kalamazo.html)

**KALAMAZOO CENTRAL ON THE CUSP OF HISTORY - -AGAIN - - AS PRESIDENT OBAMA CONSIDERS SPEAKING AT HIGH SCHOOL'S COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY 4/30/10**

- Kalamazoo Central is one of six schools contending to have President Obama as their graduation speaker.

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/04/kalamazoo\\_central\\_on\\_the\\_cusp.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/04/kalamazoo_central_on_the_cusp.html)

**KALAMAZOO CENTRAL DRAWS SUPPORT FAR AND WIDE: CAMPAIGN TO BRING OBAMA TO TOWN IN FULL SWING 4/29/10**

- Kalamazoo community supports Kalamazoo Central

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/04/kalamazoo\\_central\\_campaign\\_to.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/04/kalamazoo_central_campaign_to.html)

**IN KALAMAZOO, MEAP SCORES, ENROLLMENT UP 4/25/10**

- A greater amount of students are passing the MEAP tests and taking AP courses
- A decrease in drop-outs
- For the first time in 17 years, the district purchased new materials

<http://www.freep.com/article/20100425/NEWS05/4250470/1318/>

**ACHIEVEMENT UP AS MORE GRAB HOLD OF PROMISE 4/25/10**

- Benefits of the Promise
- Examples of the effects the Promise has had on individuals

<http://www.freep.com/article/20100425/NEWS05/4250469/1322/Kalamazoo-Promise-scholarship-benefits-city-its-kids>

**STUDENTS HOPE THEY'RE MAKING SECRET DONORS PROUD 4/25/10**

- Recipients show gratitude by volunteering in their community

<http://www.freep.com/article/20100425/NEWS05/4250471/1318/Promises-kept-in-Kalamazoo>

**KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA: YES, WE CAN 4/25/10**

- One of six national finalists, Kalamazoo Central is in the contest to have Obama speak at their graduation.

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/04/kalamazoo\\_public\\_schools\\_to\\_pr.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/04/kalamazoo_public_schools_to_pr.html)

Related Articles:

[http://argus-press.com/news/state\\_news/article\\_d5342579-192f-5b64-b77b-41a60fb33598.html](http://argus-press.com/news/state_news/article_d5342579-192f-5b64-b77b-41a60fb33598.html)

[http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/2944930/kalamazoo\\_michigan\\_central\\_high\\_school.html](http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/2944930/kalamazoo_michigan_central_high_school.html)

**KALAMAZOO CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN TO WIN OBAMA VISIT 4/24/10**

- Students at the Kalamazoo Central High School are encouraging for others to vote for Obama to visit their high school as the graduation speaker.

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/04/kalamazoo\\_central\\_high\\_school\\_2.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/04/kalamazoo_central_high_school_2.html)

**KALAMAZOO CENTRAL STUDENTS TO GO DOOR-TO-DOOR IN EFFORT TO BRING PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA HERE FOR COMMENCEMENT 4/23/10**

- Students from Kalamazoo Central are going door-to-door to urge the community to vote online for Kalamazoo Central to be nominated as the school for President Obama to visit.

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/04/kalamazoo\\_central\\_students\\_to.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/04/kalamazoo_central_students_to.html)

**VIEWPOINT: TOUT BENEFITS OF YOUR EDUCATIONAL PATH, BUT DON'T BASH KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS 4/23/10**

- Response to "Charter Experience contradicts study"
- Kalamazoo Promise is a "blessing" in this viewpoint

[http://blog.mlive.com/readreact/2010/04/viewpoint\\_tout\\_benefits\\_of\\_you.html](http://blog.mlive.com/readreact/2010/04/viewpoint_tout_benefits_of_you.html)

**WMU TO GRANT 2,600 DEGREES DURING MAY COMMENCEMENT 4/23/10**

- Among other graduates, the graduating class includes the first class of the Kalamazoo Promise scholarship recipients.

