dfMCCALL-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, October 12, 2026
TIME: 6:00 PM

Board in Attendance: Trustee Wright, Trustee Miller, Trustee McGeorge, and Trustee Zeydel were present. Trustee Blocker was absent.

Others in Attendance: Interim Superintendent and Payette Lakes Middle School Principal, Jake Olson; Board Clerk and Executive Administrative Assistant, Sarah Porter; Director of Finance, Penny Lancaster; Barbara Morgan Elementary School Principal, Val Berge; Heartland High School Principal, Kim Arrasmith; McCall-Donnelly High School Principal, BJ Sorensen; Donnelly Elementary School Principal, David Pickard; Quest CPAs, Kurt Folke; McCall-Donnelly High School Counselor, Megan McGree;

1. **Call to Order @ 6:00pm**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Announcement of Changes/ additions to the agenda**
4. **Audience and Communication**
5. **Consent Agenda**
   - 5.a. September 14, 2026, Minutes
   - 5.b. October 6, 2026, Minutes
   - 5.c. New Hires
   - 5.d. Resignations and Retirements
   - 5.e. Contracts
   - 5.f. Monthly Financials
     - 5.f.1. District Financials
     - 5.f.2. ASB Financials

Trustee Miller moved to approve the consent agenda. Trustee McGeorge seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye, and the motion carried.

6. **Reports**
   - 6.a. <u>2025-2026 District Financial Audit</u>

     Kurt Folke with Quest CPAs presented the annual financial audit report to the board. Mr. Folke expressed appreciation for Penny Lancaster, Director of Finance. It was noted that for a district the size of McCall-Donnelly School District, there are normally four to five finance staff in office, but the district currently has one and a half finance employees. Most districts have a minimum of three finance team members; payroll, accounts payable, and director. Additional highlights included highly accurate numbers that are reliable to make decisions on, McCall-Donnelly School District spent over a million dollars and requires a federal audit that is currently in process and may not be ready until November but that will not hold up the funding from the state, financial performance of the district was positive for the year with the exception of child nutrition fund requiring a general fund transfer to make the fund whole but that is typical of school districts because of the higher food cost this past year.

     Trustee McGeorge thanked Mr. Folke and asked if it would be a best practice recommendation for the district to add a payroll employee to the finance department. Mr. Folke noted that McCall-Donnelly School District also has a lot more programs going on than other districts and it would be best practice to add an additional finance employee. Additionally, Trustee McGeorge asked about the child nutrition fund and how it compares to other districts of similar size. Mr. Folke noted McCall-Donnelly School District has always been slightly higher on cost in child nutrition than other districts, but it is not an uncommon problem to see the past few years across districts. Trustee McGeorge asked about a breakout on summer food program losses vs. school year losses but they are all recorded together. Trustee Wright ask how Mr. Folke feels about where the district is

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with having a continuous fund balance. Mr. Folke noted that this year there have been a lot of concerns issued to districts that may not financially exist in the next twelve months because of their financial situation. McCall-Donnelly School District made a profit in the general fund this year and kept a three month reserve fund. Trustee Zeydel asked if the schools in trouble were public or charter school and Mr. Folke noted that both are in the same amount of trouble. Trustee Wright thanked Director of Finance, Penny Lancaster and Central Services Secretary, Ginger Hughes for all of the work they put in for McCall-Donnelly School District.

6.b. District Committee Board Reporting Calendar

Interim Superintendent Jake Olson reviewed the annual committee reporting schedule with the board. Trustee Wright noted that at the annual board meeting in January the board would finalize any committee seats for board members. Trustee McGeorge asked about the number of members on the communication committee. Communication Committee chair Val Berge noted that in the beginning a large number of committee members is needed to determine what each school and employee is doing for communication before slimming down the committee members going forward.

6.c. Enrollment

Interim Superintendent Jake Olson reviewed the enrollment numbers with the board. Highlights include the numbers remaining mostly the same across four years with some lower numbers for the 2026-2027school year. Enrollment is dropping across the state and support units for funding teacher positions is based on enrollment and attendance. It is important to keep a close eye on funding factors to be able to maintain class sizes and teacher to student ratios. Trustee Zeydel asked about attendance numbers. Interim Superintendent Olson noted that the opening of the year presentation will include attendance numbers for the first six weeks of the school year. The district is at about a 94% overall now with some consistent issues with chronic absenteeism. Trustee Wright noted that it would be nice to know what grades and classrooms are heavy and low. Interim Superintendent Olson reviewed the open enrollment information found on the website that breaks down available spots in each grade and building. Director Lancaster noted that no matter what district in the state is losing students the district will be impacted because of how support units are calculated at the state level.

