

Nithila Samuel
2026-2027 District Secretary
New Jersey District
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Third Official Board Meeting

Third Official Board Meeting
New Jersey District Board of Trustees
Saturday, July 25, 2026 | 2:00 PM EDT
Online Zoom Call

CALL TO ORDER

District Governor
Jake Schurmann

*This meeting was called to order at **2:05 PM**.*

CKI Pledge: Laws, Regulations, and Awards Chair Chris Ackermann

Moment of Reflection: Conventions and Conferences Chair Genine B Exinor

ROLL CALL

District Secretary
Nithila Samuel

District Executive Board

- District Governor Jake Schurmann
- District Secretary Nithila Samuel
- District Treasurer Anugrah Pande
- District Editor Aeryn Morrow
- Seabreeze Lieutenant Governor Yash Singh
- Garden Lieutenant Governor Reanna Marie Lawan

District Committee Chairs

- Conventions and Conferences Chair Genine B Exinor
- Kiwanis Family and Relations Chair Luis Romero Viola
- Membership Development and Education Chair Mairene Cisneros

District Committee Chairs (Continued)

- Service Chair Verenice Ramos
- Fundraising Chair Moira DeVera
- Laws, Regulations, and Awards Chair Chris Ackermann
- Technology Chair Nish Shah

Kiwanis Committee

- District Administrator Joey Giordano
- Financial Counselor Mike Olivo
- Garden Zone Advisor Brian Pluchino
- Conventions and Conferences Advisor Taylor McKay

Absent

- Metro Zone Advisor Valerie Kuglin
- Seabreeze Zone Advisor Lisa Arico

OPENING REMARKS &
INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

District Governor
Jake Schurmann

*District Governor Jake welcomed the following individuals:
Kiwanis District Governor Frank Cahill and International President Neha
Pasupuleti.*

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
& MINUTES

Current Meeting Agenda

- District Governor Jake** entertained a motion to approve the current meeting agenda for the Third Official Board Meeting.
- **Garden Lieutenant Governor Reanna** made the motion.
 - **District Treasurer Anugrah** seconded the motion.
 - No discussion.
 - Unanimously approved.



Second Official Board Meeting Minutes

District Governor Jake entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes for the Second Official Board Meeting.

- **Garden Lieutenant Governor Reanna** made the motion.
- **Seabreeze Lieutenant Governor Yash** seconded the motion.
- No discussion.
- Unanimously approved.

NJ CKI KIWANIS
COMMITTEE UPDATES

District Administrator
Joey Giordano

***District Administrator Joey** shared positive remarks about the District Board and congratulated all International Award winners.*

K-FAM COUNTERPART
UPDATES

District Governor
Jake Schurmann

Kiwanis Governor Frank** reported that the Kiwanis Club of Florence was chartered in June with 30 members. **Representatives of Key Club could not be present.

INTERNATIONAL
UPDATES

International President
Neha Pasupuleti

***International President Neha** shared that the International Convention (ICON), hosted from July 1st-3rd in Dallas, TX, had 200 attendees and 112 voting delegates. Passed amendments concern implementing lifetime dues, clarifying district roles, and developing a global district, **awaiting Kiwanis International approval** in October. A new International Board was elected as well. Trustee-District pairings will be announced soon (**Update: Trustee-District pairings were announced on July 29th**). New Jersey won many awards as well, noting specifically that CKI completed 55,000 service hours through the three-month Give a Day to CKI initiative, with **NJ taking first place with 43 hours/member** and TCNJ and Stockton placing 1st and 2nd across all CKI clubs.*



INTERNATIONAL UPDATES (CONTINUED)

International President
Neha Pasupuleti

*Membership has generally declined in recent years, though last year saw an increase. All districts were challenged at ICON to **grow by 30 members by September 30th**. This is the final year of the summer charter program (where April 1-September 30 charters have dues covered for the next service year) and the last year of the ICON 2024-approved dues increase. She encourages dues mitigation by reaching out to sponsoring Kiwanis clubs and reminds that **all clubs must be paid by December 1** to remain in good standing. Kiwanis Engage’s membership and invoice interface is currently under maintenance until **September 9**, and any new clubs or members must be reported directly to Member Services during this period. She noted that **XHungry** is CKI’s newest international partner, focusing on fighting food insecurity. She also shared that **international committee member applications** will be opening soon.*

