

E-4510A

McCall-Donnelly Jt. School District #421

Gifts, Grants, Donation and Bequests Approval Form

Requests for gifts, grants and bequests shall be submitted to the District Office for Board approval prior to applying for any awards. They must satisfy the criteria below and meet the requirements of Board Policy 4510A.

Gifts, grants, donation or bequests with a value in excess of \$2,000 shall be subject to approval by the board.

Gifts, grants, donation or bequests with a value greater than \$500 but less than or equal to \$2,000 shall be subject to approval by the superintendent or designee.

Gifts, grants, donations or bequests with a value of \$500 or less shall be approved by the supervising administrator or director.

Gifts, Grants, Donation and Bequest Criteria

To be acceptable, a gift, grant or bequest must satisfy the following criteria:

1. The Board would be willing to continue the program when the donated funds are exhausted.
2. There will be no undesirable or hidden costs.
3. The award will be appropriate and safe for students.
4. The gift, grant and/or bequest will not conflict with any provision of the Board policy or public law.
5. The gift, grant and/or bequest will have a purpose consistent with those of the District.

Emily Beaver 3/3/2025
 Applicant Name Date Requested

Barbara R. Morgan Elementary School
 School Name

Rejuvenating RECESS
 Title of Grant, Gift, Donation or Bequest

MDEF
 Source of Grant

 Date: 3-3-25
 Superintendent or Administrator Signature

Please attach a copy of the grant application or a description of the grant, gift or bequest.

Date Received

 Board Chair Signature Date



Grant Review & Award Timeline

- Grant decisions will be announced in **May 2025**.
- Funds will be available starting **June 1, 2025**, and must be fully utilized by **June 30, 2026**.

Use of Funds & Reporting Requirements

- Any changes to the originally proposed budget must be approved by MDEF in advance.
- Unused funds must be returned to MDEF by **June 30, 2026**.
- **Acknowledgment:** Grantees are required to credit MDEF in all external communications related to the funded project.
- **Reports:** An interim report is due by **January 31, 2026**, and a final report by **June 30, 2026**, detailing expenditures and outcomes. Reports are to include photos of the projects that are approved to be used for social media and fundraising collateral.

Score _____

Questions?

For any inquiries regarding the grant program or the application process, please reach out to Erin Roper at grants@mdef.org or 208-315-3595.

Applicant name:

Emily Beaver, OTR/L, MOT, MS; and UI McCall Outdoor Science School

Mailing address:

PO Box 902, McCall, ID 83638; PO Box 1025, McCall, ID 83638

Contact:

Emily Beaver; Beth Kochevar

Phone: 585-750-9646; 303-870-02 Email: ecbeaver@uidaho.edu; ekochevar@uidaho.edu

NOTE: If you are applying from an organization other than McCall-Donnelly School District, please attach proof of your organization's tax-exempt status.

Check the grant category this application represents:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic Innovation | <input type="checkbox"/> Health and Nutrition |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Student Engagement and Well-being | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Creativity |



Project title: Rejuvenating RECESS (**R**echarging our **E**xploration, **C**ommunity of learners, **E**ngaging play, **S**ense of place, and **S**elf-regulation)

1. Brief narrative or summary of the proposed project:

Rejuvenating RECESS is a tier 1 recess promotion partnership with University of Idaho's McCall Outdoor Science School (MOSS). MOSS graduate students will facilitate play activities during Barbara R. Morgan Elementary School's recesses that promote mental health, well-being, and a sense of belonging through gross motor activities, sense of place activities, and community building.

2. How is applicant affiliated with the McCall-Donnelly School District? If not directly affiliated, what grades/age children does your project benefit and in what communities?

I, Emily Beaver, provide occupational therapy services for MSDS students on Individualized Education Plans as an independent contractor. I previously served the district as a middle school classroom teacher and was also a graduate student field instructor at MOSS. The University of Idaho McCall Outdoor Science School (MOSS) has a >15-year collaborative relationship with the McCall-Donnelly School District that has historically primarily focused on programs for 5th graders and high schoolers. MOSS also developed in-class collaborations with Kindergarten, 3rd, and 1st grade. During the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020-2021, the collaboration pivoted to provide outdoor learning to 90 K-5th grade students when they were not directly in the classroom due to the hybrid school schedule. In the 2021-2022 school year, two AmeriCorps members worked with Kindergarten, 2nd grade, 3rd grade, 4th grade, and 5th grade at Barbara R Morgan and Donnelly Elementary. 5th graders from BRMES and DES have visited MOSS for outdoor science activities for the last 5 years, and thanks to generous funding from the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, MOSS programming was free to all 5-13 year-olds.

