Preston Joint School District #201
Board of Education

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, September 16, 2026
6:00 PM

District Office
105 East 2nd South
Preston, ID 83263

Mason Jensen (Zone 3 Trustee):	Present
Chris Jones (Zone 4 Trustee):	Present
Geniel Lyons (Zone 2 Trustee):	Present
Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee):	Present
Rachel Randall (Zone 5 Trustee):	Present

1. Call to Order
   Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by chairman Chris Jones.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approve/Amend Agenda - Action Item
   Motion to approve the agenda. This motion, made by Rachel Randall (Zone 5 Trustee) and seconded by Geniel Lyons (Zone 2 Trustee), Carried.
   Mason Jensen (Zone 3 Trustee): Yea, Chris Jones (Zone 4 Trustee): Yea, Geniel Lyons (Zone 2 Trustee): Yea, Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee): Yea, Rachel Randall (Zone 5 Trustee): Yea
   Yea: 5, Nay: 0
4. Consent Agenda - Action Item
   Motion to approve the consent agenda. This motion, made by Mason Jensen (Zone 3 Trustee) and seconded by Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee), Carried.
   Mason Jensen (Zone 3 Trustee): Yea, Chris Jones (Zone 4 Trustee): Yea, Geniel Lyons (Zone 2 Trustee): Yea, Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee): Yea, Rachel Randall (Zone 5 Trustee): Yea
   Yea: 5, Nay: 0
   4.A. Minutes of Regular Board Meeting - August 19, 2026
   4.B. Financial Summary - August 2026
   4.C. Monthly Expenditures - August 2026
   4.D. Personnel Report - August 2026
5. Reports - Communication/Follow-up
   Superintendent Gary Thomas reported that the maintenance department has repaired the fence between the junior high and the dental office that was brought up in a previous meeting.
6. Public Requests to Address the Board - Stakeholders may request to address the Board in open meeting by filling out the online request form at https://psd201.org/en-us/meeting-minutes-agenda-691ac9e8 or signing a public comment form available at the meeting location and giving it to the clerk before the meeting begins.
   Officer Jared Griffin, PHS SRO Officer, introduced himself to the school board. One of the key points he took from SRO training was to get involved, including school board meetings. He is here just to observe and learn.
7. Informational Items
   Superintendent Thomas made the board aware of some items the district will be disposing of that are under the $500 threshold. There are some old choral shells/sound

shells that are broken and no longer used that have been in storage. There are also old textbooks that have been well-used.

- BIOLOGY Principles & Explorations (35)
- MODERN BIOLOGY (25)
- MODERN BIOLOGY Teacher Edition (1)
- PSYCHOLOGY Its Principles and Applications (1)
- The Earth Through Time (1)
- BIOLOGY Living Systems (1)

7.A. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Gary Thomas reported on the enrollment numbers for the beginning of the 2026-2027 school year compared to last year at the end of the 1st week. Last year there were 2293 and this year there are 2246 students, for a decrease of 47. There are several factors that play into the numbers. Last year our senior class had 28 more students than this year's senior class. Our incoming kindergarten class is also smaller by 21 students. We did find out that several kindergarten students (14) from our District have chosen to go to the West Side School District. We aren't sure if it is because they offer 1/2 day kindergarten or not. It will be interesting to see if they stay over there next year in first grade or if they come back to our District. We need to be aware of that.

