

**MCCALL-DONNELLY JT. SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 421
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting Agenda**

**LOCATION: McCall-Donnelly School District Boardroom, 299 S. 3rd Street,
McCall, ID 83638**

DATE: Monday, April 13, 2026

TIME: 6:00 PM

Board Attendance: Kim Zeydel, Kelly Miller, Kari Blocker, Laura McGeorge were all present. Jill Wright was absent.

Other Attendance: Tim Thomas, Superintendent; Jason Clay, Operations and Maintenance Director; Penny Lancaster, Business Manager; Sarah Porter, Board Clerk; Jacob Olson, McCall-Donnelly High School Administrator; Valaire Berg, Barbara Morgan Elementary School Administrator; David Pickard, Donnelly Elementary School Administrator; Savannah Owen, Music Teacher;

- 1. Trustee Miller Called the meeting to Order at 6:00PM**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Announcement of Changes/ additions to the agenda**
No amendments.

4. Awards and Recognition

4.a. Heartland High School Top 10 Alternative School in Idaho

Tim Thomas, Superintendent, presented to the board. Highlights included Idaho Education News placing Heartland High School as one of the highest performing alternative high schools in Idaho. The recognition reveals the strength of Heartland High School's innovative student-centered approach and the programs impact on student success.

Trustee McGregor noted that attending Heartland High School graduation is remarkable and it is wonderful to hear every student's expression of the positive relationship between educators and students.

5. Audience and Communication

No public comment.

6. Consent Agenda

- 6.a. Meeting Minutes - March 9, 2026
- 6.b. New Hires
- 6.c. Resignations and Retirements
- 6.d. Monthly Financials

- 6.e. District Financials
- 6.f. ASB Financials

Trustee McGeorge made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Trustee Zeydel seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

7. Reports

7.a. PLMS Construction Report

Jason Clay, Operations and Maintenance Director, presented to the board. Highlights included a recap of what construction has already taken place including the demo during spring break. Review of the aggressive construction schedule with a plan to get construction completed by September 1, 2026. Director Clay will come back with an updated report to the board in August 2026. Tim Thomas, Superintendent, noted that the budget for PLMS construction has the amount of \$400k set aside for future anticipated intersection improvements.

Trustee McGeorge asked if the money being set aside for the intersection improvements will be coming out of the bond that is funding the school site construction. Penny Lancaster, Business Manager and Director of Finance, noted that the board can decide and direct staff where that money could come out of as long as it follows the regulations around the bond.

7.b. Safety Committee Report

Jacob Olson, McCall-Donnelly High School Administrator and Chair of the District Safety Committee, presented to the board. Highlights included the April 3, 2026, district-wide safety training outcomes. The committee meetings reflect a strong community effort, involving both local law enforcement and McCall-Donnelly School District staff. Increased collaboration has led to more integrated, hands-on training and growing momentum in safety preparedness.

The State of Idaho website was used to ensure all requirements were met. Teachers participated in a variety of scenario-based exercises, and staff feedback indicated the training served as a powerful reset and reminder of safety protocols.

Each school building identified individual strengths and areas for improvement, along with establishing future goals for the district. Overall, the training was viewed as positive professional development and an important first step in strengthening and implementing effective safety protocols.

Trustee McGeorge thanked Chair Olson and noted hearing feedback from multiple staff members that has been positive. Trustee Zeydel asked if there

is a mechanism that teachers or staff can follow if issues need to be escalated. Chair Olson noted that the most recent training was focused on the schools as a whole and not just for each student or each school's processes independently. The district follows similar protocols to local health facilities.

7.c. Green Committee Report

Valarie Berg, Barbara Morgan Elementary School Administrator and Chair of the Green Committee, presented to the board. Highlights from the first year of chairing the Green Committee include an initial focus on reviewing district policies to establish clear summary goals. Currently, there is no member representation from Heartland High School or Donnelly Elementary School. The committee used HRS language as a framework to identify areas for improvement rather than introducing entirely new initiatives, helping to minimize additional stress on staff.

