Athlone School Parent Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 6th 2026

6:00pm (In person)

Minutes

Introductions/In Attendance:

Jane Couch	Principle
Melissa Maruca	President
Dana McTavish	Vice President
Amanda Jordan	Treasurer
Melanie Pachal	Secretary
Laurie Shmitz	Attendee
Dasha	Attendee

1) Review of minutes from previous meeting (Sept.23, 2026)

    - Will approve at the November meeting

2) Treasurer's Financial Report (Attached)

3) Principal's Report (Mrs.Couch)

1. Staffing:
    a. 18 Teachers – all same as last year

b. 18.5 EAs – new staff: Mrs. Adewuyi, Mr. Bartolo, Ms. Minion, Ms. Bircham, Mrs. Harris & Mr. Sutherland-Pointon
c. 3 Teacher Candidates (with Mrs. Lavallee, Ms Zajac & Mr. Yarish)

2. School Goals:

   We will be finalizing our school goals in October. We will have a literacy goal, a numeracy goal, and an Indigenous Education goal.

3. We will be asking for parent participation on the following committees this year: budget committee

4. We continue to have our nutrition program again this year. We received grants from Child Nutrition Council of MB and from the Province of MB. We will be serving fruits and vegetables primarily, as well as a few healthy snack items such as yogurt, cheese, and some sandwiches available each week, as well as monthly classroom snacks.

5. Fundraising – please remember there is a fundraising policy and the fundraising form to fill in after doing a fundraiser.

6. We have had a great start to the year. It is so good to have students back in school. The staff love the beautiful sounds of children in the classrooms, hallways, and playground. As a staff, we promise to implement the newest and best practices in education. I feel very fortunate to be a part of this school and community.

7. Playground update – We are working on trying to plant some trees on our playground this year.

8. Important dates coming up:
   - Oct. 5: World Teachers' Day
   - Oct. 6: Early Dismissal Staff Meeting at 2:45PM
   - Oct. 7: Annual Walk to School Day – We encourage students & families to walk/bike/roll to school all month! https://www.walkbiketoschool.org/
   - Oct. 10: World Mental Health Day
   - Oct. 11: International Day of the Girl

- Oct. 12: Thanksgiving – NO SCHOOL
- Oct. 20: Early Dismissal - PD
- Oct. 21: Picture Day (Dec. 2 – Retake Day)
- Oct. 23: Provincial MTS PD Day – NO SCHOOL
- Oct. 28: Inservice Day – NO SCHOOL (Civic Election Day)
- Oct. 29: Orange Shirt Day
- Oct. 30: Halloween dress up day! Students can dress up all day if they want. No weapons. Parade in the Gym at 1:00PM

- Remembrance Day Assembly – Tuesday, **November 10 at 10:30AM**
- Winter Concert – booked for Thursday, **December 3rd**
- Follow us on our School Instagram: @athlonestjames

4) On-going Business

a) Oct.22 fun lunch and kinder snack (Halloween sugar cookies)

b) Halloween dance: October 27th 6-7, doors open at 5:45 $10/child, treat bag to be given at the end of the dance. E-transfer or can pay at doors.
Treat bags: Melanie to buy chips, chocolate and Amanda to look into ring pops at Costco. Dana and Melissa to put bags together.
Decorations: Melissa

c) Motion to spend up to $700.00 on dance:
- Motion to accept: Amanda Jordan
- Second: Dana McTavish
- Motion carried

d) Tree grant: Jane will reach out to Brent to do a site visit. Work towards getting the trees done.

5) New Business

a)Fun Lunch: November 20th: McDonald's

December 4th: IHop and Pj day

December 16th: free pizza lunch

January 22nd

b) Cash Calendars: 12 days of Christmas, starting Dec.1st

- Motion to spend up to $300.00 to order more cheque's

Motion to accept: Amanda

Second: Melissa Maruca

Motion carried

d) Next meeting approve constitution

6) Meeting adjourned at 7:10
7) Next meeting Tuesday Nov.3rd 6pm