

## Representative Report for April 13, 2026, Board Meeting

There were around 36 bills that passed the 2026 Idaho Legislation that could have an impact on schools/districts. Some are still waiting for the Governor's signature. The ones with an \* and in bold are the most important for McCall-Donnelly School District. Some bills will just have the number and title while others will have an explanation on the impact on MD. Not all 36 bills are listed here. These are brief summaries of the bills and some of the information may be incomplete.

**Communication concerning students must be conducted on district devices and platforms only.**

\*SB1362 – Public Schools Maintenance Budget – Same funds as last year with no increase to cover the rise in health insurance and other expenses. Career Ladder steps will be honored.

SB1444 – Virtual Schools

\*SB1438 – Idaho Digital Learning Alliance (IDLA) lost 50% of its funding (\$13.5 million) K-5 programs cut, driver's education cut, 6-8 electives only, dual credit courses okay, will cover required graduation credits. \$40 for required classes, \$100 for electives unless required for graduation.

**\*SB1447 – High Needs Students – districts can apply for fund to cover costs over \$30,000 per student.**

**\*HB516aaS – Teachers' Union – dues can't be deducted from paychecks, no district funds can be used to cover teacher's absences to do union duties, and other restrictions.**

HB624 – Virtual School Changes

HB608 – School Cooperative Fund

**\*HB623 – Moment of Silence – 1 minute of silence required at the beginning of school for grades K-12.**

HB626 – School lease purchase agreements can be made after all levy and bond funds have been used

**\*HB515 – Bully and Harassment Notification – Both parties involved will be informed when a suspension occurs. This information should put this in the Student Handbooks.**

\*HB531- Epinephrine Delivery System – The new nasal spray may be used. This came from one of the McCall-Donnelly nurses.

\*SB1225a – Disclosure of Hiring – only must publicize the top candidate for superintendent and possibly principals.

\*SB1288 – High Needs Fund - \$3 million set aside for needs students see SB1447 for more details

SB1227aaH – Generative Artificial Intelligence – Idaho Department of Education will come up with the Framework.

\*SB1376 – Declaration of Candidacy will be only through the County Clerk and no longer handled at the district level.

**\*HB712 – Civics Seal of Excellence – seal put on HS diploma if student meets the criteria**

SB1448 – Library Materials – definitions cleared up to help librarians follow the law

\*HB628 – Driver’s Training – Parents can now do this

\*SB1276 – PERSI – Re-employment -districts can hire retirees

\*SB1339 – 3-year Strategic Plan required instead of School Improvement Plans and must be submit to state in 2027

**\*HB731 – Federal School Choice Credit will allow districts to charge students who want to participate in extracurricular activities if they do not attend a district school.**

\*HB849 – Career Ladder movement for professionals in Pupil Service and CTE with public industry experience

\*HB711 – Administrator Alternative Certificate Authorization – 2 new paths

\*HB860 – Parental Rights – cleaned up language on medical decisions – schools can treat for minor illnesses and injuries – common sense

**\*HB822 – Social Transition – Schools must notify parents/guardians within 72 hours if a student is transitioning. District should develop a plan to cover this.**

HB846 – Enrollment Counts – Can’t count a student who has not been at school for the first 10 days as enrolled.

HB833 – Budget Autonomy for High Performing Districts

**\*SB1336a – Civics Instructional requirements for American History and Government courses.**

**\*HB785 – Inappropriate Online Behavior - consequence no matter if done on or off campus. This covers parents, students, and staff. Put in Student Handbook.**

**\*HB822 – CTE credentials – required hours for courses can match credential requirements**