



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

“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: September 16, 2025

RE: State FFA Executive Board Meeting
Monday, October 6, 2025 – 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 OCTOBER STATE MEETING

- I. Opening Ceremonies
- II. Minutes from the September 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. Eastern States Exposition (September 12-13, 2025) – Kayla Romero
- B. Fall Ag Ed Conference (September 26, 2025) – Kathryn Giovanelli
- C. Leadership Experience and Development Conference (October 3-4, 2025)
 - a. Impact Conference
 - 1. Chapter Officer Leadership Training – Kayla Romero
 - 2. Leadership Opportunities Conference – Tyler Murnaghan
 - b. State Greenhand Conference – Nina Weiland
 - c. Timeline – Breanna Rosmarin
- D. 98th National FFA Convention (October 29 – November 1, 2025)
 - a. Delegates – Kathryn Giovanelli
 - b. Flag Bearer – Aaron Foote
 - c. State Suite – Abigale DiGiamberardino
 - d. Recognition Program – Ivanelisse Pena Rivera
- E. Delegate Process Written/Oral Testimony – Breanna Rosmarin
- F. Checkpoint #2 (November 14-15, 2025) – Ivanelisse Pena Rivera
- G. Fall Career Development Events (November 20, 2025) – Aaron Foote
- H. ILSSO (January 3-16, 2026) – Peter DelCollo
- I. Calendar of Events – Kayla Romero
- J. Chapter Visit Updates – Peter DelCollo
- K. Team Goal Action Plan – Kathryn Giovanelli

XV. New Business

- A. SOCS Cost Analysis – Abigale DiGiamberardino
- B. Agricultural Development Forum (October 17, 2025) – Kathryn Giovanelli
- C. New Jersey State Grange Annual Meeting (October 17-19, 2025) – Aaron Foote
- D. New Jersey Farm Bureau Convention (November 17-18, 2025) – Kathryn Giovanelli
- E. “Member Leadership Series” Conference (December 13, 2025) – Ivanelisse Pena Rivera
- F. Agriculture/Agricultural Education Issues Discussion – Ivanelisse Pena Rivera
- G. Member of the Month – Tyler Murnaghan
- H. State Officer Mileage – Abigale DiGiamberardino

XVI. Closing Ceremonies

*Next State Meeting- November 10, 2025
New Jersey Department of Agriculture
4:00 p.m.*

**New Jersey FFA Association
Minutes from the September 8, 2025 Meeting**

I. Opening Ceremonies

Kathryn Giovanelli called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. The voting members in attendance were Kathryn Giovanelli, Breanna Rosmarin, Kayla Romero, Abigale DiGiamberardino, Ivanelisse Pena Rivera, Peter DelCollo, Aaron Foote, Tyler Murnaghan, Nina Weiland, and Mr. Cruzan. State Staff in attendance were Mrs. Noble, Ms. Allen, and Ms. McCluskey.

II. Minutes from August 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 \$151,786.08 and the closing balance was \$50,380.33.

Motion by Abigale DiGiamberardino to accept the treasurer's report pending audit.

Motion passed pending audit.

IV. Guest Introductions and Attendance

No guests were present at this meeting.

Motion by Nina Weiland to accept the resignation of Abrianna Portillo, Executive Committee Chair.

Seconded by Ivanelisse Pena Rivera. Motion passed.

Motion by Aaron Foote to appoint Tyler Murnaghan as the Executive Committee Chair.

Seconded by Peter DelCollo. Motion passed.

Breanna Rosmarin assumed the duties of the chair.

V. Committee Reports

A. Constitution, Bylaws & Program Activities

No report.

B. Membership & Chapter Relations

Abigale shared the committee report from the August meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the "Chapter Highlights" Form and have it ready for teachers to complete starting in September. The "NJ Voices" was discussed and Ivy shown an interest in working on this.

Motion by Abigale DiGiamberardino to accept the report as read.

There is an implied second. Motion passed.

C. State Leadership Activities

No report.

