



Pennsylvania Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, Inc.
 PO Box 508, Gilbertsville PA 19525-0508 ▪ paafcs@gmail.com ▪ http://www.pafcs.org

PAFCS Annual General Membership Meeting
CONFERENCE CALL
JULY 27, 2025 | 7:00 PM

Meeting called to order: 7:00pm

Sharon Baillie, President

ROLL CALL

B. Pepe, Secretary

x	Sharon Baillie	President	x	Patricia Hetrick	Membership Chair
x	Michelle Tweardy	President-Elect	x	Patricia Hetrick	Professional Development Chair
e	Sasha Roble	Immediate Past President	x	Emily Brill	Technology Chair
x	Bethany Pepe	Secretary	a	Mercy Ross	Friend of FCS Chair
x	Elizabeth Gallagher	Treasurer	a	Florence Wydra-Gat	Standards for Excellence Chair
a	Jean Kelleher	Eastern Area VP	a	Sasha Roble & Michelle Tweardy	Outstanding Professional Chair
x	Charlene Smith	Central Area VP	a	Sister Denise Mollica	Scholarship Chair
x	Morgan Ferczak	Western Area VP	x	Bethany Pepe	Teacher of the Year Chair
x	Lisa Golding	VP for External Relations		Vacant	North-East District Chair
x	Emily Brill	VP for Internal Relations	a	Florence Wydra-Gat	Mid-East District Chair
x	Joan Hammond	Nominating Chair	a	Lizzy Saupe	South-East District Chair
a	Raeann Hamon	Student Unit Co-Advisor	a	Maureen Martz	North-Central District Chair
x	Michelle Tweardy	Student Unit Co-Advisor	a	Kimberly Graybill	Mid-Central District Chair
a	Jordyn Thompson	AAFCS Student Unit Rep	a	Raeanne Hamon	South-Central District Chair
a	Shelby Friedman	IUP Student Unit Rep		vacant	North-West District Chair
x	Ellen Bolton	Parliamentarian	e	Erika Graham	South-West District Chair
x	Teresa Brownlee	PDE Representative	x	Charlene Smith	Political Advocate Chair
a	Esther Aloia	FCCLA Representative	a	Mercy Ross	Northeast Network Representative
x	MaryKaye Rhude-Faust	Executive Director			

Approval of minutes:

S. Baillie, President

The meeting minutes from April 13, 2024 were distributed prior to tonight's meeting for review.

There are no corrections.

No discussion.

Minutes Approved

TREASURER'S REPORT

E.Gallagher, Treasurer

\$6,323.57 in our Citizens Bank checking account

\$220,731.97 in our Vanguard account.

Amounts updated 7/27/25



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Elizabeth reviewed our income and expenses with our Executive Director and independently confirmed these values are accurate.

No discussion

Committee Reports

A. President's Report

Sharon Baillie

Sharon has attended AAFCS leadership meetings online. AAFCS has instituted a pen pal exchange for members to get to know members in other parts of the country. Currently testing for certifications are being updated. Members are being asked to take tests to help with this process. Information about both programs is available at the AAFCS web site.

B. President Elect's Report

Michelle Tweardy

Michelle has supported committees in planning and implementing programs. Morgan Fercak and Michelle attended the AAFCS Fall Leadership In September 2024 and gained useful ideas to help build membership and engagement. Michelle assisted with the coordination of the PAFCS Membership Information Meeting in September 2024, FCCLA Western Regional Leadership meeting in October 2024, Northeast Network Virtual Conference in March 2025 and Student Unit/HUGS mentor activities. Michelle attended national and regional AAFCS, LEADFCS, FCCLA, PDE, and IUP events to promote membership. Michelle also participated in the AAFCS Pilot Certification Testing. Michelle's goal for the upcoming year is to assist with recruiting new members and engaging current members. Michelle would like to work with our Membership Committee to create a new member onboarding process that welcomes new members and encourages them to participate in association activities. Michelle is also planning a summer retreat for board and advisory board members in Summer 2026. Michelle is looking forward to connecting with members in this upcoming year. Michelle welcomes any suggestions from members.

