



New Jersey Department of Agriculture | Office of Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education
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In cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Education

New Jersey FFA Association

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: May 27, 2025

RE: State FFA Executive Board Meeting
Monday, June 2, 2025 – 4:00 p.m.

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 for receiving an excused absence. Mr. Dale Cruzan will fill the teacher representative on the Executive Board and have voting power at each meeting in 2025-2026.

AGENDA FOR THE JUNE STATE MEETING

- I. Opening Ceremonies**
- II. Minutes from the May State Meeting**
- III. Treasurer's Report**
- IV. Guest Introductions and Attendance**
- V. Committee Assignments**
 - A. Constitution, Bylaws & Program of Activities
 - B. Membership & Chapter Relations
 - C. State Leadership Activities
 - D. State Applications
 - E. Career Development Evaluation and Review
 - F. Horticultural Exposition Evaluation and Review
 - G. State Convention Evaluation
- VI. Parliamentary Procedure Report – Kathryn Giovanelli**
- VII. Executive Committee Report – Abrianna Portillo**

VIII. Foundation Report -

IX. State FFA Alumni & Supporters Report -

X. Food, Agriculture, & Natural Resources Education Advisory Council Report -

XI. New Jersey Agricultural Society Report -

XII. Equine Advisory Board -

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

XIV. Unfinished Business

- A. State Convention Review – Kathryn Giovanelli
- B. Honorary American Degree Nominations – Kayla Romero
- C. Chapter Banquets – Abrianna Portillo
- D. Summer CDEs – Aaron Foote
 - a. Safe Tractor Operations Event (July 22, 2025)

XV. New Business

- A. State Officer Leadership Training (June 7-8, 2025) – Peter DelCollo
- B. Alumni Golf Tournament (June 24, 2025) – Breanna Rosmarin
- C. Base Camp (June 25 – June 27, 2025) – Ivanelisse Pena Rivera
- D. Code of Ethics – Kathryn Giovanelli
- E. Select State Representatives to Organizations – Breanna Rosmarin
 - a. State FFA Alumni & Supporters Association
 - b. State FFA Foundation
 - c. Agricultural Education Advisory Council
 - d. New Jersey Agricultural Society
 - e. Equine Advisory Board
- F. Establish Policies – Kayla Romero
 - a. Travel Policies
 - b. SO Attendance Policy
 - c. Executive Committee Attendance Policy
 - d. Social Media Policy
- G. State Officer Summit (July 14-18, 2025) – Ivanelisse Pena Rivera
- H. Check Point #1 (July 29 - 31, 2025) – Peter DelCollo
- I. Impact Training (August 1, 2025) – Aaron Foote
- J. LEAD Cost Analysis – Abigale DiGiamberardino
- K. Agricultural Education Issues Discussion – Kathryn Giovanelli
- L. Member of the Month – Abrianna Portillo
- M. State Officer Mileage – Abigale DiGiamberardino

XVI. Closing Ceremonies

*Next State Meeting
July 7, 2025
New Jersey Department of Ag Building
9:00 am*

**New Jersey FFA Association
Minutes from the May 5, 2025 Meeting**

I. Opening Ceremonies

Niccolo Conte called the meeting to order at 4:15 pm. The voting members in attendance were Niccolo Conte, Allison Josielewski, Tyler Murnaghan, Abrianna Portillo, Nina Weiland, William Rutherford, and Mr. Dale Cruzan. State Staff in attendance were Mrs. Noble and Ms. Allen.

II. Minutes from April's State Meeting

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

Seconded by Nina Weiland. Motion passed.

III. Treasurer's Report

The opening balance for the month was \$52,679.49 and the closing balance was \$55,410.44.

Motion by Abrianna Portillo to accept the treasurer's report pending audit.

Motion passes pending audit.

IV. Guest Introductions and Attendance

There were no guests present at this meeting.

Allison Josielewski assumed the duties of the chair.

V. Committee Reports

A. Constitution, Bylaws & Program Activities and State Convention Evaluation

No report.

B. Membership & Chapter Review

No report.

C. State Leadership Activities

No report.

D. State Applications

No report.

E. Career and Leadership Development Evaluation & Review

No report.

F. Horticultural Exposition Evaluation and Review

No report.

Niccolo Conte re-assumed the duties of the chair.

VI. Parliamentary Procedure Report

Niccolo and the state officers demonstrated the use of recess. This is used to allow for a short break during a meeting. This motion must be seconded and requires a majority vote.

VII. Executive Committee Report

No report.

VIII. Foundation Report

Allison Josielewski gave an overview of the FFA Association's events and progress to the foundation. They brought forth many scholarships for members and will soon vote on 3 open spots on the board. The next meeting will be held on July 22nd.

