

New York State ENA Council Meeting Minutes
August 8, 2026

New York State Emergency Nurses Association (NYSENA) Council Meeting

Date: August 8, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM – 1:30 PM

Location: Binghamton, NY (Hybrid meeting via Microsoft Teams)

Attendees (Board of Directors)

All current members of the Board of Directors were present either in person or virtually.

- Eileen Breckenridge, President
- Vepuka Kauari, President-Elect
- Dawna Scheich, Treasurer
- Christopher Sorrentino, Secretary (virtual)
- Carolyn Dixon, Director at Large
- Mickey Forness, Director at Large
- Tammy Aiken, Director at Large (virtual)
- Wendy Allen-Thompson, Immediate Past President (virtual)
- Sue Chalupa-Breese, Parliamentarian
- Kathy Conboy, Historian/Parliamentarian

Attendees (Council Members & Committee Chairs)

A combined total of 37 members attended in person and virtually, including Board members, Council members, committee chairs, and guests. Attendance was verified using the Teams attendance report and sign-in records

Committee Chairs and Council members in attendance included:

- Maryanne Portoro, Communications Chair
- Jamla Rizek, Education Chair
- Mary Ann Teeter, TNCC/Trauma Chair
- Mary Harwood, Long Island Special Interest Group Representative (virtual)
- Kate O'Neill, Government Affairs
- Mel Wilson, Leadership Development and Elections Committee
- Suzanne Wall
- Brandon Smith
- Laurie McLearn
- Maureen Chernosky
- Francesca Sullivan
- Kaycee McLearn
- Desrene Fearon
- Nigel Peters
- Susan Kossowsky
- Joanne Fadale

- Additional members and guests as reflected in the attendance report
-

1. Call to Order

President Eileen Breckenridge called the meeting to order at 1001 hours.

2. Introductions

Introductions were conducted beginning at 1003 hours.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes (April 2026)

The minutes from the April 22, 2026 Council Meeting were presented for approval.

- No corrections were brought forth.
- The minutes were approved as presented.

4. Conflict of Interest Disclosure

President Breckenridge announced that all required conflict of interest forms for individuals serving on committees, chairing committees, or representing NYSENA were available on the NYSENA website and must be completed by all committee and board members.

5. Adoption of Agenda

Discussion occurred regarding the potential use of a consent agenda. A motion was made by Donna Sowles to add items to a consent agenda. Following parliamentary guidance provided by Joanne Fadale, it was determined that a consent agenda could not be adopted for this meeting.

A motion to adopt the meeting agenda was then made, seconded, and carried.

6. Board Reports

6.1 President's Report (Eileen Breckenridge)

President Breckenridge provided updates regarding upcoming events, ENA national initiatives, and NYSENA accomplishments.

Important Dates

- August 9, 2026 through October 8, 2026: ENA Call for Volunteers (172 opportunities available)
- August 15 through September 10, 2026: NYSENA Board of Directors Election
- August 19, 2026: Leadership Lecture
- August 24, 2026: In-Flight Emergency Presentation

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- September 1, 2026: General Assembly Competency Release
- September 9, 2026: General Assembly Orientation
- September 27-28, 2026: General Assembly, Phoenix, Arizona
- September 28 through October 1, 2026: ENA 2026 Conference
- October 5-6, 2026: CEN Review Course
- October 9-10, 2026: NYSENA Council Meeting
- October 14, 2026: Emergency Nurses Day

2026 NYSENA Accomplishments

Highlights included:

- Learning platform implementation
- Record attendance at Setting the Pace since the COVID-19 pandemic
- Alignment of the Leadership Development and Elections Committee with national standards
- Formation of Finance and Awards Committees
- Expansion of educational offerings
- Recognition of New York Lantern Award recipients
- Completion of the strategic plan
- Website enhancements
- Newsletter development
- Recognition of Jonathan Nover and the Government Affairs Committee
- ENA Emerald Award recognition for Mickey Forness
- Receipt of the State Council Achievement Award
- Successful CEN and CPEN review courses

ENA Updates

President Breckenridge reported that the search process for a National ENA Executive Director has been narrowed to two finalists.

7. New Business

7.1 Judy Cangro Educational Award

Council considered a proposal to rename the NYSENA Educational Award as the Judy Cangro Educational Award in recognition of Judy Cangro's contributions to emergency nursing and professional development.

- A motion was made, seconded, and carried.
- The Council unanimously approved renaming the award.

7.2 9/11 Scholarships

The Council reviewed the current 9/11 scholarship program.

- A motion was made to increase the value of the two existing 9/11 scholarships from their current amount to \$3,000 each.

- The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

7.3 National ENA Membership Scholarship

The Council discussed expanding member recognition associated with the 9/11 scholarship program.

