



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
“CHALLENGE ACCEPTED”

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

FROM: Peter DelCollo, State FFA President
Jenny J. Allen, State FFA Specialist
Erin Noble, State FFA Advisor

DATE: October 13, 2026

RE: State FFA Executive Board Meeting
Monday, November 2, 2026 – 9:00 a.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 2026-2027.

AGENDA FOR THE NOVEMBER STATE MEETING

- I. Opening Ceremonies**
- II. Minutes from the October State Meeting**
- III. Treasurer’s Report**
- IV. Guest Introductions and Attendance**
- V. Committee Reports**
 - A. Constitution, Bylaws & Program of Activities and Career/Leadership Development Event Evaluation and Review – Kai Wilson
 - B. Membership & Chapter Relations – Jacob Bramble
 - C. State Leadership Activities – Kayla Romero
 - D. State Applications – Elizabeth Noreen
 - E. Horticultural Exposition Evaluation and Review – Peter DelCollo
 - F. State Convention Evaluation – Grace Campbell
- VI. Parliamentary Procedure Report – Kai Wilson**
- VII. Executive Committee Report – Kathryn Giovanelli**
- VIII. Foundation Report – Kayla Romero**
- IX. State FFA Alumni & Supporters Report – Kai Wilson**

- X. Food, Agriculture, & Natural Resources Education Advisory Council Report** – Grace Campbell
- XI. New Jersey Agricultural Society Report** – Peter DelCollo
- XII. Equine Advisory Board** – Elizabeth Noreen
- XIII. New Jersey Association of Agriculture Educators** – Mr. Dale Cruzan
- XIV. Unfinished Business**
 - A. Association Budget – Elizabeth Noreen
 - B. Chapter Chartering
 - C. FFA in the USA Reporter Program – Grace Campbell
 - D. Cultivating Careers (October 9, 2026) – Grace Campbell
 - E. New Jersey State Grange Annual Meeting (October 16-18, 2026) – Peter DelCollo
 - F. 99th National FFA Convention (October 21-24, 2026) – Kayla Romero
 - G. Checkpoint #2 (November 13-14, 2026) – Kai Wilson
 - H. New Jersey Farm Bureau Convention (November 16-17, 2026) – Peter DelCollo
 - I. Fall Career Development Events (November 19, 2026) – Kayla Romero
 - J. Holiday Party (December 14, 2026) – Kai Wilson
 - K. Mega “E” Conference (February 5-6, 2027)
 - 1. I AM Conference – Kai Wilson
 - 2. “Member Leadership Series” Connect Conference – Abigale DiGiamberardino
 - a. State Greenhand Conference – Kathryn Giovanelli
 - b. Leadership and Opportunity Conference – Grace Campbell
 - c. Chapter Officer Leadership Training – Jacob Bramble
 - d. State Officer Candidates School – Kayla Romero
 - 3. Timeline – Peter DelCollo
 - L. Chapter Visits – Jacob Bramble
 - M. Team Goal Action Plan – Peter DelCollo
- XV. New Business**
 - A. New Jersey State Agricultural Convention (January 19-22, 2027) – Peter DelCollo
 - B. Winter CDEs (January 21, 2027) – Kai Wilson
 - C. Banquet Speech Workshop (January 29, 2027) – Kayla Romero
 - D. Agriculture/Agricultural Education Issues Discussion – Jacob Bramble
 - E. Member of the Month – Kathryn Giovanelli
 - F. State Officer Mileage – Elizabeth Noreen

XVI. Closing Ceremonies

*Next State Meeting- December 7, 2026
New Jersey Department of Agriculture
4:00 p.m.*

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

I. Opening Ceremonies

Peter DelCollo called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. The voting members in attendance were Peter DelCollo, Kayla Romero, Elizabeth Noreen, Grace Campbell, Jacob Bramble, Kai Wilson, Kathryn Giovanelli, Abigale DiGiamberardino, Aaron Foote, and Mr. Cruzan. State Staff in attendance were Mrs. Noble, Ms. Allen, and Ms. McCluskey.

II. Minutes from September State Meeting

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

Seconded by Elizabeth Noreen. Motion passed.

III. Treasurer's Report

The opening balance for the month was \$4,141.66 and the closing balance was -\$590.13.

Motion by Elizabeth Noreen 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 Kathryn Giovanelli to accept Breanna Rosmarin's resignation.

Seconded by Abigale DiGiamberardino. Motion passed.

Motion by Abigale DiGiamberardino to appoint Peter DelCollo as the New Jersey State FFA President.