<http://www.wmich.edu/wmu/news/2010/04/080.shtml>

**KUDOS TO WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY 4/14/10**

- Praise for the student tours that occurred at WMU
- All students received a t-shirt referring to the Kalamazoo Promise and WMU

[http://blog.mlive.com/schoolzone/2010/04/kudos\\_to\\_wmu.html](http://blog.mlive.com/schoolzone/2010/04/kudos_to_wmu.html)

**LATINOS LESS LIKELY TO USE PROMISE: STUDY FINDS KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOL HISPANIC STUDENTS FACE CULTURAL OBSTACLES 4/3/10**

- New study by Western Michigan University: Latinos have cultural and language obstacles

[http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/04/latinos\\_less\\_likely\\_to\\_use\\_promise.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/04/latinos_less_likely_to_use_promise.html)

Related Articles:

<http://www.woodtv.com/dpp/news/education/Study-Latinos-in-Kzoo-Promise-stifled>

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

**OTHER PROMISE RELATED PROGRAMS**

***STOCKTON PROMISE (Stockton, CA.)***

**IF KALAMAZOO DID IT, WHY NOT DO IT IN STOCKTON TOO? 5/2/10**

- Following success of the Promise, there is belief that similar a scholarship in Stockton will benefit community.

[http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100502/A\\_NEWS0801/5020304/-1/A\\_NEWS14](http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100502/A_NEWS0801/5020304/-1/A_NEWS14)

***ST. JOSEPH PROMISE (St. Joseph, IN.)***

**WITH GREAT EDUCATION, THE SKY'S THE LIMIT FOR ST. JOSEPH COUNTY 4/25/10**

- Vision for 2010: creating a St. Joseph Promise; which is modeled after the Kalamazoo Promise.

<http://www.southbendtribune.com/article/20100425/News01/4250320/-1/googleNews>

***PENSACOLA PROMISE (Pensacola, FL.)***

**CITY COUNCIL DELAYS TUITION PLAN VOTE 4/20/10**

- There is a proposal for a Pensacola Promise by Councilwoman Maren DeWeese.
- Recent stage: figuring out funding

<http://www.pnj.com/article/20100420/NEWS01/4200312>

Related Articles:

<http://www.pnj.com/article/20100421/NEWS01/4210324>

<http://www.pnj.com/article/20100423/OPINION/4230307/Editorial-Tuition-plan-has-promise>

### ***PITTSBURGH PROMISE (Pittsburgh, PA.)***

#### **LETTER TO THE EDITOR 4/8/10**

- Achievement: Pittsburgh Promise

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/10102/1049657-110.stm>

#### **PITTSBURGH SOCCER IN THE COMMUNITY 04/10**

- Soccer and educational camp: people from Pittsburgh Promise to come and encourage students to succeed through the Promise

[http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/weednseed/assets/WS\\_April\\_newsletter-v1i2.pdf](http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/weednseed/assets/WS_April_newsletter-v1i2.pdf)

### ***EL DORADO PROMISE (El Dorado, AR.)***

#### **BUSH SPEAKS TO EL DORADO PROMISE GRADS 4/23/10**

- Bush encourages graduates to succeed in college
- Gives personal anecdote

<http://talkbusiness.net/article/BUSH-SPEAKS-TO-EL-DORADO-PROMISE-GRADS/202/>

Related Articles:

<http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/kuar/news.newsmain/article/0/0/1640225/Arkansas.Headlines/Ark.high.school.ceremony.features.former.president>

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/291082>

<http://www.politicsdaily.com/2010/04/23/george-w-bush-to-arkansas-students-think-about-teaching/>

<http://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2010/apr/22/two-former-presidents-arkansas-thursday/>

***MUSKEGON OPPORTUNITY (Muskegon, MI.)***

**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN ADVISER TO HELP NUDGE MUSKEGON HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TOWARD COLLEGE 4/26/10**

- Muskegon chosen to receive an adviser, a graduate from the University of Michigan, to help high school students prepare for their education after high school.
- Partly chosen due to community encouraging college already, such as through the Muskegon Opportunity.

[http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2010/04/university\\_of\\_michigan\\_adviser.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2010/04/university_of_michigan_adviser.html)

***JACKSON LEGACY PROGRAM (Jackson, MI.)***

**JACKSON LEGACY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN HAS TWO NEW ONLINE OPTIONS 4/3/10**

- New method of spreading the word about this scholarship; goal is to build support
- [http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2010/04/jackson\\_legacy\\_capital\\_campaign.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2010/04/jackson_legacy_capital_campaign.html)

***RELATED NEWS***

Register for the PromiseNet 2010 Conference at [www.promisenet.us](http://www.promisenet.us).