3. Why is this project needed? Please share how you anticipate the project will impact students.

Recess is a powerful tool to promote student well-being through increased sense of belonging with their peers, connection to the outdoors, and sensory self-regulation. However, through my clinical observations as an occupational therapist, I notice many students become dysregulated during recess and struggle to appropriately transition back to academic tasks. Many of our students have not yet developed the appropriate play skills to engage in meaningful activities during unstructured recess time due to a myriad reasons (such as a decline in outdoor neighborhood play, safety concerns, and increased time in structured activities and on technological devices) (Gray 2011). The rejuvenating RECESS project will encourage this development through guidance from graduate students.

Reference:

Gray, P. (2011). The Decline of Play and the Rise of Psychopathology in Children and Adolescents, *The American Journal of Play*, 3 (4), 443-463.

4. What are the proposed outcomes of the project and how will they be measured?

1. An average of 90 students across grades will participate 3 days per week (Tues-Thurs) for 4 weeks → graduate students will track participation by grade level and recess session (AM, lunch, PM recess)
2. An increase in student well-being and sense of belonging → pre and post student surveys (different versions per grade level)
3. An increase in student regulation → pre and post teacher surveys

5. How is the project innovative and new in its approach to achieving its proposed outcomes?

The rejuvenating RECESS project supports student engagement, well-being, and academic growth through increased student regulation, sense of belonging, and foundational motor skills without taking away from limited classroom instructional time. It is novel in providing tier 1 support through an occupational therapist collaboration with UI McCall Outdoor Science School graduate students. An occupational therapist perspective brings a unique skill set that analyzes and adapts the physical, emotional, sensory, and cognitive demands and opportunities of meaningful daily activities. MOSS graduate students are experienced in facilitating team building, sense of place, and play activities.

6. What is the timeline for the project? When would funds be needed?

	May 25	June-Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May 26
Collaborative discussion with BRMES staff about project	X										
Develop recess activity guidelines with MOSS K12 Program Manager (Beth Kochevar)		X									
Apply for additional grants			X	X	X	X	X				
Develop pre and post teacher and student surveys			X								
Provide instruction on activity guidelines to MOSS graduate students							X				
MOSS Graduate students visit classrooms to introduce project								X			
MOSS Graduate students facilitate optional recess activities									X	X	
Analyze pre and post surveys, make adjustments to project for future implementation											X

7. If only partial funding for the project is awarded, how will this affect the project?

The occupational therapist would not be able to provide an effective level of guidance and support to the graduate students. MOSS will not be able to provide graduate students for the project without support from MDEF or other grant funding, resulting in a lower quality or no deliverance of recess promotion activities.

8. Explain how the project will continue after the end of this year's grant funding?

In order to implement the project for a longer duration during future school years, we will be applying for additional funding sources, including through grants from the Rotary Foundation, St. Luke's McCall Community Auxiliary Grant, the Albertson's Foundation, etc.



9. Tell us why this project is exciting to you — include any additional information you would like us to know about the project.

As an occupational therapist, I know that a child's primary occupation is play. Play is a powerful tool to promote health, well-being, and quality of life, especially through the development of motor competencies, self-regulation strategies, and social interaction skills. I am excited that this project is a tier-1 support that would benefit all students at BRMES, including general education students and students receiving special services. I feel that this project could have a powerful impact across the school day.

Erin B...
Beth Kochenar

3/3/2025

3/3/2025

Applicant's signature

Date

V...

3/3/25

Principal's signature*

Date

*If the applicant is affiliated with the McCall-Donnelly School District, then their principal or superintendent must sign the grant application.



Proposed Project Budget

Budget item descriptions (Itemize)	Funds requested from MDEF	Matching funds provided by other sources (if any)	Total item cost (from all sources)
MOSS local outreach fee \$10/student/day If 30 students at one time/day for 3 days/week=\$900/week \$900x4 weeks= \$3600	\$3,600	-	\$3,600
University of Idaho Foundation Indirect Fees (5%)	\$189.47	-	\$189.47
MOSS Program Manager time (40 hours)	-	\$1,386	\$1,386
Occupational therapist consultation fee	\$1,000	-	\$1,000
Supplies: Teambuilding game supplies (hoola hoops, ropes, cones, silicone place markers, name tags)	\$500	-	\$500
Totals:	MDEF Funds	Matching Funds	Total Cost
	\$5,289.47	\$1386	\$6675.47

Total grant funds requested from MDEF: \$ \$5,289.47