



New Jersey Department of Agriculture | Office of Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education
200 Riverview Plaza, 3rd Floor | P.O. Box 330 | Trenton, NJ 08625 | 877-AgEdFFA | jerseyageducation.nj.gov

In cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Education

NEW JERSEY FFA ASSOCIATION

“Connected with Purpose”

TO: State Executive Board Members, NJ FFA Chapter Advisors, Officers and Members

FROM: Kathryn Giovanelli, State FFA President
Jenny J. Allen, State FFA Specialist
Erin Noble, State FFA Advisor

DATE: January 12, 2026

RE: State FFA Executive Board Meeting
Monday, February 2, 2026 – 4:00 p.m.
1st Floor NJDA Conference Room, Trenton, NJ

All State Executive Board Members must attend this meeting. If these individuals cannot attend, they should call Ms. Allen at (609) 475-2373 and give the reason to receive an excused absence. Mr. Dale Cruzan will fill the teacher representative on the Executive Board and will have voting power at each meeting in 2025-2026.

AGENDA FOR THE FEBRUARY STATE MEETING

- I. Opening Ceremonies
- II. Minutes from the January State Meeting
- III. Treasurer’s Report
- IV. Guest Introductions and Attendance
- V. Committee Reports
 - A. Constitution, Bylaws & Program of Activities – Kayla Romero
 - B. Membership & Chapter Relations – Abigale DiGiamberardino
 - C. State Leadership Activities – Ivanelisse Pena Rivera
 - D. State Applications – Peter DelCollo
 - E. Career and Leadership Development Evaluation and Review – Aaron Foote
 - F. Horticultural Exposition Evaluation and Review – Kathryn Giovanelli
 - G. State Convention Evaluation – Breanna Rosmarin
- VI. Parliamentary Procedure Report – Kathryn Giovanelli
- VII. Executive Committee Report – Tyler Murnaghan

VIII. Foundation Report – Breanna Rosmarin

IX. State FFA Alumni & Supporters Report – Aaron Foote

X. Food, Agriculture, & Natural Resources Education Advisory Council Report – Kayla Romero

XI. New Jersey Agricultural Society Report – Kathryn Giovanelli

XII. Equine Advisory Board – Peter DelCollo

XIII. New Jersey Association of Agriculture Educators – Mr. Dale Cruzan

XIV. Unfinished Business

- A. International Leadership Seminar for State Officers (January 3-16, 2026) – Peter DelCollo
- B. New Jersey State Agricultural Convention (January 21-23, 2026) – Kathryn Giovanelli
- C. Winter CDEs (January 22, 2026) – Aaron Foote
- D. State Officer Candidates' School (January 31, 2026) – Kayla Romero
- E. Banquet Speech Workshop (February 6, 2026) – Breanna Rosmarin
- F. Fuel Up Retreat (February 19-22, 2026) – Kayla Romero
- G. National FFA Week (February 21-28, 2026) – Breanna Rosmarin
- H. Advocacy and Legislative Leadership Day (February 26, 2026) – Peter DelCollo
- I. Horticultural Exposition (March 13-14, 2026) – Kathryn Giovanelli
- J. National Ag Day (March 24, 2026) – Breanna Rosmarin
- K. Preliminary LDEs (March 24-26, 2026) – Aaron Foote
- L. Statewide Community Service Project – Ivanelisse Pena Rivera
- M. Chapter Visit Updates – Peter DelCollo
- N. Team Goal Action Plan – Kathryn Giovanelli

XV. New Business

- A. Honorary State Degree and Distinguished Service Recipients – Breanna Rosmarin
- B. New Jersey Agricultural Society Gala (March 7, 2026) – Kathryn Giovanelli
- C. Virtual Applications Judging (April 2-9, 2026) – Peter DelCollo
- D. Livestock Evaluation CDEs (April 11, 2026) – Ivanelisse Pena Rivera
- E. Spring CDEs (April 16, 2026) – Aaron Foote
- F. Horse Evaluation CDEs (April 19, 2026) – Peter DelCollo
- G. State Convention (May 20-22, 2026)
 - a. Cost Analysis – Abigale DiGiamberardino
 - b. Delegate Issues – Breanna Rosmarin
- H. Agriculture/Agricultural Education Issues Discussion – Breanna Rosmarin
- I. Member of the Month – Tyler Murnaghan
- J. State Officer Mileage – Abigale DiGiamberardino

XVI. Closing Ceremonies

*Next State Meeting- March 2, 2026
New Jersey Department of Agriculture
4:00 p.m.*

**New Jersey FFA Association
Minutes from the January 5, 2026 Meeting**

I. Opening Ceremonies

Kathryn Giovanelli called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. The voting members in attendance were Kathryn Giovanelli, Breanna Rosmarin, Kayla Romero, Ivanelisse Pena Rivera, Aaron Foote, Tyler Murnaghan, and Nina Weiland. State Staff in attendance were Mrs. Noble, Ms. Allen, and Ms. McCluskey.

