Executive Council Meeting
October 20, 2017
9:00 a.m. - Ending?

1. Opening of Meeting/Introductions/Remarks – Joan Cavello, President
   9:20 Meeting was called to order by Joan Cavallo.
   Introductions were made for newer members.
In attendance: Joan Cavallo, Andy Paciulli, Erika McLaughlin, Steve Perrin, Kristin Hubert, Rebecca Fillion, Bill Olsen, Bill Hammond, Bob Thibault, Beth O’Brien, Lissa McDonald, Jay Nichols, Bob Johnson and Mallori LaPointe.
Missing: Nate Demar, Andre Messier, Shaun Pickett, Patrick Burke and Linda Wheatley.

2. Approval of August 3, 4, 2017 Executive Council Minutes
   a. Motion Requested
      Motion to accept the August 3&4 2017 minutes as they are made by Erika McLaughlin. Seconded by Rebecca Fillion. Motion passes unanimously.

   a. Motion Requested/Recommendation from Finance Committee
      Jay, Sheila and Delina believe that we are in good financial standing. A motion to accept the audit report was made by Bob Thibault. Seconded by Steve Perrin. Motion passes unanimously.

4. Vermont Community Foundation Investment Presentation – Martha Trombley Oakes
   a. Jay Nichols, Executive Director
   b. Sheila Valley, CPA
   c. Motion requested to invest $250,000 in the Vermont Community Foundation’s Socially Responsive investment fund
      We were joined by Martha from the Vermont Community Foundation to talk about the investment options we have for the liquid
assets VPA possesses. She went over the Foundation and the options they offer for investments.

There was discussion over our goals with investing. 1. Get money off the books as liquid assets. 2. Planning for the future. 3. Putting the return into the budget for bigger projects down the road. 4. We can start getting ‘gifts’ from the foundation to sponsor trainings and speakers. 5. The IRS does not care that we invest in other non-profits and it will make the VPA more socially responsive.

A motion to invest $250,000 into the Social Reserve fund was made by Bob Thibault. Second by Beth O’Brien. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Professional Learning & Support Report- Linda Wheatley

Linda was unable to attend the meeting, but she sent in a small report regarding the survey and Foundations program. The EC discussed the survey and made suggestions that Jay will bring to Linda. The EC was informed about The Foundations project which will cost about $5000 a year, but if we do not get that money back from sponsors, or receive 3 rejection letters, we get the $5000 back. The sponsors will go towards activities that the VPA would like to host.

6. Activities Standards Committee Report - Bob Johnson

Bob Johnson gave us his report. He told us about Federal Special Olympics funding being cut, Fall golf went exceptionally well and the NFHS is talking about following our example and making Golf a fall sport. He also told us about beginning to implement a mentoring program for Athletic Directors. There is a committee meeting in November on the issue and the NFHS is very interested in the progress we make. Vermont Digger is the new sponsor for Scripps Spelling Bee. ACT 46 mergers are effecting sports and activities. The ASC will be meeting on Nov 3rd and all EC members are welcome to attend.

7. Executive Directors Report – Jay Nichols

After a 10 minute break, Joan called the meeting back to order at 10:40.
Jay started his report with a Waddinton update. There was a slight communication misunderstanding and only 2 cohorts will now be going each year. The second cohort will begin with webinars and go to North Carolina afterwards. The cohorts numbers have been upped to 30 in each cohort instead of the previous 24. Jay also met with Peter Burroughs and talked about how Snelling and Waddinton can work together to compliment each other.

Jay mentioned the concerns of the Professional Learning and Support committee.

8. Goal Setting Work – Joan Cavello

As a way to get everyone out of their seats and to make sure everyone had a chance to make sure their thoughts on all goals were mentioned, Joan set up sheets for everyone to move around in groups and mark down what each goal means to them.

a. Action plans to support goals developed in August
i. Advocacy for Principal Retirement

Jay went over 3 bills that he has written and would like to introduce regarding principal retirement. It was decided to go forward with all 3. Jay would like to start with any contacts that the EC has at the Legislature. Becca Balint was brought up and it was suggested to get Jeff Francis on board.

ii. Supporting Children & Schools around Trauma

iii. Working with AOE to streamline initiatives and work

There was discussion about taking a more advocacy role in trauma. How can we partner with the Agency of Human Services. How can we begin to rebuild the system around the child instead of around the adult? Can we reach out to legislatures and invite them to regional gatherings so that they can hear from principals first hand? We could bury them with individual cases.

We need to go to the AOE and the AHS and ask them how we can support them in supporting us? How do we take away the legality issues?

Now what? The goal right now is to set up meetings to get clarity and information. After we understand, we can take action.
During this conversation, there were several topics based on trauma brought up for potential strands for the Academy. Mallori and Jay will pass these suggestions on to Linda.

iv. Expansion of the Mentoring Program
   Discussion of having clear contracts and responsibility. Distinguishing between mentor vs. coach. The NASSP packet is not working anymore so we need to rebrand the whole mentoring template. Perhaps a mentor/mentee/superintendent 3 way meeting?

v. Sustainability and Expansion of Waddington
   Discussion of having an ongoing strand at the academy for the Waddinton Student Leadership program.

9. Principal of the Year Discussion -Jay
   a. 7 award winners? Maine does 4
   b. Discussion – proposal
      Jay mentioned the Principal of the Year Awards and requested lowering the amount of awards given out to 1. Make the award more special for winner and 2. Make the evening at the Academy shorter and more about a celebration. EC agreed to 1 NASSP winner, 1 NAESP winner, 1 assistant principal and one from (tech center, Elementary ect.)

10. Any Other Business?
    Patrick Burke has decided to resign from the Executive Council. We will need to discuss a replacement option.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bill Hammond. Seconded by Kristin Hubert. Motion passed unanimously.