

Date: November 1, 2022 (updated November 10, 2022)

To: New Jersey FFA Chapter Advisors/Agriculture, Food and Natural Resource Educators

From: Erin E. Noble, State FFA Advisor

CC: Hannah Mann, Leadership Coordinator

Re: **State Officer Candidates' School**
Saturday, January 28, 2023, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm
Stone Bridge Middle School – 1252 Yardville-Allentown Road, Allentown, NJ 08501

REGISTRATION IS DUE SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023.

State Officer Candidates' School (SOCS) is a one-day training conference designed for FFA members, advisors, and parents to learn more about the state officer experience.

1.) SOCS – FFA MEMBER WORKSHOP

FFA members interested in running for state office or serving on nominating committee are encouraged to attend SOCS. The member workshop focuses on the nominating committee process, the roles and responsibilities of state officers, and other important information state officers should know about agriculture, food and natural resources education. The conference is presented by the current state officer team. Attendees must have permission from their parent, chapter advisor and a school administrator. This permission slip will be automatically emailed upon submission of the participant form and available on the Ag Education Bulletin Board.

2.) SOCS – ADVISOR/PARENT WORKSHOP

Advisors and parents of potential state officers are encouraged to attend this workshop. The advisor/parent workshop focuses on what students will be involved in as a state officer, some fundamental information about agricultural education, and what happens after elections. Some sessions will be combined with the FFA member workshop.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

The conference registration fee is **\$9.00 per person attending (including members, advisors, parents, etc. unless the chapter is Gold Affiliated, then the fee is waived)**, which covers conference costs and lunch. Please make your check for **\$9.00 per person** payable to: **Treasurer, State of New Jersey** and forward it to the Office of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Education, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 330, Trenton, N.J. 08625-0330. Please indicate "SOCS Registration" in the memo line of your check. **Registration is due Saturday, January 15, 2023.** Please use this link to submit your chapter' participant list - <https://form.jotform.com/NJFFA/SOCS>. **The conference will begin with registration at 9:00 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m. Official dress is required.** Advisors and parents are not required to attend, but it is strongly encouraged for the overall support of the candidate. For liability purposes, please fill out the "Advisor/Parent Permission Slip" and email it to the Office of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Education (609-633-2421).

If you have any questions please contact Hannah Mann at hannah.mann@ag.nj.gov or (877) AgEdFFA.

Directions to Stone Bridge Middle School 1252 Yardville Allentown Road, Allentown, NJ 08501

From the North:

1. Take New Jersey Turnpike south
2. Take the I-195 exit 7A towards Trenton/Shore Points (0.5 miles)
3. Keep RIGHT at the fork in the ramp (0.3 miles)
4. Merge onto I-195 East (0.7 miles)
5. Take the County Road 526 exit, exit number 7, towards Robbinsville/Allentown (0.2 miles)
6. Keep right at the fork in the ramp (0.1 miles)
7. Merge onto County Road 526 (0.6 miles)
8. County Road 526 becomes Church Street (0.4 miles)
9. Turn right onto South Main Street (0.6 miles)
10. Slight right at County Road 524 (Allentown-Yardville Rd.) (0.9 miles)
11. Turn into the school complex at the traffic light.

From the South:

1. Take the New Jersey Turnpike north.
2. Follow the same directions as from the north above.

From the East:

1. Merge onto I-195 West.
2. Take the County Road 56 exit number 7, towards Robbinsville/Allentown (0.2 miles)
3. Keep left at the fork in the ramp (0.1 miles)
4. Merge onto County Road 526 (0.6 miles)
5. Continue from step 8 in the directions above.