C. Treasurer & Finance Committee Report

E. Gallagher, Treasurer

“ The finance committee continues to be mindful of the income and expenses of our association and as we near the end of the fiscal year for our association, I would like to provide the membership with several updates. Thanks to the guidance of our financial advisor, Scott Swinehart, our association remains in good financial standing, with our Vanguard account up over \$17,000* from this time last year. I would like to take a moment to highlight our year. This year the association was able to support two board members in their attendance at the AAFCS Fall Leadership Summit and we supported our Pennsylvania teacher of the year, Bethany Pepe, at the upcoming AAFCS national conference this summer. The finance committee worked closely with our district chairs and area vice presidents this year in the planning of our three area meetings in the Eastern, Central, and Western areas of our state, as well as several other professional development opportunities throughout the year. This year our membership



supported 9 undergraduate students through the HUGS program and 1 professional in a newly acquired PAFCS membership through the GEMS initiative. Our internal relations committee identified three individuals to which scholarships were awarded at our annual meetings: one incoming freshman, one undergraduate, and one graduate scholarship. As our fiscal year comes to a close, we look forward to a review of the association's goals and initiatives and how we can support them in a tangible way. The finance committee will reconvene in August to prepare the 2025-2026 PAFCS budget for approval at an upcoming meeting of the PAFCS Board of Directors. Respectfully submitted, Elizabeth Gallagher.”

****for your reference \$203,287.68 (6/2024) \$220,731.97 (6/2025)***

D. Eastern Area Vice President Report

Jean Kelleher

No report

E. Central Area Vice President Report

Charlene Smith

This year, Central offered two PDs. One was in the fall at Messiah University and was for educators, current students in Messiah’s FCS and Human Development programs, and high school students interested in a career in FCS. The other was in the spring at Cumberland Perry CTC and provided opportunities to network and share best practices as well as learn about the importance of play, nutrition opportunities available through Penn State extension, and effective uses of AI in the classroom. Both events were successful, provided ACT48 and PDUs, helped to increase membership, supported new and experienced educators, and kept retirees connected to the profession.

F. Western Area Vice President Report

Morgan Ferczak

Thank you. This past year, the west offered two PDs. One in the fall and the other in Spring. There was a PD at the Children’s Museum of Pgh on Conductive Threads. The PD was offered to members and non-members. In the spring, the West had a regional conference at LaRoche University. Both days were successful, the participants earned PDUs and Act 48. Additionally, both events recruited members, and several joined AAFCS. Respectfully submitted, Morgan Ferczak.

G. External Relations Chair & Committee Report

L. Golding, Chair

External Relations assisted with the coordination of the PAFCS Membership Night Zoom call in September 2024 to explain membership opportunities and recruit new members. The Committee met to support the Northeast Network monthly activities and make connections with external organizations. Work continues on a statewide resource for family and consumer sciences professionals. Lisa Golding has requested to leave the position as VP of External Relations due to added responsibilities in her role at PDE.



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H. Internal Relations Chair & Committee Report

E. Brill, Chair

The Internal Relations committee recognized recipients of our awards and scholarships at the area meetings this spring. We are proud to share with everyone the following honorees:

- Friend of FCS - Mr. John Kretschmer, Wayne Highlands Middle School
- Incoming Freshman Scholarship - Maddie Morris of Pittsburgh, will be attending IUP
- Undergraduate Scholarship - Jordyn Thompson, Messiah, FCS Education
- Graduate Scholarship - Sasha Roble, IUP, M.Ed. Career & Technical Administration

Members were also recognized for achieving milestone years of membership:

- 35 Year Member - Pat Hetrick, CFCS
- 40 Year Members - Dr. Cathy Bowen, CFCS and Cathy Knupp

Our goal for the next year is to increase promotion of our awards and scholarships in order to recognize more members, supporters, and students.

I. Nominating Committee Chair Report

Joan Hammond

The results of the elections have been tabulated. Congratulations to the following winners:

- Eastern Area Vice President is Florence Wydra-Gat.
- Central Area Vice President is Charlene Smith.
- Western Area Vice President is Morgan Ferczak.

We are currently in need of nominations for VP of External Relations who would serve in the position until April 2026.

The following advisory positions are currently open:

- North West District Chair
- North East District Chair
- Mid-East District Chair

If you or a fellow member would be interested in serving in this role, please reach out to President Sharon Baillie. Respectfully submitted, Joan Hammond

J. Student Unit Advisor Report

Michelle Tweardy & Raeann Hamon

Student members met this year as part of the HUGS mentor program. We plan to continue these efforts in the upcoming year and coordinate efforts for students to attend the PAFCS and AAFCS Annual Conferences in 2026. Thank you to our Mentors and their support of our future FCS professionals. Program recruitment efforts will begin in the Fall 2025.



