

March 2026

Dear Dedicated Council Members,

As we near the close of the first quarter, it is exciting to reflect on the meaningful progress we have made toward our operational and strategic goals. Your dedication and engagement are evident, as committees across the council continue to advance both education and advocacy in impactful ways.

This year, the Awards Committee proudly submitted seven nominations to the ENA National Achievement Awards Program—a testament to the exceptional work happening across our membership. Every day, our nurses are achieving remarkable accomplishments, and we are honored to celebrate them. I look forward to recognizing our NYSENA award recipients at the Awards Gala this April. I encourage each of you to continue acknowledging your colleagues' contributions and to watch for the 2026 nomination cycle opening in January 2027.

“**Setting the Pace**” is quickly approaching, and I am truly looking forward to connecting with many of you in person. This year's conference promises to be exceptional, featuring both returning favorites and new voices, along with hands-on learning opportunities hosted by the POCUS team and Mercy Flight. I encourage you to engage with board members, committee chairs, and one another—your ideas and collaboration are what propel NYSENA forward. It is also my honor to introduce the inaugural Ray Briggs Memorial Lecture, celebrating Ray's enduring commitment to advancing pediatric education across New York State.

Looking ahead, we are excited to launch a dedicated pediatric education track focused on enhancing pediatric readiness statewide. The inaugural session, in partnership with SUNY Upstate Medical Center, will be held virtually on June 17, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., offering 4 CNE credits. Additional details, including topics and registration, will be shared soon. We are also planning an upcoming presentation addressing pediatric SANE needs.

Our newly formed Leadership Development and Elections Committee has been actively shaping initiatives to cultivate future leaders and support emergency department leadership across the state. As part of this work, they are launching a leadership and mentoring education track featuring both state and national ENA leaders. We are thrilled to welcome Heidi Gilbert, MSN, RN, CEN, TCRN, SANE-A, who will kick off the virtual leadership lecture series on May 20, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. Heidi's leadership and guidance have already made a meaningful impact, and we look forward to her insights.

Please mark your calendars and join us for these exciting opportunities. **There is still time to register for Setting the Pace—we hope to see you there.**

As always, I welcome your ideas and feedback. Your passion and commitment are the driving force behind quality patient care across New York State.

With appreciation for all that you do,
Eileen Breckenridge, RN
Your 2026 NYSENA President