Promise Updates

This is the seventh 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. The current Promise Updates covers a selection of items from June to early July 2010. An archive of the Promise Updates is available on our K Promise Evaluation website: http://www.wmich.edu/kpromise

A POWERFUL PROMISE 7/7/10
  ● Effects of the Kalamazoo Promise.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF KALAMAZOO PROMISE HONORED WITH FIRST-EVER HAENICKE AWARD: JANICE BROWN ‘HONOURED’ BY RECOGNITION 6/23/10

MICHIGAN TOWNS ATTEMPT TO REPLICATE KALAMAZOO PROMISE PROGRAM DESPITE MONEY LIMITATIONS 6/17/10
  ● Replication of Kalamazoo Promise through other financial means.

INTEREST SURGES IN KALAMAZOO PROMISE FOLLOWING PRESIDENTIAL VISIT 6/16/10
  ● Kalamazoo Promise receives attention and praise through presidential visit and PromiseNet conference.

KALAMAZOO PROMISE VERSUS CHARTER SCHOOLS/VOUCHERS: WHICH IS THE BETTER PHILANTHROPIC MODEL FOR EDUCATION? 6/15/10
  ● Comparison of the Kalamazoo Promise to charter schools.
PROMISE IS FOCUS OF CONFERENCE HERE 6/13/10
  ● PromiseNet 2010 conference to be held in Kalamazoo, with 150 people and 30 communities expected to attend.

Related Articles:

COLUMN: KALAMAZOO IS LEVERAGING THE PROMISE FOR TRUE EDUCATION REFORM 6/12/10
  ● Community/education transformation in Kalamazoo.
  http://www.mlive.com/opinion/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/06/column_kalamazoo_is_leveraging.html

‘DON’T MAKE EXCUSES,’ OBAMA TELLS KALAMAZOO GRADS 6/7/10
  ● Obama visits Kalamazoo Central High School.

Related Articles:
http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/article/20100608/NEWS01/6080302/Obama-to-graduates-Use-Promise-to-enrich
http://www.theepochtimes.com/n2/content/view/37393/

NEW STUDY ON ENROLLMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT TRENDS IN KALAMAZOO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
**DENVER SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION (Denver, CO.)**

http://www.denverscholarship.org/2010specialevent

**PEORIA PROMISE (Peoria, IL.)**

BUY TICKETS NOW FOR GALA FEATURING MICHAEL ISRAEL 6/9/10
- Tickets to see Michael Israel to benefit the Peoria Promise.
http://www.pjstar.com/entertainment/x1602634558/Buy-tickets-now-for-gala-featuring-Michael-Israel

URBAN EDUCATION IDEA TAKES CENTER STAGE AT JOINT MEETING 6/2/10
- Updates include construction on several schools, new charter school to be opened, and Peoria Promise, which may effect more than 500 students.

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

PITTSBURGH PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP RAISES $11.3 MILLION IN YEAR 7/1/10
- 2009-10 school year: 11.3 million was raised, with 7.6 million grant from the Pittsburgh Medical Center.
http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/10182/1069700-100.stm

Related Articles:
http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/10183/1069793-298.stm

REPORT: PITTSBURGH PROMISE MAKING PROGRESS 7/1/10
- Second annual report indicates the Promise has made effects on community as well.
http://kdka.com/school/Pittsburgh.Promise.Progress.2.1783759.html
THE PITTSBURGH PROMISE SAYS IT IS WORKING 7/1/10
- 8 million to 1,700 students has been given away for the first two years.

Related Articles:
http://pr-usa.net/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=429497&Itemid=28

HERE’S A PROMISE WORTH WAITING FOR 6/20/10
- There is incentive for students and effects of Promise are already seen.
  http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/10171/1066704-155.stm

AMERICAN EAGLE DONATES TO PITTSBURGH PROMISE 6/11/10
- AE donates $100,000 to the scholarship fund.

  JACKSON LEGACY PROGRAM (Jackson, MI.)

  GOLF COMMITTEE HOPING TO REACH GOAL OF $25,000 FOR JACKSON LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 6/15/10
- An anonymous donor will match the amount that is raised by the Ladies Legacy Gold Committee.

  MUSKEGON OPPORTUNITY (Muskegon, MI.)

  SEEDS OF KALAMAZOO PROMISE TAKING ROOT IN MUSKEGON OPPORTUNITY 6/7/10
- Muskegon opportunity works with Promise Zones.

  MICHIGAN PROMISE ZONES

  CHALLENGE OF PROMISE ZONES IS GROWING 6/30/10
- Funding is slower than expectations.
  http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20100630/OPINION01/6300308/-1/newshome
**PONTIAC PROMISE ZONE (Pontiac, MI.)**

MELTON APPLAUDS $400K COMMITMENT FOR PONTIAC PROMISE ZONE 6/8/10

- $400,000 from Auburn Hills Tax Increment Finance Authority.
  [http://029.housedems.com/news/article/melton-applauds-400k-commitment-for-pontiac-promise-zone/funding-key-to-increasing-access-to-higher-education-for-pontiac-students/](http://029.housedems.com/news/article/melton-applauds-400k-commitment-for-pontiac-promise-zone/funding-key-to-increasing-access-to-higher-education-for-pontiac-students/)

**SAGINAW PROMISE ZONE (Saginaw, MI.)**

OFFICIALS HOPE SAGINAW PROMISE ZONE DRAWS MORE STUDENTS TO DISTRICT 6/5/10

- One of ten Michigan Promise Zones, Saginaw School District determines the amount of money that each student will receive by length of attendance in the district.
- Hope to see effects on the community, as well as education.

**NEW BUFFALO PROMISE (New Buffalo, MI.)**

CASINO MONEY MAY FUND COLLEGE TUITION 6/3/10

- Bill passed State Senate to fund Promise-type scholarship for the New Buffalo School District.

**GRAND RAPIDS, MI.**

GRAND RAPIDS SCHOOLS STRUGGLE TO CREATE COLLEGE CULTURE THAT PROMISE BROUGHT TO KALAMAZOO 6/7/10

- Grand Rapids discussed possibilities to create a scholarship similar to Kalamazoo Promise but concluded the district too big, but is taking other measures to create a college-going culture.