Next item is health insurance. We belong to a trust, which has approximately 100 charter and public school districts in it, which gives us a larger group when it comes to shopping and the bargaining factor for our health insurance. This year the trust is short of being able to meet their claims. They are a self-funded group, which means the group as an entity takes on the risk and ends up paying the difference. We received notice late in July of this, after we had already negotiated with the teachers' group and given our renewal rate, which was pretty steep at a 19.5% increase by our agent. The trust came up with their best guess estimate of how short they were and then divided it by the number of people on the insurance plan and then charged it back to the District. Our amount is approximately $322,000. We had two options: We could pay the lump sum up front or make installment payments over 3 years, which would cost us another $30,000 in interest. We had to let them know by the 10th of this month what our intent was and we let them know that we would be paying the lump sum. I have also drafted a letter to our employees to let them know what we have done and why, that I will send at the end of the month. Chairman Chris Jones pointed out that the District has managed their funds well so they are able to make this payment and not pass any of it on to the employees. This is a big surprise and does dip into the surplus, but we are obligated to pay it and are fortunate that we can. Geniel Lyons asked if this continues, how long will we be able to pay it and not pass it on? Superintendent Thomas explained that as of September 1, this trust has moved from a self-funded to a fully funded, which means in the future we will not be left holding the bag but what it does mean is you will see rates increase. As a school district in Idaho you don't have a lot of choices when it comes to health insurance. Questions were asked about the broker and their knowledge in this insurance scenario. As a District we will definitely be looking at all our options at renewal time.

Preston School District is #6 on the state report card for K-3 on the IRI for the state as a whole and #1 for large districts. We need to recognize everyone who had a part in that: teachers, paraprofessionals, principals and literacy facilitators. This is something to be proud of. Superintendent Thomas shared some of the other numbers as well. The state as a whole did not meet their goals in most of the other areas. ELA (English/Language/Arts) was 54% with the state target at 54.6. Mathematics was 43.1% with the target at 43.6%. Science was 42.7%. As a District in ELA we were 55.3% which is above the state and above the target but when we look at Math we were below the state by 4.1% and below the target by 4.6%. In Science we were 50.1% which is well above the state. As a District we need to make some changes in the math program. I will be meeting with the administrators

and discussing what we can do, and we will be setting some goals. If we break it down to the different levels tested, in the 3rd grade in math, we were above the state at 48.4%. If we compare the junior high they were below, they were 32.5% which is 10.6% below the state average. In the high school we were less than 32%. Anytime it is less than 32% they don't tell you your exact percent, you are anywhere between 0 and 32. There is no reason we should be below the state. As a District we need to do better. We need to change some things, and it starts with us, and it does matter. This is the measurement that is being used, and we are being compared against everyone else in the state. We need to give it the attention that it deserves.

Another item we need to discuss is the strategic plan as we move away from the continuous improvement plan. There is an upcoming meeting December 3 & 4th which is for board members and the superintendent. As a board, this is where you can help set some goals for the District. The plan isn't due until October 2027. This is where we can work together to have a positive impact on student learning. The board members discussed what the math requirements are to graduate and are students required to pass their classes in junior high. They want our students to be prepared when they leave the district to succeed, and what does that mean? How can we improve student learning?

November 4-6th is the ISBA Convention if the board is interested in attending. On October 9th, the teachers will be attending professional development in Pocatello with classes being held on AI in the classroom & Behavior Management in the Classroom.

8. Action Items

8.A. Surplus - MIDAS Venus 240 Sound Board

The sound board has a couple of components that need fixed. From what we could find, its value could still be over $500.

Motion to declare the MIDAS Venice 240 sound board as surplus property and authorize the administration to dispose of the equipment in accordance with District policy. This motion, made by Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee) and seconded by Geniel Lyons (Zone 2 Trustee), Carried.

Mason Jensen (Zone 3 Trustee): Yea, Chris Jones (Zone 4 Trustee): Yea, Geniel Lyons (Zone 2 Trustee): Yea, Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee): Yea, Rachel Randall (Zone 5 Trustee): Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

8.B. Floor Sponsorship

The policy committee feels with the direction given from the board and current policy, we are ready for a action item to allow the bidding process for advertising on the gym floor. The administration will put all the regulations in the bidding process instructions that addresses the minimum bid, maximum years and responsibilities and expense. There will be verbiage later in the policy section of Policy 7310 that addresses floor sponsorship.

Motion to approve the placement of commercial advertising on the District gymnasium floors and authorize the administration to solicit sealed bids for the advertising opportunity, with the advertising rights awarded to the highest bidder, subject to District-approved specifications and terms. This motion, made by Mason Jensen (Zone 3 Trustee) and seconded by Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee), Carried.