Seconded by Kayla Romero. Motion passed.

Motion by Kayla Romero to appoint Kathryn Giovanelli as Vice President for ceremonies and handling committee reports.

Seconded by Elizabeth Noreen. Motion passed.

Kathryn Giovanelli assumed the duties of the chair.

V. Committee Reports

A. Constitution, Bylaws & Program Activities

The committee set goals and expectations for the year as well as discussing items of priority. They also reviewed the POA and have revisions for section I and section II.

Motion by Kai Wilson to accept the report as read.

There is an implied second. Motion passed.

B. Membership & Chapter Relations

No report. Committee meeting has been scheduled. Discussion was made regarding the Chapter Membership Data form.

C. State Leadership Activities

No report.

D. State Applications

The committee created a plan to increase member participation and a social media plan for the year.

Motion by Elizabeth Noreen to accept the report as read.

There is an implied second. Motion passed.

E. Career and Leadership Development Evaluation & Review

No report.

F. Horticultural Exposition Evaluation & Review

The committee discussed workshops, class names and descriptions and had a look at the 10 year analysis.

Motion by Peter DelCollo to accept the report as read.

There is an implied second. Motion passed.

G. State Convention Evaluation & Review

No report.

Peter DelCollo re-assumed the duties of the chair.

VI. Parliamentary Procedure Report

Kai Wilson demonstrated the use of Take from the Table. This is used when picking up a motion that was put on the table. This does require recognition from the chair, a second, majority vote, and is not debatable. To be used, one would raise their hand, wait to be recognized, and say, "I move to take from the table to motion regarding _____."

VII. Executive Committee Report

Kathryn Giovanelli asked the State Officers, "What they are most excited about for Chapter visits and what they are nervous about."

VIII. Foundation Report

No Report. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 2026 at 6:00 pm.

X. State FFA Alumni & Supporters Report

The next NJ FFA Alumni & Supporters meeting will take place on October 14, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

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

No report.

XI. New Jersey Agriculture Society Report

No report. The Fall Farm-to-Table Event will be held on September 19th in Somerset County. Four State Officers will be assisting at the event.

XII. Equine Advisory Board

The Equine Advisory Board is determining the year-end and season-end awards. Next month, the Animal Health Division team will travel to Wisconsin for a conference on public health and veterinary laboratories. The team also discussed the two screwworm cases in Texas and the decrease in the number of cases spreading into northern Mexico. The Animal Health Division added a page of basic information about ticks in horses. The board is also seeking horses to participate in the horse judging

competition at Centenary University in Hackettstown. The Gloucester County Dream Park has one remaining show, the Garden State Paint Show, which will conclude the Paint events for the year.

XIII. New Jersey Association of Agricultural Educators

Mr. Cruzan discussed the Fall Agricultural Education Conference and curriculum updates. The board assigned delegates to attend the conference in New Orleans. Ms. Tallamy of Newton FFA is receiving the Teachers Turn the Key Award.

XIV. Unfinished Business

A. Association Budget

Not finalized for this meeting.

B. Eastern States Exposition

From September 18–19, Kayla and Peter attended the Big E. During the event, Kayla assisted with various CDEs/LDEs, while Peter served in the State FFA President’s internship, helping with behind-the-scenes tasks to ensure all events and competitions ran smoothly. They had a great time experiencing the Big E and connecting with FFA members and state officers from across the Eastern Region. They also enjoyed cheering on New Jersey FFA members as they competed throughout the weekend.

New Jersey FFA Results:

- Erin Derieux, Buena – Star Agricultural Placement Award of Recognition
- Hunterdon County Polytech – Dairy Cattle Evaluation and Management, 3rd Place
- Hunterdon County ESEA – Parliamentary Procedure, 3rd Place
- Luciano Colao, Hunterdon County ESEA – Prepared Public Speaking, 4th Place
- Matthew Mains, Allentown – Safe Tractor Operations, 4th Place
- Tierney Lang, Allentown – Extemporaneous Public Speaking, 5th Place

C. Fall Ag Ed Conference

On September 25, Peter attended the Fall Agricultural Education Conference, where he had the opportunity to speak with agriculture teachers about the state theme for the year, “Challenge Accepted.” He shared what the theme means to the State Officer Team and how they hope every FFA member, advisor, and chapter will embrace it throughout the year. Peter also participated in workshops, interacted with agriculture teachers, and built connections throughout the day.