II. Minutes from November State Meeting

Motion by Kaya Romero to dispense with the reading of the meeting minutes and approve them as distributed.

Seconded by Aaron Foote. Motion passed.

III. Treasurer's Report

The opening balance for the month was \$57,467.57 and the closing balance was \$58,428.99.

Motion by Nina Weiland to accept the treasurer's report pending audit.

Motion passed pending audit.

IV. Guest Introductions and Attendance

There were no guests present at this month's meeting.

Motion by Aaron Foote to excuse the absence of Mr. Cruzan.

Seconded by Ivanelisse Pena Rivera. Motion passed.

Motion by Aaron Foote to excuse the absence of Peter DelCollo.

Seconded by Nina Weiland. Motion passed.

Motion by Aaron Foote to excuse the absence of Abigale DiGiamberardino.

Seconded by Aaron Foote. Motion passed.

Breanna Rosmarin assumed the duties of the chair.

V. Committee Reports

A. Constitution, Bylaws & Program Activities

No report.

B. Membership & Chapter Relations

No report. Discussion was made regarding the Chapter Membership Data form.

C. State Leadership Activities

No report.

D. State Applications

No report.

E. Career and Leadership Development Evaluation & Review

No report.

F. Horticultural Exposition Evaluation & Review

No report.

G. State Convention Evaluation & Review

No report.

Kathryn Giovanelli re-assumed the duties of the chair.

- VI. Parliamentary Procedure Report**
Kathryn demonstrated the use “Recess”. To take a recess means to provide a short intermission in the meetings for rest, informal consultation, or to allow members to gather information before continuing business. This is not debatable, it can be amendable, but only by changing the length of the recess, and needs a majority vote to pass.
- VII. Executive Committee Report**
Tyler asked the State Officers how they can continue to “Connect with Purpose” through the year and continue that after their year of service.
- VIII. Foundation Report**
No report. Their next meeting will be on January 13, 2026 at 6:00 pm.
- X. State FFA Alumni & Supporters Report**
At the last State FFA Alumni & Supporters meeting they discussed the Blue Corduroy Connection event that will take place on Friday, April 10, 2026. The annual Golf Tournament will take place on Monday, June 22, 2026 at Cream Ridge Golf Course and will need 72 golfers to participate. They reviewed their Constitution and Bylaws. They also discussed bringing back the Ice Cream Social at State Convention on Wednesday night of convention.
- XI. Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education Advisory Council Report**
No report. Their next meeting will be during the New Jersey State Ag Convention.
- XI. New Jersey Agriculture Society Report**
No report. Their next meeting will be on January 14, 2026.
- XII. Equine Advisory Board**
At the Equine Advisory Board Meeting, Peter discussed the Fall CDEs that were held on November 20th, the MLS Conference that was held on December 13th, and the Teach Ag Event that was also held on December 13th. During the meeting, there were long discussions on the proposed budget for the 2026 year, equine commission meetings that were taking place and happening throughout the week, Horse Management Seminars ran by Rutgers University, the Ag Convention coming up in January, the EHV-1 Virus outbreak that is currently happening, and resources available for farmers and agriculturalists when it comes to mental health and suicide.
- XIII. New Jersey Association of Agricultural Educators**
The NAAE Convention was held December 8-12, 2025 in Nashville, TN. In attendance was Erin Noble who served as a state delegate, Tiffany Morey who participated in the XLR8 Program, and Robin McLean who is running for Association for Career and Technical Education – Agricultural Education Division Vice President and served as a state delegate.
- XIV. Unfinished Business**
 - A. Member Leadership Series Conference**
This conference was held on December 13, 2026 at Rutgers University. It was facilitated by national facilitators, Lauren Thornhill and Jared Dunn from Ohio, and the state officers were hosts/participants during the event. There were a total of 62 FFA members in attendance.

Members learned how to identify their values as well as learning their top values and strengths. They also developed their own personal mission statements. The State Executive Board reviewed the evaluations from the conference.

B. Teach Ag Recruitment Event

The Teach Ag Recruitment event was for FFA members interested in becoming Agriculture Teachers. At this event Tyler Murnaghan and Nina Weiland presented a workshop called “Why Teach Ag” to cover what it's like to be an ag teacher, Ms. Miller as the President of the NJAAE presented a workshop on teacher professional organizations and why it benefits them when they become teachers. Kayla Romero moderated the Ag Teacher Networking session, where students in attendance had the opportunity to speaking with five current agricultural educators about their journey to teaching, what they teach and where they teach at. Breanna Rosmarin presented a workshop called “College 101”. Peter DelCollo moderated a question-and-answer panel with the members on how to balance FFA and college. The State Executive Board reviewed the evaluations from the event.