Mason Jensen (Zone 3 Trustee): Yea, Chris Jones (Zone 4 Trustee): Yea, Geniel Lyons (Zone 2 Trustee): Yea, Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee): Yea, Rachel Randall (Zone 5 Trustee): Yea

Yea: 5, Nay: 0

8.C. Uniform Guidance for Federal Awards

Superintendent Thomas explained these are the rules and regulations the district has to follow for Federal funds. The State Department provides us with the template, and we just plug the District name into their regulations. The board needs to review and approve it each year.

Uniform Guidance for Federal Awards - 2 CFR Part 200

To deliver on the promise of a 21st-Century government that is more efficient, effective, and transparent, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is streamlining the Federal government's guidance on Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal awards. These modifications are a key component of a larger Federal effort to more effectively focus Federal resources on improving performance and outcomes while ensuring the financial integrity of taxpayer dollars in partnership with non-Federal stakeholders. This guidance provides a government-wide framework for grants management which will be complemented by additional efforts to strengthen program outcomes through innovative and effective use of grant-making models, performance metrics, and evaluation. This reform of OMB guidance will reduce administrative burden for non-Federal entities receiving Federal awards while reducing the risk of waste, fraud and abuse.

The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance) at 2 CFR Part 200 supersedes and streamlines requirements found in eight separate OMB Circulars.

Federal Programs Receiving Grants

The Idaho Department of Education, after setting aside necessary and allowable reservations for state administration and other state-level activities (as described in the ESSA), allocates the remainder of grants as flow-through subawards to Idaho school districts and Local Education Agencies (LEAs).

The following programs receive these grants:

- Title I, Part A - Improving Basic Programs
- Title I, Part A (Sec. 1003) - School Improvement
- Title I, Part C - Education of Migratory Children
- Title I, Part D - Prevention and Intervention Programs for Children and Youth who are Neglected, Delinquent, or at Risk
- Title II, Part A - Supporting Effective Instruction
- Title III - Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students
- Title V, (Sec. 5003) - Rural Education Initiative
- Title IX - Education for the Homeless

Motion to approve the Uniform Guidance for Federal Awards. This motion, made by Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee) and seconded by Mason Jensen (Zone 3 Trustee), Carried.
Mason Jensen (Zone 3 Trustee): Yea, Chris Jones (Zone 4 Trustee): Yea, Geniel Lyons (Zone 2 Trustee): Yea, Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee): Yea, Rachel Randall (Zone 5 Trustee): Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

9. Policy - Action Item

9.A. Policy 1st Reading

Mason Jensen explained that Policy 1303 lists all the policies the board is required to review annually so the committee chose to bring all of them for a first reading instead of reviewing the old policies and then still needing to update to the new ISBA policy numbers. This did cause the committee to go out of order, but then next month we will jump back to the student section. The committee also spent more time on Policy 3295 to get it to where they felt there was clear direction. The procedure for policy 3295 states it will also require board approval to change. Launa Moser suggested in Procedure 2320P1 adding the word "the" before teacher on the 5th line in the first paragraph. Launa also asked on Policy 2605 why the committee lowered the percentage from 80 to 70. It was explained that now that the junior high only has 6 classes a day, if a student fails 1 class, it would put them

below that percentage and doesn't really reflect that they are failing the grade when it is one class.

Polices will be approved by the board and any corresponding procedure or forms will be noted as reviewed, once the policy is approved and moved to district policy.

Motion to move the following policies to a 2nd reading, policy 1303, 2200, 2320, 2420, 2605, 3285, 3295, 3300, 3320, 3345, 3510, 3515, 3530, 4210, 7215, 7218, 7240, 7305, 7500, 7710, 8170, 8200, 8210, 8300, 8320, and 8520. This motion, made by Rachel Randall (Zone 5 Trustee) and seconded by Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee), Carried.
Mason Jensen (Zone 3 Trustee): Yea, Chris Jones (Zone 4 Trustee): Yea, Geniel Lyons (Zone 2 Trustee): Yea, Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee): Yea, Rachel Randall (Zone 5 Trustee): Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

9.B. Policy 2nd Reading

Policy 7310 - verbiage was added about sponsorship on the gymnasium floor.