D. State Applications

No report.

E. Career and Leadership Development Evaluation & Review

Aaron shared the committee report from the August meeting. The two main points of this meeting were the discussion of removing Division 2 to the Conduct of Chapter Meetings CDE as well as the format of the FFA Quiz Bowl event. The FFA Quiz has a National invitational for students and the committee is looking at the most effective format for competition.

Motion by Aaron Foote to accept the report as read.

There is an implied second. Motion passed.

Motion by Aaron Foote to discontinue Division 2 in the Conduct of Chapter Meetings CDE.

Seconded by Kathryn Giovanelli. Motion passed.

F. Horticultural Exposition Evaluation & Review

Kathryn shared the committee report from the September meeting. The committee discussed the recommendations that were made at the 96th State FFA Convention and to determine what the next steps are in terms of proposing changes to Hort Expo. Main points that were discussed were editing class descriptions, price limits and size requirements. There was discussion made about utilizing social media to post a "Do and Don't Video" and have a Q&A.

Motion by Kathryn Giovanelli to accept the report as read.

There is an implied second. Motion passed.

G. State Convention Evaluation & Review

No report.

Kathryn Giovanelli re-assumed the duties of the chair.

VI. Parliamentary Procedure Report

Kathryn Giovanelli demonstrated the use of Point of Order. Point of order is a tool to correct another member who is not following the rules or is not following proper behavior. This must be raised immediately after the error occurs and may interrupt another speaker. It is used to enforce rules, not debate. Point of Order is not debatable.

VII. Executive Committee Report

Tyler asked the State Officers questions on how the start of our academic year is going. The three questions were: What is one of their academic goals, what was one thing that surprised them at school and what is your favorite memory so far.

VIII. Foundation Report

The State FFA Foundation Meeting was held on August 5th. While there, all things financial were discussed. From talking about yearly income, to checks being sent out and mailed, many financial factors were talked about. Peter gave a report on what the New Jersey FFA Association has been up to since the State Convention.

X. State FFA Alumni & Supporters Report

The State FFA Alumni and Support meeting was held on August 13th. The Alumni will be having the Blue Corduroy Connection on Friday, April 10th at O'Connors, they are looking into having a Trivia Night component. They reviewed the 2025 Golf Tournament report and began planning for 2026. It was voted on and passed the 2026 Golf Tournament will take place at Cream Ridge Golf Course on Monday, June 22, 2026. Discussion was made about entertaining to have an early bird registration. The alumni will also have a team participate in the Farm Credit East Golf Tournament on September 24th.

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 September 10, 2025.

XII. Equine Advisory Board
On August 20th, an Equine Advisory Board meeting was held. While on the meeting, many different reports were given. They talked about counties needing to send in horse show dates, the effects of Hurricane Erin, Budgets, County Fairs, USDA Reorganization and how it could affect New Jersey, different events happening at the Rutgers Equine Science Center and much more. Peter gave a report on what the New Jersey FFA Association has been up to since the end of June to now.

XIII. New Jersey Association of Agricultural Educators
Mr. Cruzan reported the big event coming up with the Fall Ag Ed Conference. The Agricultural Education Conference will be held at the Rutgers EcoComplex where they will focus on equipping agricultural educators with the tools, resources and industry insights needed to prepare students for career success in the evolving agriculture sector. Directly after the conference will be the NJAAE meeting.

XIV. Unfinished Business

A. Association Budget

The board reviewed the proposed Association Budget.

Motion by Abigale DiGiamberardino to accept the absence of Abrianna Portillo.

Seconded by Nina Weiland. Motion passed.

B. Eastern States Exposition

Kayla Romero will be attending as an event assistant. Representing New Jersey will be the Northern Burlington FFA Chapter in Dairy Cattle Evaluation, Aaron Foote in Star Farmer, and Codey Fleetwood in Safe Tractor Operations.