C. Holiday Party

The State Officers and State Staff had a great time at their Holiday Party. They had a cookie decorating competition, potluck dinner and exchanged gifts.

D. International Leadership Seminar for State Officers

Peter is currently on the International Leadership Seminar for State Officers trip to Spain! They all met in New York City on January 3rd and on January 4th, He had an orientation from the morning into the afternoon before heading over to the airport and taking off. They are in Spain from today until January 16, 2026. While there, he will be taking tours of the cities he will be in, going to different farms to learn about agriculture, attending a fish market, an olive oil company, and much more. He can't wait to come back and share all of the amazing adventures he had.

E. New Jersey State Agricultural Convention

The NJ State Agricultural Convention will be held January 21-23, 2026 at Harrah's Waterfront Conference Center in Atlantic City, NJ. All state officers and executive committee members will be present. Kathryn will be delivering her speech during the convention.

F. Winter CDEs

Winter Career Development Events will be held on Thursday, January 22, 2026 at Harrah's Waterfront Conference Center in Atlantic City, NJ. The CDEs that are being held are Agriculture Communications, Farm and Agribusiness Management, Food Science and Technology, and Meats Evaluation and Technology.

G. State Officer Candidates' School

State Officer Candidates' School will be held on Saturday, January 31, 2026 at Stone Bridge Middle School in Allentown. State Officer Candidate School is for members interested in becoming state officer and for those who would like to serve on the nominating committee. Kathry, Breanna, Kayla, Ivanelisse, Peter, and Aaron will set up on January 30, 2026 at 4:30pm.

H. Banquet Speech Workshop

The State Officers will be attending the banquet speech workshop being hosted by the Alumni to give the State Officers feedback on their speeches. This will be held at the Rutgers Eco Complex on February 6, 2026 at 6:00pm.

I. Fuel-Up Retreat

The State Officers will be spending time together on February 19-22, 2026 in Wildwood. They will be planning for State Convention and begin working on their retiring addresses.

J. National FFA Week

National FFA Week is February 21-28, 2026, this is where we celebrate FFA. The chapters can create their own themed days and take part in the National FFA themed days on their social media. Chapters have been submitting their requests to have a state officer.

K. Advocacy and Legislative Leadership Day

ALLD is held on February 26, 2026 at The College of New Jersey. The theme for this year's event is "**AG**vocating with Purpose." There will be legislators, guest speakers, and a panel of individuals from diverse areas who work with different career areas in the agricultural industry. The state officers will be presented a large group workshop and their own individual workshops. The objectives for the workshops are learning how to advocate effectively, understanding the importance of proper advocacy, identifying how to use your voice for advocating, identifying when to advocate, and demonstrating how to use the advocacy model.

L. Chapter Visit Updates

Most of the visits have now been confirmed. The state officers have been completing their events and posting photos on the state's social media accounts.

M. Team Goal Action Plan

The State Officers need to get the Chapter highlights promoted more and will be promoting things on social media more often.

XV. New Business

A. Horticultural Exposition

The Horticultural Exposition will take place from March 13th to March 14th at Mercer County Community College. FFA members can participate in creating arrangements for the Horticultural Exposition, participate in the Floriculture and Nursery/Landscape CDE, attend industry-based workshops and take a campus tour. State Officers will set up on March 12th at 4:00 pm.

B. National Ag Day

National Ag day is March 24, 2026. There will be a webinar for officers to join and social media posts.

C. Preliminary LDEs

Preliminary LDEs will be held in each region: Northern – Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at Voorhees High School, Central – Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at Allentown High School and Southern – Thursday, March 26, 2026 at Salem County Vocational Technical School. The LDEs that are being held are 3-5 and 6-8 Minute Prepared Public Speaking, Creed Speaking, Extemporaneous Speaking, Conduct of Chapter Meeting and Parliamentary Procedure. State Officers will be present at their respective regions in Official Dress.

D. Statewide Community Service Project

The Pawsitive Care Project is this year's Statewide Community Service Project. Chapters will be asked to collect items for the animal shelter that are listed on the flier. A grant was received for the operation and bracelets will be used as an additional fundraiser.

E. Agriculture/ Agricultural Education Issues Discussion

Kathryn discussed the New Jersey Division of Travel and Tourism recently collaborated with the NJ Department of Agriculture to establish the New Jersey Agritourism Grant Program. There is a total of \$5 Million with \$100,000 per applicant. It can be used for several agritourism businesses and activities.

F. Member of the Month

The executive board evaluated the member of the month applications.

Motion by Tyler Murnaghan to select Kaylie Peticari of the Warren Hills FFA Chapter as January's Member of the Month.