Each school has contributed to the effort, with an emphasis on priorities within the district's direct control rather than broader community-wide issues. To better allocate resources, gardening efforts have been centralized at McCall-Donnelly High School instead of being distributed across multiple school sites.

Trustee Zeydel commented on the chickens being raised by kindergarten classes and the positive impact the program has.

7.d. Budget/Support Unit Calculation Report

Penny Lancaster, Director of Finance and Business Manager, presented to the board. Key highlights included a review of state funding for the school district and an explanation of how funding levels are determined for each district.

Trustee McGeorge commented that the state should serve as a backstop for schools, rather than requiring each district to effectively insure one another. Director Lancaster noted the importance of closely monitoring attendance trends and observing developments in other communities that could impact McCall-Donnelly School District. Superintendent Thomas added that the district contributed 0.26 support units to the state in the past year, with the possibility of an increase depending on how other communities respond to changes in attendance and educational options.

Trustee McGeorge inquired about any lobbying efforts through ISBA; staff indicated they are not aware of any current lobbying to change the funding structure.

Director Lancaster noted that overall, the district feels well-positioned heading into FY27. Both Superintendent Thomas and board members

expressed positive feedback and appreciation regarding the performance of Director Lancaster.

Trustee Zeydel asked about approaches taken in other states. It was noted that some states are considering requiring parents to pay when students are taken out of school for extended periods.

7.e. Legislative Update

Kim Zeydel, Trustee and Legislative Representative, presented a legislative update to the board. Trustee Zeydel highlighted key bills from the 2026 session that will impact district operations. Topics included limited reimbursement options for high-cost special education students, noting current funding mechanisms remain insufficient; updates related to teacher union legislation; and implementation requirements for the moment of silence bill. Changes to harassment reporting will require revisions to student handbooks, and new policies include awarding a Civic Seal of Excellence on high school diplomas and adjusting extracurricular participation fees for out-of-district students. Additional legislative impacts include a 72-hour parental notification requirement regarding student social transition, revised history standards, updates to CTE programs, and expanded authority for schools to address inappropriate online behavior occurring off campus. Superintendent Thomas will attend a post-legislative session meeting at Boise State University to gather further details on implementation and district impact.

8. Action Items

8.a. Curriculum Adoption

David Pickard, Donnelly Elementary School Administrator and Curriculum Director, presented to the board. Highlights included attendance of NSTA conference, Idaho released list of science programs already vetted by the state, K-5 adoption of science program but McCall-Donnelly High School science program is tied to a specific AP/Textbook. The Payette Lakes Middle School science program is still on the approved list and will not be changing this year.

K-5 and Heartland High School were the focus of 2026/2027. Review of adoption committee. Parent on the committee. Additionally reviewed were budgets and price range review with each program as well as the involvement of both parents and teachers.

No questions or comments from the Board.

Trustee Zeydel made a motion to adopt Inquisitive Science comprehensive program for grades K-5 and Gizmos Science Supplemental Program for grades 9-12. Trustee Blocker seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

8.b. McCall Music Society Instrument Donation

Savannah Owen, Music Teacher, and Gram Pinard chair of the music department presented to the board. Highlights included a review of the orchestra program at the district and the history of how it has evolved over the years. With the donation, all music classes will be accessible to students and McCall-Donnelly School District would no longer be dependent on an outside society.

Trustee McGeorge thanked the presenters and asked if there is a local opportunity to get instruments fixed. Ms. Owens noted that there is a partnership for someone to come up from the valley instead of sending the instruments to Boise. There have been cases of replacing instead of repairs for the same cost.

Trustee Blocker made a motion to approve the grant request for McCall Music Society instrument Inventory Donation. Trustee McGeorge seconded the motion. In a voice vote all voted aye and the motion passed.