D. FFA in the USA Reporters Program

FFA in the USA features vibrant stories from nearly 250 FFA reporters representing every corner of the country, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Readers can explore the incredible journeys of FFA members and chapters as they share their life-changing agricultural experiences. Representing New Jersey FFA as FFA in the USA reporters are Grace Campbell (Middlesex East Brunswick/State Association), Peter DelCollo (Cumberland Regional/State Association), and Lily Myers (Salem Tech).

E. Cultivating Careers

Cultivating Careers will give high school students the opportunity to explore careers in the horticulture industry while earning an industry-recognized credential. Hosted at Mercer County Community College - West Windsor Campus, this hands-on career development experience is designed to help students turn their interest in plants into real-world skills and career opportunities. Students will select one of four specialized tracks and, through a combination of required pre-work and hands-on coursework completed during the summit,

leave the event with a credential they can add to their résumé and use as they pursue employment, further education, or careers in the plant industry.

F. 98th National FFA Convention

a. Delegates

Kayla, Peter, and Jacob will serve as delegates for New Jersey FFA this year. Kayla will serve on the Student Input on Operational Decisions Committee, Jacob will serve on the Increasing Engagement for Spanish-Speaking Members Committee, and Peter will serve as secretary of the Heritage and Future Focus Committee.

b. Flag Bearer

Jacob Bramble will serve as the New Jersey flag bearer at National Convention. He is awaiting more information from the National FFA.

c. State Suite

New Jersey has secured a suite, and teachers have been submitting ticket requests. This is also an opportunity to get to know the members and build relationships with those attending the National FFA Convention.

d. Recognition Program

On Wednesday of the National Convention, we will be holding a state breakfast. During the breakfast, we will recognize members who are receiving their Honorary Degrees and American Degrees, as well as the Agriscience Fair finalists and CDE/LDE winners. We will also provide members with additional information about the National Convention during this time. I'm pleased to say that everyone has completed their recognition piece. They are currently being reviewed and will be ready for memorization soon.

G. Delegate Process Written/Oral Testimony

The state officers are expected to prepare written testimony for all of the committees and prepare oral testimony for the committees that NJ is not represented on. Last Monday, the officers started having discussions about what they wanted to write for our written/oral testimony and we have the document in our google drive which if filled out and can be found in our folders.

H. Checkpoint #2

Checkpoint 2 will be held at the Rutgers EcoComplex on November 13th and 14th for State Officers to conduct a banquet speech writing workshop facilitated by Amara Livingston. A schedule and a suggested packing list was provided to the State Officers. Completed banquet speeches due to Ms. Allen on Saturday before departure.

I. Fall Career Development Events

The Fall CDEs will be held at Rutgers University on November 19th. Peter and Elizabeth will assist with Forestry; Kayla and Grace will assist with Fruits & Vegetables; Aaron will assist with Land Judging; Kathryn and Kai will assist with Milk Quality & Products, and Abigale and Jacob will assist with Turf Management. Excited for the first big CDE of the year.

J. MegaE Conference

a. I AM Conference

The I AM Conference will take place Friday February 5 - Saturday February 6, 2027 at the Westin Mt Laurel. This conference will be available to 11th & 12th grade FFA members, the NJ FFA State Officers will be facilitating the “I AM” Conference. The State Officers are busy working on their sessions and tying in the conference theme to make it a magical event for the members.

b. “Member Leadership Series” Connect Conference

This conference will be facilitated by national facilitators and is open to 7-10 graders.

i. State Greenhand Conference

The Executive Board will facilitate the conference and is open to all first year members.

ii. Leadership and Opportunity Conference

Leadership Opportunities Conference, also known as LOC, is geared for members who are not first-year members and not chapter officers.

Participants will explore opportunities available to them in FFA and gain additional leadership skills facilitated by Past State Officers Billy Rutherford and Nina Weiland.

iii. Chapter Officer Leadership Training

COLT will have two breakout sessions during the MEGA E Conference facilitated by State Officers. Additional information, including chapter officers in attendance will be shared once registration has been opened to advisors. Topics will include Define a Program of Activities (POA) and explain its purpose within an organization, Identify the purpose and importance of organizational documents, Analyze the use of parliamentary procedure in various meeting situations, and Create a plan to recruit and retain members.

iv. State Officer Candidates’ School

SOCS will be held at Mega E this year for Part 1. During this portion of SOCS, members will: Examine purposeful behaviors that contribute to positive morale and culture within an organization. Evaluate facilitation and presentation strategies that encourage appropriate social interactions and build a positive learning environment. Identify strategies for speaking with clarity, logic, purpose, and professionalism. Explore the role and responsibilities of New Jersey State FFA Officers. Part 2 of SOCS will be held on Saturday, March 20th. Members who are interested in becoming State Officers will have the opportunity to participate, gain experience, and develop a better understanding of what it is like to serve as a State Officer.

c. Timeline

Printed, as always, is the timeline for MegaE. Let’s make sure we stay on track with everything that needs to be done and submit all items on time.