BOARD ACTION

District Governor
Jake Schurmann

INSIGHT Budget

***District Governor Jake** shared that he, District Treasurer Anugrah, Conventions & Conferences Chair Genine, and Conventions & Conferences Advisor Taylor met last month to **review the INSIGHT budget**. The proposed structure is similar to last year’s, with **regular registration set at \$145** and late registration for \$150.*

District Governor Jake entertained a motion to approve changes to the INSIGHT budget.

- **Garden Lieutenant Governor Reanna** made the motion.
- **Seabreeze Lieutenant Governor Yash** seconded the motion.
- No discussion.
- Unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

District
Committee Chairs

*All **Committee Chairs** gave their respective updates regarding their committees.*



District Governor Jake, Seabreeze Lieutenant Governor Yash, and Garden Lieutenant Governor Reanna all gave updates about their respective divisions.

District Editor Aeryn, District Treasurer Anugrah, and District Secretary Nithila gave updates on their respective positions.

District Governor Jake entertained a motion to approve the Committee Chair, Lieutenant Governor, and Executive Committee board reports, except the Governor board report.

- **Garden Lieutenant Governor Reanna** made the motion.
- **Seabreeze Lieutenant Governor Yash** seconded the motion.
- No discussion.
- Unanimously approved.

*District Governor Jake passed the chair to **District Secretary Nithila** to present his Board Report. **District Governor Jake** gives updates on his position in his board report form.*

District Secretary Nithila entertained a motion to approve District Governor Jake’s board report.

- **Garden Lieutenant Governor Reanna** made the motion.
- **Seabreeze Lieutenant Governor Yash** seconded the motion.
- No discussion.
- Unanimously approved.

*District Secretary Nithila passed the chair to **District Governor Jake** to proceed onto New Business.*



General Reminders

District Governor Jake reminded the board to use the Google Drive folder, take proper meeting minutes, and submit directives on time. He emphasized succession, accountability, and issued a reminder about the strike system. District board forms are due on the 10th of each month starting in September, and he encouraged members to reach out for support as the fall semester gets busy.

Circling Reminders

District Editor Aeryn thanked everyone for completing Circling articles on time and asked the board to continue doing so, communicating proactively if submissions will be late. She encouraged members to reach out with any questions.

Voucher Reminders

District Treasurer Anugrah reminded the board to submit vouchers on time and to fully utilize the budget.

Service Hours & Report Form Reminders

District Secretary Nithila reminded the board to track service hours and K-Fam events in their respective trackers, noting that this is especially helpful for awards and that all board members are required to log a minimum of 50 service hours and attend at least two K-Fam events. She emphasized adding photos to the tracker and clarified that admin and external service count. She also reminded everyone to complete board report forms on time (due two days before each board meeting) and to communicate early if extra time is needed.

Service Hours & Report Form Reminders

District Governor Jake shared that ICON was a fun experience, highlighting exploring Dallas (visiting the aquarium and the JFK assassination site), and meeting both past and new attendees. **District Secretary Nithila** added that ICON was a meaningful bonding experience with attendees from NJ and other districts, and that workshops provided useful leadership strategies. Joey enjoyed the trip with NJ attendees to Buc-ee's and expressed gratitude for winning Distinguished District Administrator.

Club Building Updates

District Governor Jake reported that Fairleigh Dickinson University has prepared bylaws, Kiwanis of Greater Rockaway is willing to sponsor, and half of its chartering members have been identified. He also shared that Kean has an interested student and hopes to re-establish a club there for the first time since 2011. **Seabreeze Lieutenant Governor Yash** is supporting Raritan Valley Community College through contacts with Student Affairs, with Kiwanis of Somerset Hills willing to sponsor. Additional interest has come from Monmouth University, Princeton University, and Montclair State University through the Key Club to CKI form. **Garden Lieutenant Governor Reanna** is working with Rowan College at Burlington County faculty and planning a recruitment-fair table; Rutgers-Camden also has a potentially interested faculty advisor.