Geniel Lyon asked on policy 3570 and form 3570 what is considered reasonable time? She had an individual ask because records aren't available during the summer, what if they need it during the summer. Discussion was had that if employees aren't on contract days they can't be expected to provide records. Employees wouldn't receive requests until they are back at school. SPED has specific timeframes but it specifically says school days.

Chris Jones asked about 6100P1 - clarification was given that the board wouldn't be approving procedure, it is there for their review to go with the policy that they will approve. They can make changes to procedure but it doesn't require board approval. In procedure 6100P1 it was asked if the board is really supposed to approve the course of study and approve textbooks.

- Policy 5325 has been updated by ISBA
- Form 3500F4 has been updated by ISBA

Motion to move the following policies to District policy, policy 5295, 5296, 5325, 5750, 5900, 6000, 6100, 6200, 6300, 6310, 6320, 6330, 6400, 3000, 3010, 3070, 3255, 3265, 3270, 3297, 3330, 3331, 3440, 3500, 3516, 3518, 3525, 3540, 3570, and 7310. This motion, made by Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee) and seconded by Mason Jensen (Zone 3 Trustee), Carried.
Mason Jensen (Zone 3 Trustee): Yea, Chris Jones (Zone 4 Trustee): Yea, Geniel Lyons (Zone 2 Trustee): Yea, Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee): Yea, Rachel Randall (Zone 5 Trustee): Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

9.C. Rescind Policies

These policies are cross-referenced to the best of my knowledge, per board clerk. Yellow highlight indicates there may be things that haven't been addressed in the new policies.

Rachel Randall, also a member of the policy committee, clarified to the board that the yellow highlighted policy numbers were for us as a committee to make sure we felt they could be rescinded. Chairman Chris Jones clarified that when Rachel mentions an email, she is meaning amongst the policy committee, which does not have a quorum of board members on it, no open meeting laws have been violated. No correspondence on these polices has been amongst a quorum of the board, only amongst the policy committee. Rachel explained to the board which policies should not be rescinded, 680, 545, 546, 547 and 1044 until we have some other policies in place.

Motion to rescind policy 446, 490, 314, 300, 302, 304, 305, 306, 310, 308, 500, 631, 517, 518, 942, 540, 541, 560, 565, 564, 681. This motion, made by Mason Jensen (Zone 3 Trustee) and seconded by Geniel Lyons (Zone 2 Trustee), Carried.
Mason Jensen (Zone 3 Trustee): Yea, Chris Jones (Zone 4 Trustee): Yea, Geniel Lyons (Zone 2 Trustee): Yea, Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee): Yea, Rachel Randall (Zone 5 Trustee): Yea
Yea: 5, Nay: 0

10. Board Meeting Summary and Assignment Review
    Within 3 months, Superintendent Thomas will have someone who can speak overall about the insurance issue and help educate the board on where things are at.
    Each month, the board would like an update on Math, the goals the schools are setting and what they are doing and the steps being taken to help the students improve in that area.
    Report from the policy committee or Mr. Thomas on procedure 6100P1 and if we feel courses and textbooks should be approved at the board level.
11. Adjourn
    Motion to adjourn at 7:20pm. This motion, made by Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee) and seconded by Geniel Lyons (Zone 2 Trustee), Carried.
    Mason Jensen (Zone 3 Trustee): Yea, Chris Jones (Zone 4 Trustee): Yea, Geniel Lyons (Zone 2 Trustee): Yea, Launa Moser (Zone 1 Trustee): Yea, Rachel Randall (Zone 5 Trustee): Yea
    Yea: 5, Nay: 0