Seconded by Ivanelisse Pena Rivera. Motion passes.

G. State Officer Milage

Kathryn, Abigale, Ivanelisse, and Peter submitted for the month of December. All mileage reports are due each month prior to the start of the state meeting.

XVI. Closing Ceremonies

The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 am. The next meeting will be held on February 2, 2026, at 4:00 pm.

1:34 PM

January 2, 2026

Cash Basis

NJ FFA Association
Monthly State Meetings - General Ledger
As of December 31, 2025

Type	Date	Name	Memo	Split	Original Amount	Paid Amount	Balance
FFA							57,467.57 1
Deposit	12/04/2025		Deposit	-SPLIT-	3,400.00	3,400.00	60,867.57
Deposit	12/08/2025		Deposit	-SPLIT-	518.00	518.00	61,385.57
Check	12/09/2025	Hampton Inn	lodging on way home from National Convent...	P7 (National Conven. - Expense)	-122.10	-122.10	61,263.47
Check	12/09/2025	Hampton Inn	lodging on way home from National Convent...	P7 (National Conven. - Expense)	-122.10	-122.10	61,141.37
Check	12/09/2025	Hampton Inn	lodging on way home from National Convent...	P7 (National Conven. - Expense)	-122.10	-122.10	61,019.27
Check	12/09/2025	Hampton Inn	checkpoint 2 lodging: state officers & facilita...	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-724.62	-724.62	60,294.65
Check	12/09/2025	Valley Vet Supply	MQP supplies	P2 (CDEs - Expense)	-32.48	-32.48	60,262.17
Check	12/09/2025	Rutgers Gardens	Forestry CDE rental facility	P2 (CDEs - Expense)	-705.00	-705.00	59,557.17
Check	12/09/2025	NORCO	award pins	P6 (State Convention - Expense)	-924.44	-924.44	58,632.73
Check	12/09/2025	Shoprite	Checkpoint 2 lunch supplies	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-137.66	-137.66	58,495.07
Check	12/09/2025	Paypal	990 filing fee	P3 (General Supplies - Expense)	-41.00	-41.00	58,454.07
Check	12/09/2025	China Grill	Checkpoint 2 dinner	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-212.65	-212.65	58,241.42
Check	12/09/2025	Vista Print	holiday cards	P3 (General Supplies - Expense)	-111.41	-111.41	58,130.01
Check	12/09/2025	Vista Print	holiday cards	P3 (General Supplies - Expense)	-65.82	-65.82	58,064.19
Check	12/09/2025	Vista Print	holiday cards	P3 (General Supplies - Expense)	-111.41	-111.41	57,952.78
Deposit	12/09/2025		Deposit	Undeposited Funds	300.00	300.00	58,252.78
Deposit	12/09/2025		Deposit	P7 (National Conven. - Expense)	1,968.54	1,968.54	60,221.32
Deposit	12/12/2025		Deposit	-SPLIT-	1,425.00	1,425.00	61,646.32
Check	12/12/2025	Nina Weiland	July - Dec mileage reim	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-57.47	-57.47	61,588.85
Check	12/12/2025	Aaron Foote	July - Dec mileage reim	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-950.95	-950.95	60,637.90
Check	12/12/2025	Kathryn Giovanelli	July - Dec mileage reim	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-542.15	-542.15	60,095.75
Check	12/12/2025	Breanna Rosmarin	July - Dec mileage reim	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-469.70	-469.70	59,626.05
Check	12/12/2025	Abigale DiGiamberardino	July - Dec mileage reim	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-1,238.30	-1,238.30	58,387.75
Check	12/12/2025	Ivanelisse Pena Rivera	July - Dec mileage reim	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-175.91	-175.91	58,211.84
Check	12/12/2025	Peter Del Collo	July - Dec mileage reim	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-757.75	-757.75	57,454.09
Deposit	12/15/2025		Deposit	Undeposited Funds	2,000.00	2,000.00	59,454.09
Deposit	12/17/2025		Deposit	-SPLIT-	479.00	479.00	59,933.09
Check	12/18/2025	American Income Life I...	July - December supplemental event particip...	P3 (General Supplies - Expense)	-414.10	-414.10	59,518.99
Check	12/18/2025	Rutgers University	Fall CDE room rental	P2 (CDEs - Expense)	-1,080.00	-1,080.00	58,438.99
Total FFA						971.42	58,438.99 2
TOTAL						971.42	58,438.99 3

NJ FFA Association
Monthly State Meetings - General Ledger
As of December 31, 2025

- 1. Opening Balance on December 1, 2025 was \$57,467.57
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- 2. Closing Balance on December 31, 2025 was \$58,438.99
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- 3. Treasurer's Report passes pending audit
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