IX. State FFA Alumni & Supporters Report

The FFA Alumni and Supporters hosted the RA workshop for State Officers on April 9th. After the workshop the members quickly discussed plans for the upcoming Golf Tournament and fundraising.

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

No report as the next meeting will be held on May 21st at Monmouth University.

XI. New Jersey Agriculture Society Report

No report, the next meeting is May 14th.

XII. Equine Advisory Board

The board met on April 16th with many members getting ready for horse shows. 4-H is looking for recruitments and all are preparing for the summer season.

XIII. New Jersey Association of Agricultural Educators

No report, the association will meet on May 21st to elect new officers at the New Jersey FFA State Convention. NJAAE members filled out applications for the various awards that are available to them through NAAE.

XIV. Unfinished Business

A. State Applications Judging

All application were judged virtually. There were 330 applications.

B. Horse Evaluation CDE

The Horse Evaluation CDE were held on Sunday, April 6, 2025 at the Sussex County Fairgrounds Allentown FFA Chapter is the first place team.

C. PA Day CDEs

PA Day CDEs were held on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at the Lebanon Expo Center in Lebanon, PA. Niccolo Conte and William Rutherford were present at the event. There were several competitions including: Food Science and Technology - 1st place team is Warren Hills, Livestock Evaluation - 1st place team is Salem Tech and Poultry Evaluation - 1st placed team is Allentown. Congratulations to all winners!

D. Retiring Address Workshop

This event took place on April 9, 2025 at the Rutgers Eco Complex at 5:00 pm. State Officers were evaluated on their retiring address and were paired up with an Alumni member to receive feedback on their retiring address.

E. Spring CDEs

Spring CDEs took place on Thursday, April 10, 2025 at Rutgers University. We offered 6 different competition including: Agronomy 1st place team is Union County, Agricultural Mechanics and Technology 1st place team is Allentown, Agricultural Sales 1st place team is Allentown, Environmental and Natural Resources 1st place team is Newton, Floriculture 1st place team is Warren Hills, Nursery Landscape 1st place team is Monmouth County and Veterinary Science 1st place team is Hunterdon County Polytech.

F. Agriscience Fair

The Agriscience Fair took place on Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at the Rutgers Eco Complex. FFA members showed off their projects to judges. Allison Josielewski and Tyler Murnaghan were present. Winners of each division are posted below. Congratulations to all winners!

Animal Systems

Division III: Evangeline Lee – Bergen County Academies

Division IV: Stefanie Vitale & Grace Campbell –Middlesex East Brunswick

Division V: Isabella Sanchis – Hunterdon County Polytech

Division VI: Mark Pluchino & Natalie Phelan – Hunterdon County Polytech

Environmental Services/Natural Resources Systems

Division I: Christian Rivera– Montague Township Middle

Division III: Claire Shi– Bergen County Academies

Division IV: Aisha Shafoat & Yoonseo Jang – Bergen County Academies

Division V: Celine Park – Bergen County Academies

Division VI: Grace Kim & Dana Chung – Bergen County Academies

Food Products & Processing Systems

Division II: Melanie Scantleberry & Cassidy Eastridge – Montague Township Middle

Division V: Wilber Callejas – Bergen County Academies

Plant Systems

Division I: William Lin – Montague Township Middle

Division III: Branden Kim – Bergen County Academies

Division IV: Aesha Patel & Amanda Cabrera – High Tech

Division V: Ambika Rao – High Tech

Division VI: Anjali Daftary & Fiona Beauchamp – Bergen County Academies

Social Systems

Division III: Ava Haring – Hunterdon County Polytech

Division IV: Natalie Flores & Prinzesse Dongon – High Tech

G. Dairy Cattle Evaluation

The Dairy Cattle Evaluation CDE took place on Saturday, May 3, 2025 at Spring Run Dairy in Pittstown, NJ. The 1st place team is the Northern Burlington FFA chapter.

H. State Convention

i. Timeline

We are now two weeks from convention. The officers are preparing and memorizing their pieces.

ii. Video Shoot

The officers have all of the videos completed but one. They will be selected a date to complete the last opening session video for convention.

iii. Potential State Officers

State Officer Candidates turned in their applications on May 1, 2025. They have begun the next steps for the interview process. This year there are 7 applicants.

iv. Nominating Committee

There are 6 committee members chosen as the 2025 NJ State FFA Nominating Committee at State Convention. Members are Autumn Grumbridge from Hunterdon County ESEA, Sebastian Mendoza from Phillipsburg, Tierney Lang from Allentown, Grace Campbell from Middlesex East Brunswick, Harley Toulson from Woodstown and Jacob Bramble from Delsea Regional.

v. Statewide Community Service

A Sensory Garden will be constructed with the Miracle League of Mercer County through the efforts of FFA members including raised garden beds, putting together gardening kits, and designing tiles, murals, and art to celebrate agriculture. A grant was received for the operation and bracelets will be used as an additional fundraiser. A flier was shared with the teachers and on social media.

vi. Delegate Issues

The delegate packet has been emailed out and posted on the state association webpage.

