

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT



2026

83rd BOYS STATE Leadership Program

June 27 – July 2, 2026

**University of New Haven
West Haven, Connecticut**

**DEPARTMENT COMMANDER
Mike Kellett**

BOYS STATE OFFICIALS

Chairman – David Greenleaf
Secretary – Michael Wright
Asst. Treasurer – DJ Ginter

2026
THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT
BOYS STATE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

- Day 1 – SATURDAY, JUNE 27 -

10:00AM – 12:00PM	REGISTRATION	
1:00 – 1:35PM	Citizens meet with Counselors	Assigned Rooms
1:45PM	Opening Session	Bucknall Theatre
2025 Boys Nation Senators		
	Shawn Carr Jacoby Fry	
2:30 – 4:00PM	Joint Session with Girls State Introduction of Staff Parliamentary Procedure “How to Conduct a Meeting”	Bucknall Theatre
4:00 – 5:00PM	Town Meetings	Assigned Rooms
5:00 – 6:00PM	DINNER	Market Place
6:30PM	Formal Opening Ceremonies Presentation of Colors Memorial Service Tom Honyotski, Department Chaplain American Legion Boys State Director Dave Greenleaf American Legion Dept. Commander Mike Kellett University of New Haven Corinne Merjave , Director of Community Outreach 2025 Boys State Governor Jacoby Fry Keynote Speaker James A LaCoursiere Past National Commander	Bucknall Theatre
8:00 – 9:45PM	Town/City Party Meetings Nomination of Legislators	Assigned Rooms
10:00PM	Citizens meet with Counselors	
10:30PM	Everyone in Rooms	
11:00PM	Lights Out	

- Day 2 – SUNDAY, JUNE 28 –

7:00 – 8:15AM	Morning Routine (Breakfast 7:00 – 8:00)	
8:30 – 9:00AM	Daily Opening Ceremonies	Bucknall Theatre
9:00 – 9:55AM	Senator Richard Blumenthal	Bucknall Theatre
10:00 – 10:30AM	Pictures by Town and City	
10:40 – 11:30AM	Municipal Party Nominations & Platform	
11:30 – 12:00PM	Election of Legislators	Bergami Center
12:00 – 1:00PM	LUNCH	
1:00 – 1:30PM	Organization of Legislature House Senate	Bucknall Gehring
1:00 – 2:00PM	William Tong, Attorney General CT	Bucknall Theatre
2:00 – 3:00PM	Legislative Committee Hearings Newspaper	Assigned Rooms
3:00PM	Recreation and Talent Show Auditions	
5:00 – 6:00PM	DINNER	
6:30 – 7:45PM	Town/City Campaign	Bergami Center
8:00 – 9:40PM	State Party Formation Federalist Nationalists Election of Chairman & Officers	TBD TBD
10:00 PM	Citizens meet with Counselors	Assigned Rooms
10:30PM	Everyone in Rooms	
11:00PM	Lights Out	

- Day 3 – MONDAY, JUNE 29 –

7:00 – 8:15AM	Morning Routine (Breakfast 7:00 – 8:00)	
8:30 – 9:00AM	Daily Opening Ceremonies	Bucknall Theatre
9:00 – 10:00AM	Susan Bysiewicz, Lt. Governor	Bucknall Theatre
10:10 – 10:50AM	Town/City Elections	Bergami Center
11:00 – 12:00PM	Completion of State Party Organization Nationalists Federalist	TBD TBD
12:00 – 1:00PM	LUNCH	