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- K.** AAFCS Student Unit Report Jordyn Thompson
No discussion
- L.** IUP Student Unit Report Shelby Friedman
No discussion
- M.** PDE Representative Report Teresa Brownlee
New PA Academic Standards are approved and are to begin implementation by 2026.
Summer Workshops were held at Malvern and IUP in June
- N.** PAFCCCLA Representative Report Esther Aloia
No discussion
- O.** Executive Director's Report Mary Kaye Rhude-Faust
Mary Kaye has worked closely this year with the Board of Directors, Advisory Board, & AAFCS. She continues to work with Treasurer Elizabeth Gallagher, our accountants, and our financial advisor to maintain our financial records, and continues to update the PAFCS website.
- P.** Professional Development & Programming Committee Report P. Hetrick, Chair

All **regional events** have had Act 48 reported:

- Eastern Area *Food Preservation*
- Western Area *Textile Circuitry*

Area conferences have had Act 48 reported:

- Western Area: March 22, 2025 LaRoche University
- Central Area: March 15, 2025
- Eastern Area: March 15, 2025 Downingtown High School

Northeast Region Conference: March, 2025 There was difficulty in creating the evaluation and it may not have been shared. I resent but have not yet recorded hours.

AAFCS National Conference: June 25-28, 2025 Pat is unable to create an accurate evaluation until she receive a program/ agenda of the event. She is still waiting on that but Bethany will be sending her a copy shortly.

Pat applied for **PDU certificates** for all regional workshops and Area Conferences. Northeast Region and AAFCS provide their own PDU Certificates.

Pat would like to plan for a Certification testing site if there are enough interested individuals.

Respectfully submitted
Pat Hetrick, CFCS
PAFCS Professional Development Chair

- Q.** Membership Committee Report P. Hetrick, Chair



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Active Members

Since December, AAFCS indicates new members and now includes recently terminated members.

Pat contacted those to check to see if it was an oversight and one did immediately renew.

Conference Attendees

1. Non-members attending area conferences were invited to join and receive a refund towards the new membership equal to the additional costs of their non-member vs member conference fee. (\$10, I believe)

Information was included for the benefits of AAFCS Membership and options for financial support through GEMS and/or ESAE Community of AAFCS.

2. Student members received a thank you for attending and their support of our profession and received a sweet treat. Because of the scheduling and different conference locations, only one student was given that at the conference. The others were mailed directly. I included information about HUGS and shared that GEMS and ESAE Membership Incentives would be available once they were employed as a professional.

Longevity Members were recognized at their respective Area Meetings.

25 none

30 none

35 Pat Hetrick, CFCS Retired

40 Cathy Bowen, CFCS-Retired

Catherine Knupp

45 none

50+ yr member Grace Angotti

50 Robyn Wampler at 49 renewal at 3/31/25

All received a personal invitation to attend their regional conferences. Only Catherine Knupp and myself (both from Central) were able to be acknowledged in person, however the general slides presentation included all names

- 14 Active 50+ Letters of invitation were sent to attend their area conferences.
13 Terminated 50+ from 2020-2024 One listed as deceased (Joan Krause no address but membership through 8/31/25? Why terminated?)
- Terminated members with over 50 years membership were invited to attend at no cost. Most were contacted by email and a few by letters. List of names is available upon request

Respectfully submitted 07/27/2025

Pat Hetrick, CFCS



PAFCS Membership Chair

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| R. Technology Committee Report | Emily Brill |
| Will be getting back into posting on Facebook and Instagram and contacting members more in the coming year. | |
| Website and email issues for gmail are still being worked out | |
| S. Friend of FCS Chair Report | Mercy Ross |
| No report | |
| T. Standards for Excellence Chair Report | Florence Wydra-Gat |
| No report | |
| U. Outstanding Professional Chair Report | Michelle Tweardy & Sasha Roble |
| No report | |
| V. Scholarship Chair | Sister Denise Mollica |
| No report | |
| W. Teacher of the Year Chair | Bethany Pepe |
| No report | |
| X. North East District Chair | Vacant |
| Y. Mid East District Chair | Florence Wydra-Gat |
| No report | |
| Z. South East District Chair | Lizzy Saupe |
| AA. North Central District Chair | Maureen Martz |
| BB. Mid Central District Chair | Kimberly Graybill |
| CC. South Central District Chair | Raeann Hammon |
| DD. North West District Chair | Vacant |
| EE. South West District Chair | Erika Graham |
| FF. Political Advocate Chair | Charlene Smith |
| No report | |
| GG. Northeast Network Representative | Mercy Ross |
| No report | |
| HH. Conference Committee Update | S. Baillie, President |
| 2026 Conference Planning has not yet begun but will be in the next few months | |

Instillation of New Officers

E. Bolton, Parliamentarian



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Morgan Ferczak, Charlene Smith, and Florence Wydra-Gat, as Area Vice Presidents, you shall be members of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of the Association. You shall serve as coordinator in your area for such activities as you and the District Chairs deem necessary. You will serve as chair for the Association Conference and area conference.