I. Team Goal Action Plan

The State Officers reflected on their goals they have set to continue to complete for the remainder of their year of service. They exceeded their goal of having 100 Blue Jacket applicants, with a total of 161 FFA members who filled out the application. They have 7 State Officer Candidates for 2025-2026.

XV. New Business

A. HO SAMPSON Chapter Recognition

Chapters receive a rating of bronze, silver and gold. Ratings are based off the chapter's amount of participation in state level events.

B. Honorary American Degree Nominations

This year's officer team started to come up with a list of potential candidates for this award, the nominations will be made by the 2025-2026 officer team.

C. Chapter Banquets

The officer team received fifteen requests from chapters to attend end of year banquets.

D. Summer CDEs

The Safe Tractors Operation Event will be held on July 22, 2025 at the Burlington County Fairgrounds. More information available soon.

E. Agricultural Education/Agricultural Issues Discussion

William Rutherford shared perspectives from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) on addressing the problems in the 21st century specifically in education, emphasis on food production, and sustainability. Their initiative gives resources to universities through grants and curriculum to teach to the next generation.

F. Member of the Month

The Executive Board evaluated Member of the Month applications.

Motion by William Rutherford to select Sophia Jones of the Allentown FFA Chapter as May's Member of the Month.

Seconded by Allison Josielewski. Motion passes.

G. State Officer Mileage

Tyler and Abrianna turned in their mileage for the month of April.

Motion by Tyler Murnaghan to donate \$2,000 from the State FFA Association account to the NJ FFA Foundation for State Convention awards.

Seconded by Abrianna Portillo. Motion passes.

Motion by Abrianna Portillo to accept the hosting locations for the 2026 Preliminary Regional LDEs as follows: Northern Region-Voorhees High School on Tuesday, March 24, 2026 hosting chapters: Hunterdon County ESEA and Hunterdon County Polytech, Central Region-Allentown High School on Wednesday, March 25, 2026 hosting chapter: Allentown, and Southern Region-Salem County Vocational Technical School on Thursday, March 26, 2026 hosting chapter: Salem Tech.

Seconded by Nina Weiland. Motion passes.

Mrs. Noble mentioned the current State Officers are expected to attend Capstone on Saturday, June 7, 2025 with the whole day blocked off.

XVI. Closing Ceremonies

The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 pm. The next meeting will be held on May 5, 2025 at 4:00 pm in the 1st Floor Conference room, New Jersey Department of Agriculture Building.

7:45 PM

May 2, 2025

Cash Basis

NJ FFA Association
Monthly State Meetings - General Ledger
As of April 30, 2025

	Type	Date	Name	Memo
FFA				
	Check	04/09/2025	New Jersey 4H Horse ...	Horse Eval CDE registration
	Check	04/10/2025	US Bank	Ewell - scantrons - CDEs
	Check	04/10/2025	US Bank	Amazon - Floriculture supplies
	Check	04/10/2025	US Bank	Home depot - floriculture supplies
	Check	04/10/2025	National FFA Organiz...	state convention awards
	Check	04/10/2025	Davison, Eastman & ...	additional legal work
	Check	04/10/2025	US Bank	ENR CDE - Cabin rental
	Check	04/10/2025	Rutgers University	Spring CDE room rental
	Deposit	04/17/2025		Deposit
	Deposit	04/17/2025		Deposit
	Deposit	04/17/2025		Deposit
	Check	04/30/2025	National FFA Organiz...	state convention awards
Total FFA				
TOTAL				

7:45 PM

May 2, 2025

Cash Basis

NJ FFA Association
Monthly State Meetings - General Ledger
As of April 30, 2025

Split	Original Amount	Paid Amount	Balance
			52,679.49 ¹
P2 (CDEs - Expense)	-500.00	-500.00	52,179.49
P2 (CDEs - Expense)	-550.00	-550.00	51,629.49
P2 (CDEs - Expense)	-135.40	-135.40	51,494.09
P2 (CDEs - Expense)	-184.98	-184.98	51,309.11
P6 (State Convention - Expense)	-2,925.76	-2,925.76	48,383.35
P3 (General Supplies - Expense)	-38.00	-38.00	48,345.35
P2 (CDEs - Expense)	-700.00	-700.00	47,645.35
P2 (CDEs - Expense)	-2,070.00	-2,070.00	45,575.35
-SPLIT-	4,010.39	4,010.39	49,585.74
-SPLIT-	2,263.43	2,263.43	51,849.17
-SPLIT-	4,114.27	4,114.27	55,963.44
P6 (State Convention - Expense)	-553.00	-553.00	55,410.44
		2,730.95	55,410.44 ²
		2,730.95	55,410.44 ³