

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.

Eric Thies _____ Date Requested _____
 Applicant Name

Hear-Hand High School _____
 School Name

Science Innovation at HHS _____
 Title of Grant, Gift, Donation or Bequest

MDEF _____
 Source of Grant

[Signature] _____ Date: 2-4-2020
 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 2026**.
- Funds will be available starting **June 1, 2026**, and must be fully utilized by **June 30, 2027**.

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, 2027**.
- **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, 2027**, and a final report by **June 30, 2027**, 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: Heartland High School

Mailing address: 124 Idaho St. McCall Idaho, 83638

Contact: Eric Thies

Phone: 208-608-0966

Email: ethies@mdsd.org

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"/> Healthy Minds & Bodies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts & Creativity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Voice & Leadership | |



Project title: **Teaching science through authentic inquiry-based experimentation.**

1. Brief narrative or summary of the proposed project:

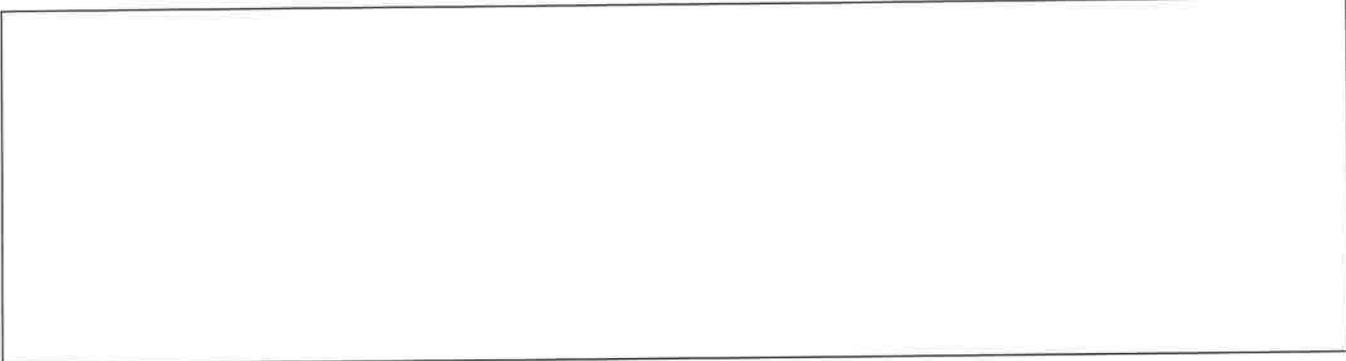
Science education is evolving. Traditional approaches have often emphasized memorizing rules, terminology, and historical discoveries. Today, research supports a more engaging model, one grounded in hands-on investigation, authentic problem-solving, and data-driven inquiry. This project will allow Heartland High School (HHS) to fully embrace this modern approach to science instruction. By equipping our classrooms with the tools necessary for experiential learning, we can provide students with meaningful opportunities to think critically, analyze real data, and apply scientific concepts to real-world situations. This shift not only strengthens academic understanding but also better prepares students for life after high school, whether they pursue careers in STEM fields or apply scientific reasoning in other pathways.

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 am the science teacher at Heartland High School; the alternative high school within the McCall-Donnelly School District.

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

This project is needed to provide our students with access to meaningful, hands-on scientific learning experiences. Currently, our ability to implement a fully inquiry-based science curriculum is limited by a lack of essential equipment and supplies. Funding from this grant would allow Heartland High School to build the infrastructure necessary for students to engage in authentic scientific investigation rather than relying primarily on textbook-based instruction. Our students, particularly those in an alternative high school setting, respond best when they are actively involved in their learning. When students can “do science,” engagement increases significantly. With the proper tools in place, we anticipate greater student participation, stronger critical thinking skills, and a renewed enthusiasm for science learning.



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

The proposed outcomes include increased student engagement, improved scientific reasoning skills, deeper understanding of the scientific process, greater confidence in applying scientific concepts, and improved retention of content knowledge. These outcomes will be measured through multiple data points, including teacher observation, student engagement and disposition surveys, analysis of student work products, and trends in science assessment scores over time. Together, these measures will help us evaluate both student growth and the effectiveness of the instructional shift.

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

Science education is undergoing an important shift—from memorizing information to actively engaging in scientific inquiry. This project supports that shift by equipping our classrooms with tools that allow students to gather and analyze real data efficiently and meaningfully. For example, microcomputer-based probeware and related equipment will enable rapid data collection and immediate graphing. Rather than spending the majority of class time manually recording and plotting data, students can focus on interpreting results, drawing conclusions, and applying their understanding to new situations. This approach prioritizes critical thinking and conceptual understanding. Research consistently shows that inquiry-based, data-driven instruction strengthens scientific reasoning and improves long-term retention. This project positions HHS to implement these best practices effectively and sustainably.



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

Our goal is to implement the project as soon as funding is available. Ideally, equipment would be ordered and received by July 2026 so that full implementation can begin at the start of the 2026–2027 school year. Funds would be needed prior to placing equipment orders to ensure timely delivery and classroom readiness.

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

Partial funding would result in a delay to full implementation. Those in charge would have to re-prioritize based on student need during the 2026, fall semester. There would be fewer hands-on activities, or fewer well-equipped courses. Ultimately, other grants will be applied for in hopes of finding other funding to complete the project. Sadly, without the MDEF, this project extends from 6 months to implement to several years to get full implementation.

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

This grant represents a long-term investment in instructional quality. The equipment purchased will have lasting value, with many items carrying multi-year warranties and others designed to remain functional for decades with proper care.

Because this funding supports durable materials rather than short-term consumables, students will continue to benefit from enhanced science instruction for many years beyond the grant cycle. The impact of this project will extend well beyond a single academic year.



