

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

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

DATE: Monday, May 11, 2026

TIME: 6:00 PM

BOARD ATTENDANCE: Jill Wright, Laura McGeorge, Kim Zeydel, and Kelly Miller were in attendance. Kari Blocker was absent.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Tim Thomas, Superintendent; Sarah Porter, Board Clerk; Penny Lancaster, Business Manager; Lauren Bevill, Business Technology Teacher; David Pickard, Donnelly Elementary School Administrator; Kevin Skidmore, Information Technology Director; Trace Adkins, Idaho Early Childhood Education Representative.

Call to Order @ 6:07PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Announcement of Changes/ additions to the agenda

No changes to the agenda.

Awards and Recognition

BPA Nationals Report

Lauren Bevill, Business Technology Teacher, and student Ana Morgan presented on the recent international BPA competition in Nashville. Idaho brought 293 students to the competition, with thirty students placing on stage in the top 10% and five students placing in the top 3% overall. Mrs. Morgan represented the McCall-Donnelly School District BPA program on stage during the awards ceremony. Highlights included how the team performed in events including Computer Programming and Computer Networking. BPA offers students much more than competition opportunities, highlighting leadership development, networking, workshops, and professional growth experiences. Emerson, the BPA Vice President, shared that the chapter doubled its membership at McCall-Donnelly High School this year. Both the chapter President and Vice President received the BPA Ambassador Award in recognition of their community service efforts and positive impact on students.

Trustee Zeydel asked about next year's BPA officers. Mrs. Bevill stated that elections have not yet taken place. Trustee Miller asked about BPA fundraising efforts. Emerson explained that students partnered with local businesses and created a fundraising link featuring videos from each participant describing how the funds would support the program. Emerson also noted that students run the T-shirt shop at McCall-Donnelly High School to obtain funding. Trustee McGeorge asked whether more than 10% of the high school student body participates in the class. Mrs. Bevill confirmed that more than 10% of McCall-Donnelly High School students are involved in the BPA program.

Audience and Communication

Suzanne Turnage – Parent – Zone 2.

Mrs. Turnage commented on a poll sent out to the parents regarding the 4 day school week. Noted concern that the 4 day school week did not happen even with 70% of parents in favor. Additionally, Mrs. Turnage noted the importance of keeping the high school on the current schedule and elementary school shouldn't stay home alone. The middle school should still be able to consider an independent schedule and be able to consider a 4 day school week.

Trustee Wright noted that the meeting comment period is not for discussion but encouraged Ms. Turnage to review the August 2025 meeting minutes and attachments where the issue is discussed.

Consent Agenda

Meeting Minutes - April 13, 2026 – edit to April meeting minutes regarding period after the use of capital construction.

New Hires

Resignations and Retirements

Monthly Financials

District Financials

ASB Financials

Trustee Miller Moved to approve the consent agenda with edits to the April meeting minutes.

Trustee Zeydel Seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Reports

Professional Development Committee Report

David Pickard, Donnelly Elementary School Administrator and Professional Development Committee Chair, presented to the board. Highlights included a brief review of the school calendar and difference between end of quarter days and professional development days in the spring of 2027. HRS levels used as a framework to guide professional development. Mr. Pickard also reviewed priorities at the start of the year and accomplishments met, how instructional rounds are for certified and classified staff to observe staff members in other roles, and the mentorship program.

Trustee McGeorge asked if it costs more to invite and include the paraprofessionals in these training and expressed appreciation to see development with classified and certificated sharing opportunities. Superintendent Thomas noted the fall of 2026 has training with the state department that aligns with the school calendar and is hosted virtually and in person. This was able to be arranged because of the professional development committee and the calendar committee working together. Trustee Zeydel asked the specific focus for the state training in October. Superintendent Thomas reviewed the AI training and approach; behavior supports and Go to Strategies for the classroom. Superintendent Thomas also noted that McCall-Donnelly School District is fully aligned with the state. Administrative team leadership is running the show together and it's working out well to bring the strategic plan to life.

Technology Committee Report

Kevin Skidmore, Information Technology Director, presented to the board. Trustee Wright thanking Kevin for his help getting the meeting setup for virtual attendance. Highlights included Director Skidmore reviewing increased frequency of meetings for the IT Committee to help new IT staff, review of student laptop issues and potential solutions, and review of goals including to stabilize with what the district currently has before making any improvements. Director Skidmore also noted a lack in staff training when it comes to software systems and new technology role out as well as solutions to change the IT onboarding process. The IT committee hopes to implement a newsletter to ensure more staff knows what is happening and what is coming about IT infrastructure.

Trustee McGeorge thanked Director Skidmore for the operational excellence and asked if there will there be cycled replacement of equipment. Director Skidmore noted that yes, there is a plan to get back on a cycled replacement of equipment. Superintendent Thomas additionally noted that the tech committee includes teachers and is focused on end user/customer side of the technologies.

Early Childhood Education Report

Trace McKellips, program manager, with West Central Mountains Early Learning Collaborative presented to the board. Highlights included review of the West Central Mountains Early Learning Collaborative and working with McCall, Donnelly, Cascade, and New Meadows to provide developmental education to fill a gap.

Trustee Wright expressed appreciation for the report and importance of having a public education choice.