C. Leadership Experience and Development Conference

a. Impact Conference

i. Chapter Officer Leadership (COLT)

The state officers are preparing for their workshops for Impact and COLT.

ii. Leadership Opportunities Conference (LOC)

Tyler Murnaghan is lined up to facilitate the LOC Conference.

b. State Greenhand Conference (SGC)

Tyler Murnaghan, Nina Weiland, and William Rutherford will be facilitating. They have been updating their curriculum to reflect this year's theme as well as updating the learnbook.

c. Timeline

State Officers reviewed the timeline for the conference and reminded themselves what is still due.

D. 97th National FFA Convention

a. Delegates

Kathryn Giovanelli, Breanna Rosmarin, and Kayla Romero are the delegates for National Convention. Kathryn will be serving on the Enhancement of Marketing and Messaging Committee, Breanna will be serving on the Evaluation of Degree Program Structure Committee, and Kayla will be serving on the Reviewing the Process of the Delegate Experience Committee.

b. Flag Bearer

Aaron Foote will serve as the New Jersey flag bearer at National Convention.

c. State Suite

We have secured a suite, and teachers have been invited to request tickets. Abigale DiGiamberardino will be serving as host.

d. Recognition Program

The breakfast recognition has been completed. Discussion was made regarding the “Challenge” for the members to complete.

E. International Leadership Seminar for State Officers

ILSSO this year is being held in Spain from January 3-16, 2025. This trip gives State Officers an awareness of global agriculture. Peter DelCollo and Aaron Foote both applied. Peter was chosen as one of the 75 state officers to attend ILSSO. Aaron is currently 16th in line on the waitlist.

XV. New Business

A. Team Goal Action Plan

The team reviewed their goals.

B. Calendar of Events

The finalized calendar of events can be found on the state website under the section titled “Calendar of Events.”

C. Chapter Visits

Chapter visit emails are currently being sent out and all emails need to be sent out by September 15th. The officers were reminded that all emails needed to be CC'd to Ms. Allen.

D. #SpeakAg Pioneers

Ivanelisse shared that both she and Peter DelCollo had applied for this opportunity, but were not selected to participate. Only 12 State Officers from across the country are chosen to serve as prominent voices in agriculture. They are expected to serve as advocates at the local, state, and national levels for the industry.

E. Fall Ag Ed Conference

This is an opportunity for the ag teachers to go through professional development and Kathryn is invited to provide words to the teacher and highlighting the state theme.

F. Checkpoint #2

Checkpoint #2 will be held at the Rutgers Eco Complex on November 14-15, 2025. State Officers will begin developing their Banquet Speeches facilitated by Lindsey Augustine.

G. Fall Career Development Events

The Fall CDEs will be held at Rutgers University on November 20th. Abigale and Ivanelisse will assist with Forestry; Kathryn and Kayla will assist with Fruits & Vegetables; Aaron will assist with Land Judging; Breanna and Peter will assist with Milk Quality & Products, and Tyler and Nina will assist with Turf Management.

H. Agriculture/ Agricultural Education Issues Discussion

Abigale discussed Wind Farming vs Commercial Fishing. She shared how wind turbines will be going into commercial fishing areas, which is creating an issues for the local fisherman. They can fish within so much of the wind turbines. The coral is growing at a rapid pace around the base of the turbines which the ecosystem would take care but with the noise from the turbines it is scaring the fish away.

I. Member of the Month

The executive board evaluated the member of the month applications.

Motion by Tyler Murnaghan to select Jacob Bramble of the Delsea Regional FFA Chapter as September's Member of the Month.

Seconded by Ivanelisse Pena Rivera. Motion passes.

J. State Officer Milage

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

XVI. Closing Ceremonies

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 pm. The next meeting will be held on October 6, 2025, at 4:00 pm.