Speaking to each of the incoming vice presidents on behalf of the membership, I charge you with these responsibilities. If you accept these responsibilities, please reply, "Yes I accept the responsibilities of my office."

By the authority vested in me as parliamentarian of PAFCS, I now proclaim you duly installed as officers of the Pennsylvania Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. Congratulations.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- AAFCS Attendee Conference Report- Bethany Pepe, Mercy Ross, Ellen Bolton

Bethany- First and foremost thank you for supporting me and allowing me to represent PAFCS at this year's annual conference. To be among such an amazing and supportive group of FCS driven individuals and creative thinkers was exactly the spark that I needed to rekindle my passion for what we do.

During the conference I had the opportunity to travel with a small group of attendees to learn more about the reducing food waste efforts and research being conducted on behalf of the USDA and a local KC organization known as Pete's Garden. This organization has a goal of 0% food waste from restaurants and suppliers in the KC area, and works to feed thousands of families in need. For more information you can visit <https://petesgarden.org/>

In addition to learning about Pete's Garden, I received a behind the scenes tour of Arrowhead stadium. We were met and led by Chef Erin who is the executive chef for the players and staff, has an FCS degree, and went on to earn her culinary degree from Johnson and Wales. We learned about this really cool composting machine machine which takes all food scraps from the kitchens, and turns them into usable compost for the Chiefs Garden. This is the garden that the organization actually uses to grow fresh herbs and produce for the team, staff, and elite who dine at the field or practice field. Chef Erin also explained that she is already menu planning for FIFO and the 100,000 people who will be in attendance during the tournament next summer. We even were able to see "Taylor's Suite", ride in her elevator, visit the press room, and even check out the decor and organization of the Chiefs locker room.

During the main conference I was honored to represent PA during the opening session presentation of the states. I believe Mercy already shared a picture of the moment with you. Fun fact, the girl from Oregon is an IUP grad! Throughout the conference, I was able to showcase my National Teacher of the Year Merit Finalist Project, along with my new friends who were also award recipients. I was able to talk at length and present my project to attendees during the National Teacher of the Year Showcase on Thursday afternoon. I was honored to have had so many representatives from across the nation share their interest and support of my project and desire to implement it in their programs. Speaking of which, if anyone would like my resources you can access them from my website :

<https://sites.google.com/parklandsd.net/threadsofdiversity?usp=sharing>

As far as the sessions that I attended, I was enlightened to learn more about the industry survey results from last year, and the new FCS Body of Knowledge. Resources for teachers are



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available from AAFCS using the following link <https://www.aafcs.org/about/about-bok> . I also learned about the Home Baking Association partnership with AAFCS and the Pre-PAC for Baking, ECE programming, supporting the fashion and textile industry and a new opportunity with MIT, and ways to support and encourage more students to Say Yes to FCS.

There is so much more that I can share but I did want to report back to you at least for now some of my highlights from this opportunity. Of course it was also a lifetime achievement of mine to be able to receive the National Teacher of the Year Merit Finalist Award, but this whole experience was an honor. I am sincerely grateful for each and everyone of your calls, texts, messages, and assistance in this process. Please know that if there is anything that I can do to share more of this experience or to help you in any way I certainly will do my best.

Ellen- has attended at least 20 AAFCS conferences and supported Bethany, Mercy and Jordyn in ESEA in all of their participation roles. She is also having a change of roles in ESEA and will not have to fundraise with basket raffles as she has in years past. She encourages all those who have the opportunity to attend future conferences especially next year at Louisville!

Julie Simons- first time PAFCS attendee to meeting and second year at AAFCS conference- really appreciated opportunity to volunteer with Pete's Garden, attended children's museum event with other ECE FCS teachers, also attended the fashion and textile sessions as she teaches a fashion technology course. Highly recommend going to meet others who are equally excited about FCS.

Sharon- has also attended many AAFCS conferences in the past and assures members that it is always a great time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

S.Baillie, President

The next meeting of the PAFCS BOD will be on Sunday, November 9, 2025 at 7PM. [Link to meeting dates](#)

Sharon would encourage you to visit our PAFCS webpage where we provide membership updates and information ([link](#) to member meeting dates)

Motion to adjourn: Joan Hammond

Second: Michelle Tweardy

Motion passed

The meeting is adjourned. Time: 7:47_PM.

Thank-you for joining us this evening. Enjoy the rest of your summer.