- A motion was made to provide one National ENA membership in honor of 9/11.
- The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

7.4 Bylaws Revision

The revised NYSENA Bylaws were presented for Council consideration.

- The bylaws were reviewed and discussed.
- A motion to approve the revised bylaws was made, seconded, and carried unanimously.
- The approved bylaws will be posted on the NYSENA website.

7.5 General Assembly Delegate Reimbursement

The proposed reimbursement amount for General Assembly delegates was presented.

- A motion to approve the reimbursement amount was made, seconded, and carried unanimously.

7.6 Policy Approvals

The following policies were presented for review and approval:

- Credit Card Use Policy
- Reimbursement Policy
- Budget Policy
- Elections Policy
- Finance Committee Policy

Following discussion, motions were made, seconded, and unanimously approved for all policies presented.

7.7 Privilege of the Floor

At approximately 1320 hours, Kathy Conboy requested privilege of the floor. She informed the Council that Jamla Rizek was a candidate for national office and encouraged eligible members to participate in the upcoming election process and cast their votes.

8. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded, and carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1326 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Dixon
NYSENA Secretary-elect

Christopher Sorrentino
NYSENA Secretary

DRAFT

1. Summary

Meeting title	NYS ENA Council Meeting
Attended participants	39
Start time	8/08/26, 8:41:05 AM
End time	8/08/26, 1:47:06 PM
Meeting duration	5h 6m
Average attendance time	2h 22m 26s

2. Participants

Name	First Join	Last Leave	In-Meeting Duration	Email	Participant ID (UPN)	Role
New York ENA Secretary	8/08/26, 10:01:21 AM	8/08/26, 12:13:58 PM	2h 9m 41s	ny.secretary@state.ena.org	ny.secretary@state.ena.org	Organizer
Eileen Breckenridge	8/08/26, 8:41:10 AM	8/08/26, 8:42:15 AM	1m 5s			Presenter
Jamla Rizek	8/08/26, 8:41:55 AM	8/08/26, 12:35:44 PM	3h 52m			Presenter
New York ENA President	8/08/26, 8:43:11 AM	8/08/26, 1:27:06 PM	4h 43m 55s	ny.president@state.ena.org	ny.president@state.ena.org	Presenter
Kauari, Vepuka	8/08/26, 8:47:13 AM	8/08/26, 1:26:57 PM	4h 39m 44s	kaueive@nyp.org	kaueive@nyp.org	Presenter
Tammy Aiken Board_1 (Unverified)	8/08/26, 8:53:44 AM	8/08/26, 9:57:37 AM	35m 46s			Presenter
Phyllis Parker (Unverified)	8/08/26, 9:21:19 AM	8/08/26, 1:47:06 PM	4h 25m 46s			Presenter
Dixon, Carolyn	8/08/26, 9:34:35 AM	8/08/26, 12:00:31 PM	2h 25m 55s	CDIXON3@northwell.edu	CDIXON3@northwell.edu	Presenter
Mary Wilson	8/08/26, 9:38:42 AM	8/08/26, 1:26:48 PM	3h 48m 6s			Presenter
Smith, Brandon	8/08/26, 9:39:57 AM	8/08/26, 1:21:03 PM	3h 33m 48s	smithb4@mskcc.org	smithb4@mskcc.org	Presenter
Laurie McLearn	8/08/26, 9:45:10 AM	8/08/26, 1:26:53 PM	3h 41m 43s			Presenter
Marina Grennen (External)	8/08/26, 9:47:35 AM	8/08/26, 1:26:58 PM	3h 37m 50s	mgrennen@molloy.edu	mgrennen@molloy.edu	Presenter
Thomas and Joanne Fadale	8/08/26, 9:48:42 AM	8/08/26, 1:26:58 PM	3h 38m 15s			Presenter
Phyllis Parker (Unverified)	8/08/26, 9:48:45 AM	8/08/26, 1:27:11 PM	3h 38m 26s			Presenter
Samantha Duquette (Unverified)	8/08/26, 9:49:47 AM	8/08/26, 10:46:25 AM	56m 38s			Presenter
Suzanne Wall	8/08/26, 9:50:58 AM	8/08/26, 1:24:26 PM	3h 33m 27s			Presenter
Zachary Starr (Unverified)	8/08/26, 9:53:21 AM	8/08/26, 1:27:09 PM	3h 33m 47s			Presenter
Dawn Mac (Unverified)	8/08/26, 9:55:26 AM	8/08/26, 1:05:34 PM	3h 10m 7s			Presenter
Wendy Thompson (Unverified)	8/08/26, 9:55:50 AM	8/08/26, 1:26:58 PM	3h 31m 7s			Presenter
Tammy Aiken (Unverified)	8/08/26, 9:57:59 AM	8/08/26, 12:09:29 PM	2h 11m 30s			Presenter
Sullivan, Francesca	8/08/26, 9:59:08 AM	8/08/26, 12:29:56 PM	2h 26m 41s	frs9017@nyp.org	frs9017@nyp.org	Presenter
Maria Giganti (Unverified)	8/08/26, 10:00:16 AM	8/08/26, 12:02:24 PM	2h 2m 8s			Presenter
O'Neill, Kate	8/08/26, 10:00:33 AM	8/08/26, 1:26:45 PM	3h 26m 11s	KEnright@northwell.edu	KEnright@northwell.edu	Presenter
Maureen Chernosky	8/08/26, 10:00:59 AM	8/08/26, 1:27:02 PM	3h 26m 2s			Presenter
Chantale Pierre (Unverified)	8/08/26, 10:05:06 AM	8/08/26, 1:27:04 PM	3h 21m 57s			Presenter
desrene Fearon (Unverified)	8/08/26, 10:06:13 AM	8/08/26, 10:06:48 AM	35s			Presenter
desrene fearon (Unverified)	8/08/26, 10:07:48 AM	8/08/26, 11:10:00 AM	1h 2m 12s			Presenter
McLearn, Kaycee	8/08/26, 10:09:41 AM	8/08/26, 11:24:51 AM	1h 15m 10s	mcleark@ellismedicine.org	mcleark@ellismedicine.org	Presenter
Susan kossowsky	8/08/26, 10:12:18 AM	8/08/26, 12:26:46 PM	3h 14m 27s			Presenter
Mary Harwood (Unverified)	8/08/26, 10:12:26 AM	8/08/26, 12:23:12 PM	2h 7m 40s			Presenter
Contreras, George (External)	8/08/26, 10:15:20 AM	8/08/26, 10:54:18 AM	38m 58s	George.Contreras@sunywcc.edu	GC29@sunywcc.edu	Presenter
Desrene Fearon	8/08/26, 11:13:45 AM	8/08/26, 1:27:21 PM	2h 13m 36s			Presenter
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joanne fadale (Unverified)	8/08/26, 11:38:13 AM	8/08/26, 11:40:22 AM	2m 8s			Presenter
Mary Harwood (External)	8/08/26, 12:31:51 PM	8/08/26, 1:27:02 PM	55m 10s	harwoom@farmingdale.edu	harwoom@farmingdale.edu	Presenter
Yonkin (Unverified)	8/08/26, 12:36:17 PM	8/08/26, 12:50:35 PM	14m 17s			Presenter
Caceres, Ashley	8/08/26, 12:38:03 PM	8/08/26, 1:27:06 PM	47m 56s	Ashley.Caceres@mountsinai.org	Ashley.Caceres@mountsinai.org	Presenter
Dawn Mac (Unverified)	8/08/26, 1:05:59 PM	8/08/26, 1:26:56 PM	20m 56s			Presenter

