

WE PROMISE.



The Pathway to the Promise.™

Special Thanks ...

Aerion Abney, Rep. Jake Wheatley's Office	Ronald Joseph, Pittsburgh Public Schools
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Nate Carter, Small Seeds	Darnell Ramsey, Small Seeds
Joshua Childs, University of Pittsburgh	Thomas Ramsey, Small Seeds
Sean Callahan-Dinish, Robert Morris University	Jason Rivers, Pittsburgh Public Schools
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Dalhart Dobbs Jr., Pittsburgh Public Schools	Ryan Scott, Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh
Saleem Ghubril, The Pittsburgh Promise®	Dr. James Stewart, Pittsburgh Public Schools EAP
Derrick Hardy, Pittsburgh Public Schools	Thomas Sumpter, Board First Vice President, Pittsburgh Public Schools
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Dr. Rodney Hopson, Duquesne University	Gene Walker, The Pittsburgh Promise®
Bomani Howze, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.	Dr. Wayne Walters, Pittsburgh Public Schools
Dave Hudley, Small Seeds	Jake Wheatley, PA State Representative
Mark Jones, Highmark	

You are young, gifted, and Black. We must begin to tell our young, There's a world waiting for you, Yours is the quest that's just begun.

James Weldon Johnson

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2013

African-American Male Summit

Thursday, January 17, 2013

Greenway Professional Development Center

"We Promise" Agenda

- 9:45 a.m.** **Welcome: You are important to Us!**
*Viola Burgess, Executive Director, Equity Office
Pittsburgh Public Schools*
- 9:50 a.m.** **We Believe in You**
*Dr. Linda S. Lane, Superintendent
Pittsburgh Public Schools*
- 9:55 a.m.** **You Can be Promise-Ready, too**
*Saleem Ghubril, Executive Director
The Pittsburgh Promise®*
- 10:00 a.m.** **Icebreaker: "What is in a Brand?"**
- 10:20 a.m.** **Workshop: "Your Personal Brand"**
- 11:40 a.m.** **Remarks**
*Mr. Thomas Sumpter, First Vice President, Board of Directors
Pittsburgh Public Schools*
- 11:45 a.m.** **Lunch/Discussion**
- 12:15 p.m.** **Introduction of Keynote Speaker**
*Dr. James Stewart, Chairperson
Equity Advisory Panel*
- 12:20 p.m.** **Keynote Speaker**
*Dr. Pedro Noguera, Urban Sociologist
"We are on the Shoulders of Each Other:
Rising to the Challenge of Academic Excellence"*
- 12:40 p.m.** **Closing Remarks**
*Dr. Linda S. Lane, Superintendent
Pittsburgh Public Schools*
- 12:45 p.m.** **Survey & Student Departure**
- 12:55 – 1:15 p.m.** **Debrief**

Break Out Room Assignments

Room 215: Team 1
Lead Facilitator: Dr. Gabby Yearwood

Room 214: Team 2
Lead Facilitator: Keith Davis

Room 216: Team 3
Lead Facilitator: Adam Gunn

Room 213: Team 4
Lead Facilitator: Penny Semaia

Room 201: Team 5
Lead Facilitator: Charles Small

Room 220: Team 6
Lead Facilitator: Austin Ransom

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Your Personal Brand Facilitator Bios

Keith Davis



Keith Davis is a youth counselor at Southwood Psychiatric Hospital. While attending Woodland Hills High School, he earned several scholarships and eventually accepted an offer to play football at Geneva College. He graduated with dual bachelor's degrees in human services and psychology. Recently, Davis was ordained as a deacon at New Hope Baptist Church in Braddock.

In his spare time he serves as a mentor and facilitator for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). In addition, Davis sits on the board of directors for the Polite Way Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides resources and opportunities to single mothers. Keith is dedicated to empowering youth to overcome obstacles and reach their full potential.

Adam Gunn, MPA

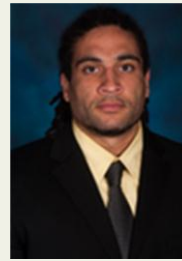


Adam Gunn is a sales specialist at Stryker Three Rivers Orthopedic and Spine Inc., where he sells sports medical devices and trains hospital staff on how to use the equipment. Gunn graduated from Kiski Area High School and attended the University of Pittsburgh on a full athletic scholarship. A standup lineman, he led his team to two consecutive bowl games, despite what could have been a career ending injury suffered his senior year.

In addition to his athletic accolades, Gunn earned a bachelor's degree in communications and rhetoric. He also obtained a master's from Pitt's Graduate School of Public and International Affairs. In his spare time, Gunn speaks to students and young adults on taking a proactive approach in preparing for their future.