11:49 AM

September 16, 2025

Cash Basis

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

Type	Date	Name	Memo	Split	Original Amount	Paid Amount	Balance
FFA							151,786.08
Deposit	08/01/2025		Deposit	Undeposited Funds	492.00	492.00	152,278.08
Deposit	08/01/2025		Deposit	P7 National Convention (Income)	2,000.00	2,000.00	154,278.08
Check	08/01/2025	National FFA Org	National Convention CDE registrations	P7 (National Conven. - Expense)	-990.00	-990.00	153,288.08
Deposit	08/05/2025		Deposit	-SPLIT-	2,690.00	2,690.00	155,978.08
Check	08/12/2025	National FFA Org		-SPLIT-	-675.50	-675.50	155,302.58
Check	08/19/2025	National FFA Org	manuals	P1 (Dues/Memberships-Expense)	-495.00	-495.00	154,807.58
Check	08/25/2025	Monmouth University	convention epxenses	P6 (State Convention - Expense)	-105,677.25	-105,677.25	49,130.33
Deposit	08/26/2025		Deposit	Undeposited Funds	1,250.00	1,250.00	50,380.33
Total FFA						-101,405.75	50,380.33
TOTAL						-101,405.75	50,380.33



Monday, August 25, 2025

Committee Report

New Jersey FFA Association Standing Committees

Email

swimmerabu11@gmail.com

Committee Name

Membership & Chapter Relations

Committee Members Present

Ivy P.
Nina W.
Kathryn G.
Abigale D.

Committee Members Absent

NA

Purpose of Meeting

To discuss if the highlights form is complete and ready for Sept.

Discuss our decision on the "NJ Voices."
Ivy is interested and would like to follow up with that.

Recommended Actions

Send out the Highlights for in a email.

Follow up with Voices

Comments

NA

Chairperson

Abigale D.

Secretary

Abigale D.

Chairperson Signature



Friday, August 22, 2025

Committee Report

New Jersey FFA Association Standing Committees

Email

aaronfoote999@gmail.com

Committee Name

Career and Leadership Development Evaluation & Review

Date

Friday, August 22, 2025

Committee Members Present

Aaron Foote (chair)
Kayla Romero (Co Chair)
Kathryn Giovanelli (member)
Renee Stillwell (Adviser)

Committee Members Absent

N/A

Purpose of Meeting

To discuss about discontinuing Division 2 Conduct of chapter meeting and to discuss the format of Quiz Bowl.

Recommended Actions

To discontinue Davison 2 Conduct of Chapter Meeting.

Comments

Division 2 Conduct of Chapter Meeting- Opens more opportunity for freshmen to see Division 1 Conduct of Chapter Meeting, chapter were just doing it trying to win and not for the purpose of it, and it also opens our schedule.

Quiz bowl- To discuss the different options we could do for quiz bowl, definitely like 2 days of it just want to hear more feed back for members and staff.

options- Do NJ quiz bowl top 4 teams do National quiz bowl. Do National Quiz Bowl then the final 4 do NJ Quiz Bowl. If it's going to be National qualifying Event it needs better supervision/judges.

Chairperson

Aaron Foote

Secretary

Kayla Romero

Chairperson Signature



Friday, September 5, 2025

Committee Report

New Jersey FFA Association Standing Committees

Email

k.giovanelli140@gmail.com

Committee Name

Horticultural Exposition Evaluation & Review

Date

Wednesday, September 3, 2025

Committee Members Present

PJ DelCollo, Bre Rosmarin and Tyler Murnaghan

Committee Members Absent

Mrs. Smith

Purpose of Meeting

To discuss what recommendations were made from State Convention and determine what the next steps are in terms of proposing changes to Hort Expo.

Recommended Actions

- Add Kwanzaa to the list of possible arrangements students can make under the holiday class
- Try to make workshops more engaging because not many students attend. Consider sending out an interest form and gather more information about MCCC clubs related to horticulture
- Create a "Hort Expo Do and Don't Video" to increase awareness of the event and guidelines. Also post a social media story that asks what questions members have about hort expo
- Draft descriptions to have clearer price limits and size requirements. A document will be created to begin drafting some descriptions based on industry standards

Chairperson

Kathryn Giovanelli

Secretary

PJ DelCollo

Chairperson Signature

Kathryn Giovanelli