6.d. Opening of Schools

School principals provided opening of school reports highlighting enrollment, attendance, goals, and accomplishments for each building.

- McCall-Donnelly High School reported an enrollment of 414 students with a 92.4% daily attendance rate.
- Heartland High School reported a 91% attendance rate and an enrollment of 21 students
- Barbara Morgan Elementary School reported 94% attendance rate, an increase from the previous year.
- Donnelly Elementary School reported 94% attendance rate, slightly improved from previous years and an enrollment of 163 students.
- Payette Lakes Middle School reported an enrollment of 350 students and a 94% attendance rate.

7. **Action Items**

7.a. MDSD Annual Financials

In compliance with Idaho Coe 67-450B and McCall-Donnelly School District policy #7422, an annual audit of financial statements has been completed for 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Trustee McGeorge moved to approve the McCall-Donnelly Joint School District Draft financial statements for 2025-2026 fiscal audit. Trustee Zeydel seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye, and the motion carried.

7.b. Perpetua Resources Healthy Snacks/School Supplies Donation

Payette Lakes Middle School Principal, Jake Olson presented to the Board. For years Perpetua has donated to the school district, this year they would like to donate $6600 and ear mark $800 for school supplies and jackets with the remainder of the donation to be used on healthy snacks.

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Trustee Miller moved to approve the Perpetua resources healthy snacks and school supplies dotation. Trustee McGeorge seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye, and the motion carried.

7.c. Sabala Foundation Donation

Interim superintendent Olson reviewed the donation application. McCall-Donnelly High School students donated time to a golf tournament and the foundation decided to donate to the high school. Trustee Wright asked if Principal Sorensen understood that it was a one-time donation. Principal Sorensen said yes there is an understanding that the district is not approving perpetual funding.

Trustee Zeydel moved to approve the Sabala foundation donation. Trustee McGeorge seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye, and the motion carried.

7.d. Request for Approval to Apply for the Idaho School Resource Officer Grant

Payette Lakes Middle School Principal and Safety Committee Chair, Jake Olson presented to the Board. Trustee Miller asked about timing and the potential for the funding to cease and the inability to continue to employee school resource officer (SRO). Trustee Wright asked that staff also look into future funding during the application period. Trustee Miller asked how long it has been since the district had an SRO. It has been an estimated twelve (12) years since an SRO was in McCall-Donnelly School District schools.

Trustee Zeydel moved to approve the request to apply for the Idaho School Resource Officer Grant. Trustee Miller seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye, and the motion carried.

7.e. Request for Approval to apply for the Idaho Career Ready Students (ICRS) Micro-Grant

Interim superintendent Jake Olson briefed the board on the request for the shop to get handheld tools for student use. Principal Sorensen noted that after the high school threat assessment there were storage concerns for the shop class. This grant would also fund the ability to get the correct storage for materials considered hazardous. The board expressed appreciation for the new shop teacher Warren Bunde going after funding and improving the program for students moving forward. Trustee Miller noted the great presentation of the application but noticed a qualification of the grant under evaluation rubric is the overall quality of grant applications and there are some error that need to be addressed before the grant is submitted since it is something that will be taken into consideration.

Trustee McGeorge moved to approve the request to apply for the Idaho Career Ready Students Micro Grant. Trustee Miller seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye, and the motion carried.

7.f. School Playground Safety Aide Request

Interim Superintendent Olson reviewed how the drug free and safe schools funding works and noted that the safety aide is in line with how the funds can be spent.

Trustee Zeydel moved to approve the school of Playground Safety Aide with the correction of the school year from 2025-2026 to 2026-2027. Trustee McGeorge seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye, and the motion carried.

7.g. Out of District Travel Request - PowerSchool University

Interim Superintendent Olson reviewed the travel request for an employee to travel out of state to attend a user conference for the PowerSchool software used by the district.

Trustee Miller moved to approve the out of district travel request for PowerSchool University. Trustee Zeydel seconded the motion. In a voice vote, all voted aye, and the motion carried.

7.h. Policy 4012 - Superintendent of Schools Update

Trustee Wright gave a brief overview of the special meeting held on October 6, 2026, and the updates came from that meeting and now the board is approving the updates in an action item. The goal is to post the open position by the beginning of November. Adding the new law for alternative authorization included.

Trustee McGeorge moved to approve the updated to policy 4012 superintendent job description. Trustee Miller seconded the motion. In a voice vote, aye voted aye, and the motion carried.

8. **Adjournment @ 7:52pm**

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