3. In-Meeting Activities

Name	Join Time	Leave Time	Duration	Email	Role
New York ENA Secretary	8/08/26, 10:01:21 AM	8/08/26, 11:55:04 AM	1h 53m 43s	ny.secretary@state.ena.org	Organizer
New York ENA Secretary	8/08/26, 11:58:00 AM	8/08/26, 12:13:58 PM	15m 58s	ny.secretary@state.ena.org	Organizer
Eileen Breckenridge	8/08/26, 8:41:10 AM	8/08/26, 8:42:15 AM	1m 5s		Presenter
Jamla Rizek	8/08/26, 8:41:55 AM	8/08/26, 11:26:28 AM	2h 44m 32s		Presenter
Jamla Rizek	8/08/26, 11:28:15 AM	8/08/26, 12:35:44 PM	1h 7m 28s		Presenter
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Smith, Brandon	8/08/26, 9:39:57 AM	8/08/26, 12:15:07 PM	2h 35m 9s	smithb4@mskcc.org	Presenter
Smith, Brandon	8/08/26, 12:22:24 PM	8/08/26, 1:21:03 PM	58m 39s	smithb4@mskcc.org	Presenter
Laurie McLearn	8/08/26, 9:45:10 AM	8/08/26, 1:26:53 PM	3h 41m 43s		Presenter
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Caceres, Ashley	8/08/26, 12:44:22 PM	8/08/26, 1:27:06 PM	42m 43s	Ashley.Caceres@mountsinai.org	Presenter
Dawn Mac (Unverified)	8/08/26, 1:05:59 PM	8/08/26, 1:26:56 PM	20m 56s		Presenter