K. Calendar of Events

The finalized calendar of events is available on the state website.

L. Chapter Visits

Chapter visit assignments have been announced, and all State Officers have contacted the advisors of their assigned chapters with potential dates for their visits. The chapter visit spreadsheet has been updated and we are reminded to send follow-up emails to advisors who have not yet responded. As part of the chapter visit process, State Officers are expected to send a thank-you email following each visit that includes the chapter visit evaluation form. Officers are also responsible for taking photos during their visits and maintaining communication with the chapter, members, and advisors throughout their year of service. State Staff have challenged the officer team to complete at least one chapter visit before the National FFA Convention.

M. Team Goal Action Plan

Printed out is the team goal action plan, make sure you are completing your set goal.

XV. New Business

A. Chapter Chartering

Checkpoint The New Jersey FFA Charter two new FFA chapters.

B. New Jersey State Grange Annual Meeting

The Annual State Grange Meeting is scheduled for October 16-18, 2026 in Swedesboro, NJ. Peter DelCollo has been invited to attend and will be a speaker at their meeting.

C. New Jersey Farm Bureau Convention

On November 16th and 17th, the New Jersey Farm Bureau Convention will be taking place. Members of the Farm Bureau will be discussing different agricultural topics in the State. They will also be preparing for the National Farm Conference, and Peter will be speaking at the State meeting.

D. Holiday Party

The New Jersey FFA Holiday Party will take place on Monday, December 14, 2026, during the December Work Session. Everyone please check your finals schedule and add them to the Fall Semester Finals google doc. Additional Information will be provided soon.

E. Agriculture/ Agricultural Education Issues Discussion

Grace discusses the amount of money farmers lost due to the great frost, VS the prices of farming skyrocketing. Great Frost Damages- The agricultural sector suffered an estimated \$300+ million in total crop losses. Many prominent family farms, such as Terhune Orchards in Princeton, reported losing 100% of their peaches and cherries, and nearly all of their apples. Fuel & Fertilizer- Spurred by international supply chains and ongoing geopolitical conflicts, farm diesel prices have surged by nearly 50%, while nitrogen fertilizer prices are up more than 30%. These spikes hit the Northeast's smaller, family-run operations particularly hard.

F. Member of the Month

The Executive Board evaluated Member of the Month applications.

Motion by Kathryn Giovanelli to select Tierney Lang from the Allentown FFA Chapter as the New Jersey FFA October's Member of the Month.

Seconded by Elizabeth Noreen. Motion passed.

G. State Officer Milage

October mileage will be due at the beginning of November. Officers are encouraged to submit their monthly mileage.

XVI. Closing Ceremonies

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm. The next meeting will be held on November 2, 2026, at 4:00 pm.

12:58 PM

October 1, 2026

Cash Basis

NJ FFA Association
Monthly State Meetings - General Ledger
As of September 30, 2026

	Type	Date	Name	Memo	Split	Original Amount	Paid Amount	Balance
FFA								4,141.66 1
	Check	09/01/2026	US Bank	Shoprite - Checkpoint 1 lunch supplies	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-142.06	-142.06	3,999.60
	Check	09/01/2026	US Bank	Mission BBQ - Checkpoint 1 Tues dinner	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-116.54	-116.54	3,883.06
	Check	09/01/2026	US Bank	Piccolissimo Italian - Checkpoint 1 Wed dinner	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-85.61	-85.61	3,797.45
	Check	09/01/2026	US Bank	Texas Roadhouse - Checkpoint 1 Thurs din...	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-190.69	-190.69	3,606.76
	Check	09/01/2026	US Bank	event registrations	P2 (CDEs - Expense)	-275.00	-275.00	3,331.76
	Check	09/01/2026	US Bank	Selective Insurance - supplemental insurance	P3 (General Supplies - Expense)	-310.75	-310.75	3,021.01
	Check	09/01/2026	US Bank	WB Mason - state officer supplies	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-343.73	-343.73	2,677.28
	Check	09/09/2026	National FFA Org	handbooks	P1 (Dues/Memberships-Expense)	-2,218.00	-2,218.00	459.28
	Deposit	09/11/2026		Deposit	-SPLIT-	5,366.00	5,366.00	5,825.28
	Deposit	09/15/2026		Deposit	-SPLIT-	4,626.14	4,626.14	10,451.42
	Deposit	09/29/2026		Deposit	-SPLIT-	5,881.00	5,881.00	16,332.42
	Check	09/30/2026	National FFA Org	annual affiliation	P1 (Dues/Memberships-Expense)	-16,922.55	-16,922.55	-590.13
Total FFA							-4,731.79	-590.13 2
TOTAL							-4,731.79	-590.13 3