8.c. Donnelly Elementary School LOT Grant Request

David Pickard, Donnelly Elementary School Administrator, presented to the board. Superintendent Thomas reviewed the process of applying for Local Option Tax funding. The board had no questions.

Trustee Zeydel made a motion to approve the grant request for City of Donnelly Local Option Tax. Trustee Blocker seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

8.d. Policy #4510A Gifts, Grants, Donations, and Bequests

Tim Thomas, Superintendent, presented to the board. Highlights included a review of a previous board meeting analyzing MDEF grant application where the board requested review of the policy. Changes have been recommended to provide more clarity on applications that will require funding once grant funds run out and the boards obligation to continue funding.

Trustee McGeorge made a motion to revise Policy #4510A Gifts, Grants, Donations, and Bequests. Trustee Zeydel seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

8.e. Policy #E4510A Gifts, Grants, Donations, and Bequests Approval Form

Tim Thomas, Superintendent, presented to the board. Highlights included a review of changes to the form for E4510A.

Trustee Zeydel made a motion to accept the amended form Policy #E4510A Gifts, Grants, Donations, and Bequests Approval Form. Trustee Blocker seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

8.f. Policy #7280 Investment of Funds — Request to Repeal

Tim Thomas, Superintendent, presented to the board. Superintendent Thomas reviewed the reason for the request to repeal policy 7280 and replace with policy 7305 which is the Idaho School Board Association (ISBA) policy.

Trustee McGeorge made a motion to repeal policy #7280 Investment of Funds. Trustee Zeydel seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

8.g. Policy #7305 Investment of Funds - Request to Adopt

Tim Thomas, Superintendent, presented to the board. Superintendent Thomas reviewed the policy and reason for adopting a new policy from ISBA. Director Lancaster addressed the board and gave an overview of Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) investments by the district and how the LGIP functions.

Trustee McGeorge asked for clarification on the bond money for the construction at Payette Lakes Middle School, how the interest on that bond is collected, and what the rules are on the use of the interest money. Director Lancaster reviewed the rules and noted that interest has to be used for capital construction in the same venue of the bond. It can't be used for other uses.

Trustee Blocker made a motion to approve Policy #7305 Investment of Funds. Trustee Zeydel seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

8.h. Easement Request Transportation Facility

Tim Thomas, Superintendent, presented to the board. Superintendent Thomas reviewed the history of the request and reviewed the current easements in place. Director Clay worked with Superintendent Thomas to review the requirements and the impacts to the district if the easement was granted.

Trustee Miller recused herself from the topic and left the room at 7:18pm.

Trustee McGeorge invited Dusty Bitton to address the board. Mr. Bitton noted great respect for the school district and revoked his request for an easement. Additionally, Mr. Bitton expressed appreciation for the time in which staff has dedicated to investigating the request.

The board took no action. Trustee Zeydel asked if the drain field has been fixed at the bus barn. Director Clay noted that the drain field was for bus washing and the Department of Environmental Quality gave the district

permission to change to a bio swell instead of a drain field bringing the property into compliance.

9. Executive Session

At 7:26pm Trustee McGeorge made a motion to go into executive session Per Idaho Code 74-206(b) To consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public-school student, with a 5-minute delay. Trustee Zeydel seconded the motion. In a roll call vote Trustee McGeorge, Trustee Zeydel, Trustee Blocker, and Trustee Miller, voted aye and the motion carried.

Executive Session began at 7:31pm.

Trustee McGeorge made a motion to go into open session a 8:10pm. Trustee Zeydel Seconded the motion. In a roll call vote, Trustee McGeorge, Trustee Zeydel, Trustee Blocker, and Trustee Miller voted aye and the motion carried.

The Board of Trustees met in executive session regarding student discipline. The board held one student hearing and took action accordingly. Such action shall be documented in the student's education record and is confidential pursuant to the Family Education Right and Privacy Act (FERPA), and other applicable state and federal code and regulation provisions.

10. Adjourned at 8:12pm