Action Items

Out of District Travel Requests 2026/2027 Conferences

Tim Thomas, Superintendent, presented to the board and reviewed the two out of district requests in front of the board noting the first request is in preparation for new math standards. The second request is for the advanced placement institute for pre-calculus.

Trustee Zeydel asked how many would be attending the conference for new math standards. Superintendent Thomas noted that the request is for eight but there is not a set number as there are ongoing requirements that would be needed to attend as one of the eight.

Trustee McGeorge moved to approve Out of State Travel Requests for 2026/2027 Conferences. Trustee Miller Seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Policy #1080 Committees - Request to Repeal

Tim Thomas, Superintendent, presented to the board noting that the policy update request comes from review and analysis of current policies. It was found that Policy #1080 was replaced by a newer policy but never repealed.

Trustee McGeorge Moved to approve the Request to Repeal Policy #1080 – Committees. Trustee Zeydel Seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Policy 2700-P1 McCall Donnelly High School Graduation Requirements

Tim Thomas, Superintendent, presented to the board. Highlights included the state board of education requirements changing the senior project to the future readiness project and aligning the district graduation requirements with the state. Superintendent Thomas reviewed the type of senior projects that will no longer be accepted based on the state requirements. District policy goes above and beyond by requiring a presentation to an independent panel.

Trustee Zeydel asked if a specific score on the project is required. Superintendent Thomas noted that no specific score is required as long as the project is completed.

Trustee Miller Moved to approve Policy 2700-P1 McCall Donnelly High School Graduation Requirements. Trustee McGeorge Seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Policy 2700-P2 Alternative School

Tim Thomas, Superintendent, presented to the board a review of the updates to graduation requirements. The board had no questions.

Trustee Zeydel Moved to approve Policy 2700-P2 Alternative School graduation requirements. Trustee McGeorge Seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

BMES Handbook Adoption

Tim Thomas, Superintendent, presented to the board noting requirements from the state to update student handbooks.

Trustee McGeorge commented on concerns that different manuals have different orders and there should be the same consistency across handbooks. Specifically noted was the section on bullying with the squawk, walk, talk, etc. section. Valarie Berg, Barbara Morgan Elementary School Principal, reviewed that the school level looks different for different enrollment levels and the bullying section is preventative steps not action steps and should be in the same order as Donnelly Elementary School.

Trustee Wright asked Principal Berg about the hot topics currently listed on page 15 with the homeschool policy program. There could be confusion if it is for reenrolling or just about people who want to participate in extra activities. Principal Berg noted the homeschool policy program was created last year for families who home school to be able to be involved in periods at the McCall-Donnelly School District for specific classes, but these are not options at Barbara Morgan Elementary School. Trustee Wright would like more language that explains the policy better in accordance with the homeschool policy program. Trustee McGeorge noted that while the staff are familiar with this terminology, the board is not and has a different eye for the language.

Trustee Miller Moved to approve Barbara Morgan Elementary School Handbook Adoption with suggested changes made by the board and noted in the minutes. Trustee McGeorge Seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

DES Handbook Adoption

Trustee McGeorge noted the same concerns about the bullying section of the handbook that were noted for Barbara Morgan Elementary School.

Trustee Zeydel noted some typos that will be provided to the board clerk to pass along. Trustee Wright noted there was not the same homeschooling policy at Donnelly Elementary School, but it could be put in as a preventative measure if it does come up. May be a good idea to place that policy in every handbook to ensure consistency with the current climate around homeschooling.

Trustee Zeydel Moved to approve Donnelly Elementary School Handbook Adoption with noted changes. Trustee McGeorge Seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

PLMS Handbook Adoption

Trustee Miller suggested that it may be good to add a section noting that the school funding is tied to attendance. Trustee McGeorge noted similar verbiage is in the elementary school handbooks. Jacob Olson, Payette Lakes Middle School Principal, will add that language to the handbook.

Trustee Wright noted that pages 7 and 14 repeat the daily moment of silence requirement, fits well on page 14. Also, page 9 growth and development class related to HB 239 needs to have the last sentence removed regarding censorship.

Trustee McGeorge Moved to approve Payette Lakes Middle School Handbook Adoption with discussed changes. Trustee Miller Seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

HHS Handbook Adoption

Trustee Zeydel noted that the spelling of board members names need to be corrected. Trustee McGeorge noted the level 2 discipline section was pasted twice in the draft handbook.

Trustee Miller Moved to approve Heartland High School Handbook Adoption with recommended edits and future changes. Trustee McGeorge Seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

MDHS Handbook Adoption

Tim Thomas, Superintendent, presented to the board. Noted significantly more changes due to transitioning to a new principal. Specifically discussed was the tardy policy.

Trustee McGeorge noted that acronyms need to be spelled out. ASB specifically was called out for needing to be Associated Student Body. Trustee Zeydel noted the parking policy needs to change from Deinhard to Stibnite. Also, the electives should be 12 not 1. Trustee McGeorge additionally noted that there are two newer employees here tonight and would like to acknowledge the level of excellence of the new staff members.

Trustee McGeorge Moved to approve McCall-Donnelly High School Handbook Adoption with noted changes and future additions. Trustee Zeydel Seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye and the motion carried.

Adjournment @ 7:57PM