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

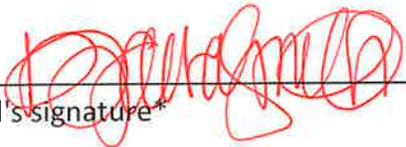
I have dedicated over two decades to studying and teaching science, and I have seen firsthand that the lessons students remember most are the ones they experience. Hands-on, inquiry-based instruction engages students deeply. Even when students are initially hesitant, authentic scientific investigation often draws them in—and meaningful learning happens.

This is especially true for our unique student population at Heartland High School. Unfortunately, our current science supply inventory lacks essential equipment, making it difficult to design the kind of instruction I know is most effective. At times, that limitation is discouraging—not because of a lack of ideas, but because of a lack of tools.

This project would allow us to build a foundation for all core science disciplines and create learning experiences that are rigorous, relevant, and engaging. For our students, it means access to high-quality science education. For me as an educator, it represents the opportunity to fully align instruction with best practices and meet our students where they are. That is both professionally meaningful and deeply exciting.


Applicant's signature

2-3-2021
Date


Principal's signature*

2.3.2021
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)
Fisher Scientific	\$2,803.39	XX	\$2,803.39
Pasco	\$22,055.25	XX	\$22,055.25
Estimated shipping costs (?)	\$200.00	XX	\$200.00
Totals:	MDEF Funds \$25,058.64	Matching Funds	Total Cost \$25,058.64

Total grant funds requested from MDEF: \$ \$25,058.64

Shopping Cart

Item Description

Item Price



Environmental Science Extension Bundle

\$899/ea.

Part No. PS-7617C

Qty: 6 [✖ Remove Item](#)



Environmental Science Starter Bundle

\$579/ea.

Part No. PS-7616B

Qty: 6 [✖ Remove Item](#)



Measuring Tape, 30 m

\$39/ea.

Part No. SE-8712A

Qty: 3 [✖ Remove Item](#)



Mounting Rods (10 Pack)

\$38/ea.

Part No. ME-9483

Qty: 1 [✖ Remove Item](#)



Physics Lab Station: Electricity and Magnetism

\$599/ea.

Part No. EM-3557

Qty: 6 [✖ Remove Item](#)



Physics Lab Station: Fluids

\$169/ea.

Part No. ME-2040

Qty: 6 [✖ Remove Item](#)



Physics Lab Station: Mechanics Starter

\$789/ea.

Part No. ME-5300

Qty: 6 [✖ Remove Item](#)



Physics Lab Station: Waves and Sound

\$355/ea.

Part No. WA-9515

Qty: 1 [✖ Remove Item](#)



Rechargeable Balance

\$165/ea.

Part No. SE-8861

Qty: 6 [✖ Remove Item](#)



Spirit Levels (10 Pack)

\$125/ea.

Part No. SE-8729

Qty: 1 [✖ Remove Item](#)

Stainless Steel Rod, 120 cm

\$60/ea.

Part No. ME-8741

Qty: 6 [✖ Remove Item](#)



Wireless Colorimeter & Turbidity Sensor

\$135/ea.

Part No. PS-3215A

Qty: 6 [✖ Remove Item](#)

Your unsaved cart will expire on Feb 8th, 2026

Subtotal (54 items): \$21,005.00

Tariff Surcharge: \$1,050.25

Current Total: **\$22,055.25**

[Checkout/Get Quote](#)

Recommended Products & Accessories

Based on items in your shopping cart.



[Coin Cell Battery Pack](#)



[Soaker Bottle Replacement pH/ISE \(5 Pack\)](#)



[Cuvette Rack](#)



[Cuvettes and Caps](#)



[100 NTU Calibration Cuvette](#)

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Item	Price	Quantity	Subtotal
 <p>Eisco™ Safety Pack Erlenmeyer Flask Sets Catalog Number: S81268 by Eisco™ CH196032</p>	\$38.50 / Each of 1	12	\$462.00
 <p>Aqua Phoenix™ Beaker Set Catalog Number: S04405 by Aqua Phoenix™ GL5503SET</p>	\$60.00 / Pack of 1	12	\$720.00
 <p>Fisherbrand™ Standard Class B Graduated Cylinders Catalog Number: 08-557-1G</p>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> \$136.00 / Each <input type="radio"/> \$481.00 / Case of 4 EA	1	\$136.00
 <p>Fisherbrand™ Standard Class B Graduated Cylinders Catalog Number: 08-557-1D</p>	<input type="radio"/> \$49.00 / Each <input checked="" type="radio"/> \$464.00 / Case of 12 EA	1	\$464.00
 <p>Fisherbrand™ Round Bottom Disposable Borosilicate Glass Tubes with Plain End Catalog Number: 14-961-34</p>	\$448.00 / Case of 500 Get a Disposal Box with Fisherbrand Tubes Purchase	1	\$448.00
 <p>United Scientific™ Clear Plastic Spring Scales Catalog Number: 382682 by United Scientific™ SBTSET6</p>	\$28.00 / Each of 1	12	\$336.00

Order Summary

Subtotal (39 Items)	\$2,566.00
Shipping Fuel Surcharge	\$6.45
Shipping Charge	\$230.94
Order Total	\$2,803.39

[Proceed to Checkout](#)

*Your order contains an item that ships from the manufacturer. Additional shipping and handling charges may apply.

[View all promotions](#)

This item is not returnable.

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Catalog Number:

1496134

Fisherbrand™ Round Bottom Disposable Borosilicate Glass Tubes with Plain End

Catalog N

S82882

United States

\$448.00 / Case of 500

\$28.00 / E

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Viewing 1 - 3 of 10



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