

SFMI 2026 CONFERENCE PROGRAM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

Fred Hack Memorial Golf Tournament

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

11:00am–1:00pm

SFA Board of Directors Meeting

Closed Session | *Saratoga 1 & 2*

1:00–1:30pm

New Member/First-Timer Orientation

Presenters: Marty Abrams, Director of School Facilities and Operations III, Herricks UFSD; Peter Riggi, Retired Director of Facilities | *Saratoga 3*

1:30–2:15pm

Sponsor/First-Timer Social

Saratoga Ballroom Foyer

2:30–6:00pm

Let's Go to the Hop! Expo Grand Opening

Hilton Gallery & Center Main Hall, Rooms 1 & 2

6:00pm

Open Evening for Purposeful Networking and Business Relations

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

7:00–8:30am

Breakfast | *Saratoga Ballroom*

8:30–9:30am

Opening Session: Built on Tradition. Education. Community.

Lansingburgh Student Choir, President's Welcome, Candidate Remarks

Opening Remarks: Doreen M. Harris, President & CEO, NYS Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA)

Moderated By: David Ciurczak, Director of Facilities III, Starpoint CSD | *Saratoga Ballroom*

9:30am–3:00pm

Information and Discussion Tables – Expo Style

NYS Education Department, NYS Department of Health/School Environmental Health Program, NYSEDA, Cornell University, NYS Civil Service | *Near Registration Desk*

9:30–11:00am

Let's Go to the Hop! Expo

Interactive Meeting and Presentations on the Show Floor
Hilton Gallery & Center Main Hall, Rooms 1 & 2

11:00am–12:15pm

Cornell University School Grounds Maintenance Track: Who Owns the Field? Governance, Risk, and Defining "Success" in School Athletic Facilities

School districts are under growing pressure to deliver safe, high-performing athletic fields with limited budgets, staff, and time. Too often, deteriorating fields are treated as an agronomic problem when the real issues are gaps in governance, unclear accountability, and decisions that don't fully consider risk, safety, and long-term stewardship.

*This two-part educational track, led by Cornell University turfgrass and urban environmental specialists **Dr. Frank Rossi** and **Carl Schimenti**, reframes school athletic fields as a governance and leadership responsibility – not just a maintenance task.*

Track 1 Presenter: Frank S. Rossi, PhD, Associate Professor at Cornell University. **Moderated By:** Keith Langlotz, Director of Facilities III, Williamsville CSD | *Broadway Ballroom*

12:15–1:30pm

Association Luncheon

Civil Service Presentation, Scholarship Presentations

Presenter: Anthony Rotundo, Assistant Director, Municipal Services Division, NYS Department of Civil Service

Moderated By: Brian Graham, Director of Facilities, Port Washington UFSD; Jack Rallo, Director of Facilities, Washingtonville CSD | *Saratoga Ballroom*

1:30–3:00pm

Let's Go to the Hop! Expo Grand Finale & Ice Cream Social
Hotel Gallery/City Center

★ Must be present to win

3:30–4:45pm

Cornell University School Grounds Maintenance Track 2: Managing Demand with Limited Resources: Stewardship Strategies That Protect Fields, Budgets & Athletics

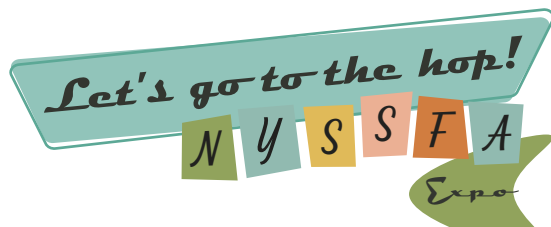
Building on the governance foundations of Session 1, Carl Schimenti focuses on what facilities professionals can realistically do under tight labor, equipment, and scheduling constraints. Using findings from New York school and sports field research, participants will learn how to prioritize stewardship practices that deliver the greatest impact on safety and field longevity.