Divisional Rally Updates

Seabreeze Lieutenant Governor Yash and **Garden Lieutenant Governor Reanna** shared that the Divisional Rally will be held on October 17 from 12:30-4 PM, with Seabreeze & Metro divisions at Rutgers University and the Garden division at Rowan University. The service project will be snack bags donated to Garden, and the itinerary and ordering list are already set. Seabreeze and Metro details are still being finalized, hoping to use the Metro budget line for additional rally costs. Promotion is set to begin in September.

Winter Social Discussion

District Governor Jake shared that NYC appears to be the preferred option for the Winter Social, potentially meeting at Metro Park to travel together. He suggested creating an interest form with options such as a Chinatown food crawl, Gallery 32, winter markets, NYC pizza, the MET, Times Square, and ice skating. The proposed date is Sunday, January 10, 2027, and planning will likely fall under the MDE Committee. Promotion will begin after INSIGHT.



INSIGHT/DCON Updates

Conventions & Conferences Chair Genine shared that Rowan is adding an extra \$100 to the INSIGHT budget, will be sending 15 members, and is preparing a small balloon arch, and an interactive banner. Team leads have been selected, the itinerary is mostly complete, photo scavenger hunt bingo tasks have been drafted, and the supply list with prizes is set. She noted that most committee members prefer INSIGHT logo option #1 and is seeking final input.

District Governor Jake entertained a motion to approve the INSIGHT budget.

- **Garden Lieutenant Governor Reanna** made the motion.
- **Seabreeze Lieutenant Governor Yash** seconded the motion.
- No discussion.
- Unanimously approved.

For DCON, she reported that Stockton is planning a fellowship event without needing district funding so far and is coordinating with Verence, with a meeting with Taylor regarding this pending.

Kiwanis Family Picnic

Kiwanis Family & Relations Chair Luis reminded the board that the K-Fam Picnic is on August 2, with the District Board scheduled from 9 AM-4 PM for setup, event operations, and takedown. He asked everyone to sign up to bring items by Wednesday, July 29th and noted that the itinerary and District Board shift assignments are finalized. Members should let District Governor Jake and him know if anyone plans to attend without registration so they can be accounted for.

Important Dates

District Governor Jake reviewed the upcoming district dates: 8/2 K-Fam Picnic; 8/19 MDE Back-to-School Webinar (District Board required to attend); 9/26 tentative Dues Webinar; 10/4 Fourth Board Meeting; 10/10 District Service Day #1; 10/17 Division Rallies; 11/6–11/8 INSIGHT; 1/10 Winter Social.



NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

District Governor
Jake Schurmann

4th Official Board Meeting

District Governor Jake announced that the 4th Official Board Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 4, 2026, from 2–6 PM at Rutgers University. He noted that parking logistics will be arranged and shared closer to the date.

OPEN FLOOR

District Governor
Jake Schurmann

Seabreeze Lieutenant Governor Yash proposed implementing a \$5 entrance fee for the Divisional Rally fundraiser. After discussion, the board agreed that a competition-based fundraiser would be a better approach. A final list for the Thomas the Tank Engine fundraiser is needed by August 2, and promotion will take place at the K-Fam Picnic.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & DEADLINES

District Governor
Jake Schurmann

District Governor Jake reminded the board that District Officer monthly report forms are due September 10 and will be sent out in late August. Officers were also reminded to bring a CKI shirt for the water-gun fundraiser.

CLOSING REMARKS

District Governor
Jake Schurmann

District Governor Jake thanked everyone for attending! With a quarter of the service year completed, he encouraged members to reach out if they need anything.

ADJOURNMENT

District Governor
Jake Schurmann

Moment of Hope: District Treasurer Anugrah
This meeting was adjourned at **5:41 PM**.