Your Personal Brand Facilitator Bios

Austin Ransom, MPA



Austin Ransom works as a Career and Life Skills Coordinator at the University of Pittsburgh's Department of Athletics—a program in which he utilized as a student athlete. Currently, Ransom assists student athletes and alumni with career planning and graduate school preparation. He also oversees community outreach projects.

A Buffalo, New York native, Ransom walked onto the football team. Eventually, he earned a full scholarship and multiple academic awards. He later became one of the first underclassman to be voted team captain. He graduated with dual bachelor's degrees in communications and economics and a master's degree in management of public and non-profit organizations.

Penny Semaia



For the past seven years, Penny Semaia has worked at the University of Pittsburgh's Athletic Department overseeing the Cathy & John Pelusi Family Life Skills program. He has put the university on the national stage by serving as a facilitator and an advisor for the NCAA Student-Athlete Affairs Program. He is also a facilitator for the National Consortium for Academic and Sports (NCAS) and sits on the Advisory Board for Career Athletes.

A Utica, New York native, Semaia earned a full athletic scholarship to the University of Pittsburgh and graduated with a bachelor's degree in anthropology. In his spare time, Semaia is a mentor for the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh and serves on the board of directors for two non-profit organizations. Recently, he received a proclamation declaring May 25, 2012 "Mayor Luke Ravenstahl's Citizen Service Award Recipient, Mr. Penny Semaia Day".

Your Personal Brand Facilitator Bios

Charles Small, Doctoral Candidate



Charles Small has entered his third year as an academic counselor for the men's football and women's track teams, but his ties to the University of Pittsburgh's Athletic Department date back much further. Small played basketball for four years, two of which the team became Big East champions. Small took home titles off the court including being recognized as a Pitt Scholar Athlete and a member of the Big East Academic Honor Roll.

Small obtained two degrees – a bachelor's and master's in social work – and is presently working on a doctorate in higher education management. In August 2012, Small graduated from the NCAA Leadership Institute. In addition to his duties as an academic counselor, Small serves as an adjunct faculty member in the School of Social Work and is an instructor for several courses.

Gabby Yearwood, Ph.D.



Dr. Gabby Yearwood, a new resident of Pittsburgh, recently completed his doctorate in Social Anthropology at the University of Texas at Austin. His research interests include race, masculinity and sport. During his 12 years at UT, he worked as a lecturer, curriculum coordinator, program advisor and academic advisor.

Dr. Yearwood earned a bachelor's and a master's in anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia—which accepts the Pittsburgh Promise® scholarship. While at Penn, he was a four letter All-Ivy Academic member of the track team. He also earned another master's degree in anthropology at the University of Virginia.

Keynote Speaker Bio Dr. Pedro Noguera

Pedro Noguera, a consultant for Pittsburgh Public Schools and the Peter L. Agnew Professor of Education at New York University, is an urban sociologist whose research focuses on the ways in which schools are influenced by social and economic conditions in urban environments. He holds faculty appointments in the departments of Teaching and Learning and Humanities and Social Sciences at the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Development and the Department of Sociology at New York University. Dr. Noguera is also the executive director of the Metropolitan Center for Urban Education and the co-Director of the Institute for the Study of Globalization and Education in Metropolitan Settings (IGEMS). In 2008, he was appointed by the Governor of New York to serve on The Board of Trustees for the State University of New York (SUNY).

Dr. Noguera received his bachelor's degree in sociology and history and a teaching credential from Brown University in 1981. He earned his masters' degree in sociology from Brown in 1982, and later obtained his doctorate in sociology from the University of California Berkeley in 1989. Dr. Noguera was a classroom teacher in public schools in Providence, Rhode Island and Oakland, California. He has held tenured faculty appoints at the Harvard Graduate School of Education (2000-2003), where he was named the Judith K. Dimon Professor of Communities and Schools and at the University of California, Berkeley (1990-2000), where he was also the Director of the Institute for the Study of Social Change. He has published more than 150 research articles, monographs and research reports on topics such as urban school reform, conditions that promote student achievement, youth violence, the potential impact of school choice and vouchers on urban public schools, and race and ethnic relations in American society.



Dr. Noguera is the author of:

The Imperatives of Power: Political Change and the Social Basis of Regime Support in Grenada City Schools and the American Dream
Unfinished Business: Closing the Achievement Gap in Our Nation's Schools, City Kids, City Teachers with Bill Ayers and Greg Michie
The Trouble With Black Boys and Other Reflections on Race, Equity and the Future of Public Education