Track 2 Presenter: Carl Schimenti, Urban Environmental Specialist, Cornell Turfgrass Team

Moderated By: Eric Strack, Director of Facilities III, Mount Pleasant CSD | *Broadway Ballroom*

6:00pm

Open Evening for Purposeful Networking and Business Relations



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

7:00–8:30am

Breakfast | *Saratoga Ballroom*

8:00–8:30am

Government Affairs Report: PLA Legislation and More

Presenters: Emily Whalen, Esq; Lauren Tobias, Senior Advisor, Brown and Weinraub Advisors, LLC

Moderated By: Jeffrey Mochan, Director of Facilities, Spencerport CSD | *Saratoga Ballroom*

8:30–10:00am

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

A. Facilities Manager: What Keeps Me Up at Night

with senior school facilities directors

Panel: Keith Langlotz, Director of Facilities, Williamsville CSD; Dennis Martin, Director of Facilities, South Huntington UFSD; Geoff Brown, Director of Facilities III, Central Square CSD | *Broadway 1 & 2*

B. Workplace Violence from the DOF Perspective

Pre-Incident Planning; Response to Action; Post Action

Presenter: Flora Covey, Director of Personnel Development, South Glens Falls Central School District

Moderated By: Dennis Martin, Director of Facilities, South Huntington CSD; Patty Cerio, Safety Coordinator, OHM BOCES | *Broadway 3 & 4*

10:00–10:15am

BREAK

10:15–11:45am

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

A. Lead From WHO You Are

Presenter: Dr. Joe Sanfelippo, Educational Leadership Speaker & Retired Superintendent

Moderated By: Marty Abrams, Director of School Facilities and Operations III, Herricks UFSD | *Broadway 1 & 2*

B. SED Safety by Design

Presenter: Kirk Narburgh, FAIA, ASLA, NCARB, LEED, CEO & Managing Partner King + King Architects

Moderated By: Matthew DellaPenna, Director of Safety, Security and Operations, Genesee Valley BOCES
Broadway 3 & 4

C. Leveraging NYSEDA Programs to Reduce Energy Use and Save Money

Presenter: Hannah Morgan, Senior Project Manager on the Efficiency Planning and Engineering Team, NYS Energy Research and Development Authority

Moderated By: Keith Langlotz, Director of Facilities III, Williamsville CSD | *Whitney*

11:45am–12:15pm

Association Elections | *Hotel Gallery*

12:15–1:45pm

Luncheon with Keynote Presentation:

Earn the Title: Leading the People Everyone Depends On and No One Sees

Presenter: Lt. Colonel Jason Harris | *Saratoga Ballroom*

2:00–3:30pm

Past Presidents Advisory Council | *Alabama*

2:00–3:30pm

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

A. Lead From WHO You Are

Presenter: Dr. Joe Sanfelippo, Educational Leadership Speaker & Retired Superintendent

Moderated By: Josh Reiss, Risk & Safety Officer, ONC BOCES | *Broadway 1 & 2*

B. SED Safety by Design

Presenter: Kirk Narburgh, FAIA, ASLA, NCARB, LEED, CEO & Managing Partner King + King Architects

Moderated By: Kristen Nannini, Program Admin for Safety & Health, ES BOCES | *Broadway 3 & 4*

C. Retirement: Review of the State Retirement Options

Presenter: Daniel Hans, Information Representative with the New York State and Local Retirement System

Moderated By: Andrew Ridgeway, Director of Facilities III, Sandy Creek CSD | *Whitney*

5:00–6:00pm

President's Reception | *Travers*

By invitation only

6:00pm

Tradition. Education. Community! Association Reception

Saratoga Ballroom Foyer

6:45–9:00pm

Tradition. Education. Community! Banquet

Saratoga Ballroom

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

8:00–9:00am

Breakfast | *Saratoga Ballroom*

8:00–9:00am

Officers' Breakfast | *The Boardroom*

8:00–9:00am

BOCES Breakfast | *Broadway Ballroom 1*

9:00–10:30am

NYSSFA Board Meet Up and Conference Closure

Travers/Alabama



BUILT ON

TRADITION EDUCATION COMMUNITY



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SCHOOL FACILITIES ASSOCIATION