

We Have an  
Extraordinary  
Opportunity to  
Reshape  
Pittsburgh's Future

the pittsburgh promise

**Pittsburgh Public Schools Education Committee Presentation  
January 5th, 2010**

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# Agenda

- Review of important enhancements to the scholarship
- Information about our Classes of 2008 and 2009 Promise Scholars
- Retention, outreach, and supports

# Since the launch of the Promise, three important enhancements to the scholarship have been made that benefit students while retaining high expectations

Graduating Class	2008	2009	2010-2011	2012
<b>High School GPA</b> Based on cumulated unweighted high school GPA	2.0	2.25 <b>①</b>	2.5	2.5
<b>High School Attendance</b> Based on suspensions and unexcused absences	None	85%	90%	90%
<b>Scholarship Amount</b>	\$5,000 max \$1,000 min	\$5,000 max \$1,000 min	\$5,000 max \$1,000 min	\$10,000 max \$2,000 min
<b>Eligible Post-Secondary Schools</b>	Approximately 100	Over 300 <b>②</b> including many workforce certification programs	Over 300 including many workforce certification programs	Over 300 including many workforce certification programs
<b>Scholarship Calculation</b>	Applied after federal and state grants towards tuition and mandatory fees only	Applied after federal and state grants and school scholarships towards total cost of attendance <b>③</b>	Applied after federal and state grants and school scholarships towards total cost of attendance	Applied after federal and state grants and school scholarships towards total cost of attendance
<b>GPA to maintain scholarship</b>	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0

**①** The GPA criteria for the Class of 2009 was eased from 2.5 to 2.25.

**②** The eligible-school list was expanded to include all colleges and universities in PA as well as many non-degree workforce certification programs.

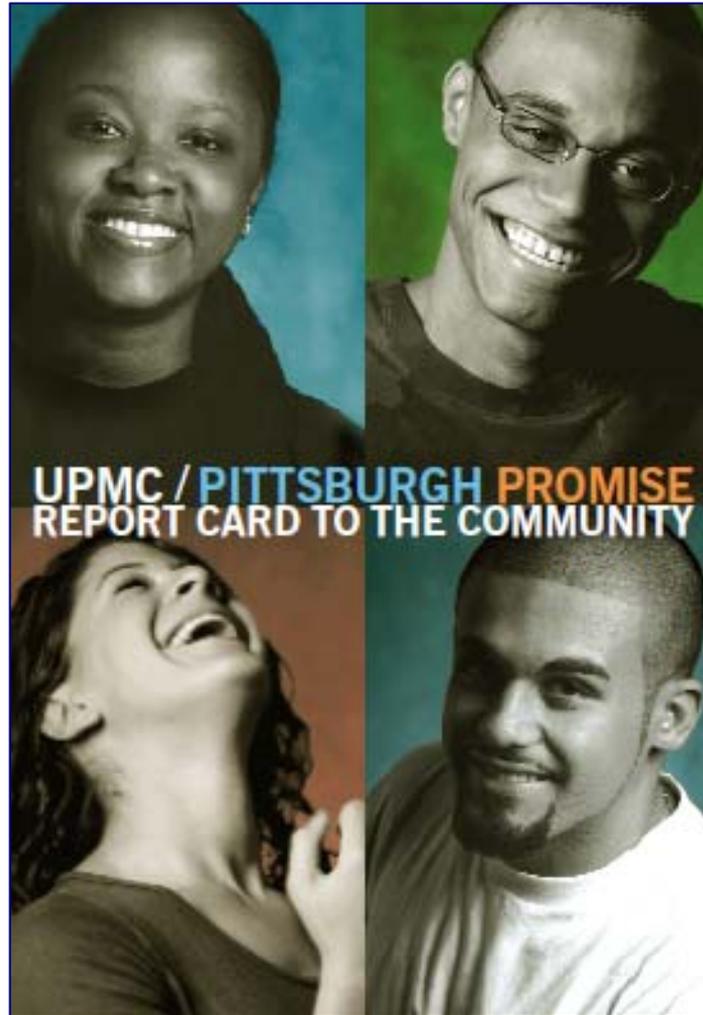
**③** The scholarship calculation was modified to utilize school scholarships prior to the Promise as well as cover costs related to books, room and board.

# Long-term goals of The Pittsburgh Promise

- Mitigate and reverse the population declines in the City of Pittsburgh and the enrollment declines in Pittsburgh Public Schools
- Grow the high school completion rates, college readiness, and post high school success of all students in Pittsburgh Public Schools
- Deploy a well-prepared and energized work force and an eager core of community volunteers

**Focus of today's information**

# Update on our Promise scholars



## We have implemented several outreach and support programs

- School assemblies and parent meetings
- Financial literacy workshops
- IdeaPod Magazine
- CCAC counselors specifically for the Promise Scholars
- Promise Extension program at CCAC (piloted in 2009)
- Promise-Plus program at IUP (planning phase)
- Aggressive summer intervention with struggling 10<sup>th</sup> grade students (planning phase)