NJ FFA Association
Monthly State Meetings - General Ledger
As of September 30, 2026

- 1. Opening Balance on September 1, 2026 was \$4,141.66
.....
- 2. Closing Balance on Septmeber 30, 2026 was -\$590.13
.....
- 3. Treasurer's report passes pending audit
.....



Saturday, October 3, 2026

Committee Report

New Jersey FFA Association Standing Committees

Email

kaiwilsonffa@gmail.com

Committee Name

Constitution, Bylaws & POA

Date

Monday, November 26, 2007

Committee Members Present

Chair- Kai Wilson

Advisor- Mrs. Heritage

Members- Kathryn Giovanelli & Elizabeth Noreen

Committee Members Absent

Peter DelCollo

Purpose of Meeting

Minutes: Reviewed, specifically highlighted Goals, Priorities, & Expectations from previous meeting.

Goals, Priorities, & Expectations

1. Added new goal: Create Infographics for chapter members about creating & managing POA, Minute Manager, & Agendas in AET.

POA Review

Members present received a PDF copy of New Jersey FFA's POA and reviewed as a group. A document was created to compile a list of possible needed updates to the POA. (See Recommended Actions)

Recommended Actions

POA Updates/Revisions

Section I:

Letter A

Leadership Workshops: COLT, LOC, & SGC : called different names now under MEGA E Conference

SOCS is now facilitated in both spring and fall

Letter D

Encourage graduating seniors to pursue the 3+1 membership plan to maintain membership after high school. : What is the 3+1 Membership plan?

Section II

Letter A

BLAST OFF - Update name to Base Camp

State President & Vice President must attend the State Presidents' Conference

National Leadership Conference for State Officers (NLCSO) : Update to State Officer Summit

Letter E

Hall of States : is not a thing anymore

Letter I

Remind Chapters of need to submit Program of Activities, Officer Lists, Dues, and Rosters : Add Chapter Constitution, Affiliation Contract & Fees

Comments

Thank you!

Chairperson

Kai Wilson

Secretary

Peter Del Collo

Chairperson Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kai Wilson', written in a cursive style.



Friday, September 25, 2026

Committee Report

New Jersey FFA Association Standing Committees

Email

elizabethnoreen1017@gmail.com

Committee Name

State Applications

Date

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

Committee Members Present

Elizabeth Noreen
Jacob Bramble
Aaron Foote

Committee Members Absent

Mrs. Morey, Kayla Romero

Purpose of Meeting

Create a plan to increase member participation.

Recommended Actions

Plan to increase member participation:

- Social Media posts
- Advertising at events- maybe try to make signs for CDE's and LDE's
- Possibly a little handout/ postcard that has all applications with dates and where to find info on each application
- Mega E would probably be biggest recruiting event with postcards with all information or QR code that takes them to the website

Comments

n/a

Chairperson

Elizabeth Noreen

Secretary

Jacob Bramble

Chairperson Signature

Elizabeth



Monday, October 5, 2026

Committee Report

New Jersey FFA Association Standing Committees

Email

pjdelco007@gmail.com

Committee Name

Horticultural Exposition Evaluation & Review

Date

Wednesday, September 30, 2026

Committee Members Present

Chair: Peter DelCollo

Member: Kathryn Giovanelli

Advisor: Mrs. Smith

Committee Members Absent

Elizabeth Noreen

Purpose of Meeting

The Purpose of this meeting was to discuss the workshops for the Horticulture Expo, Class Names and Descriptions for the expo, and look at the 10-year Hort Expo Analysis.

Recommended Actions

No recommended actions at this time, we will have another meeting in October before the November State FFA Meeting and will create recommendations then.

Comments

We discussed ideas for workshops that we could have during the expo, looked into the class names and descriptions and found areas we would like to change or look into further, and briefly looked over the Hort Expo Analysis. We plan on going more in depth with the analysis at the next meeting.

Chairperson

Peter DelCollo

Secretary

Elizabeth Noreen

Chairperson Signature