1:10 – 3:00PM	Legislature in Session House Senate	Bucknall Gehring
3:00PM	Recreation and Talent Show Prep	
5:00 – 6:00PM	DINNER	
6:30 – 7:00PM	Preparation Session for Registrars	Bergami Center
6:30 – 8:00PM	Special Training Schools	
	Municipal Officials Craig Zimmerman, Mayor South Windsor Ray Butkus, 1 st Selectman Bethlehem	Bergami Center
	Court Officials Attorney Norbert Church, Boys State Alum '69	Bergami Center
	Law Enforcement Officials UNH Police Department Lieutenant Halstead Yale University Police Department	Bergami Center
	Legislature Rep. Kara Rochelle, 104 th District Rep. Bill Hefferman, 115 th District Rep. Kathy Kennedy, 119 th District Rep. Joseph Gresko, 121 st District	Bergami Center
8:00 – 9:00PM	Town and City Meetings	Bergami Center
9:00 – 9:30PM	State Party Planning Sessions Federalist Nationalist	Bergami Center TBD Gehring
10:00PM	Citizens meet with Counselors	Assigned Rooms
10:30PM	Everyone in Rooms	
11:00PM	Lights Out	

- Day 4 – TUESDAY, JUNE 30 –

7:00 – 8:30AM	Morning Routine (Breakfast 7:00 – 8:00)	
8:45 – 9:00AM	Daily Opening Ceremonies	Bucknall Theatre
9:10 – 12:00AM	State Party Nominating Convention Federalist Nationalist	TBD Gehring
12:00 – 1:00PM	LUNCH	
1:00 – 3:00PM	Legislature in Session	Bucknall Theatre Gehring
3:00PM	Recreation Campaign Rally Decorating	Bucknall Theatre

5:00 – 6:00PM	DINNER	
6:30 – 8:00PM	Law and Order Panel Moderator: Kevin Reynolds Reynolds Strategy Group Amy Bepko, Attorney Kristen Miolene, FBI Community Outreach Patrick McMahon, Retired Deputy Police Chief West Haven Police Department Rob Deko, North Branford Detective	Bucknall Theatre
8:15 – 9:45PM	Campaign Rally	Bucknall Theatre
9:45PM	Candlelight Memorial Service	
10:00PM	Citizens meet with Counselors	Assigned Rooms
10:30PM	Everyone in Rooms	
11:00PM	Lights Out	

- Day 5 – WEDNESDAY, JULY 1 –

7:00 – 8:30AM	Morning Routine (Breakfast 7:00 – 8:00)	
8:45 – 9:00AM	Daily Opening Ceremonies	Bucknall Theatre
9:00 – 12:00PM	Polls Open Election of State Officers Election of Arthur J. Connell Award Problem Solving Court Trial Preparation Local Government Work Sessions	Assigned Rooms Beckerman Rec. CTR Bergami Center Bergami Center
	College Fair, Military Opportunities	Beckerman Rec. CTR
11:00 – 12:00PM	Major General Evon, Adjutant General	Bucknall Theatre
12:00 – 1:00PM	LUNCH	
1:00 – 3:00PM	Legislature in Session House Senate Gubernatorial Cabinet Newspaper	Bucknall Theatre TBD Bergami Bergami
3:00PM	Recreation and Talent Show Prep	
5:00 – 6:00PM	DINNER	
7:00 – 8:45PM	Court Trials	Bergami Center
9:00 – 10:30PM	Talent Show	Bucknall Hall
11:00PM	Citizens meet with Counselors	Assigned Rooms
11:30PM	Everyone in Rooms	
12:00AM	Lights Out	

- Day 6 – THURSDAY, JULY 2 –

7:00 – 8:30AM	Morning Routine (Breakfast 7:00 – 8:00)	
8:45 – 9:00AM	Daily Opening Ceremonies	Bucknall Theatre
9:00 – 10:00AM	Eric Russell, State Treasurer Sean Scanlon, State Comptroller	
10:00 – 11:30AM	Task Force Projects Supreme Court Gubernatorial Cabinet	Bergami Center Bergami Center Bergami Center
12:00 – 1:00PM	LUNCH	
1:00 – 1:30PM	Final Session of Legislature	Bucknall Theatre
2:15PM	Line up at designated location	
2:30 – 3:30PM	Closing Ceremonies Presentation of Awards Dave Greenleaf, Sue Larson Members of Boys & Girls State Commission	Beckerman Rec. CTR
3:45PM	Room Check-out with Counselors	

- Boys State Commission –

David Greenleaf, Chairman / Director.....	Bristol
Everett Shepard III.....	Woodstock
Joey Savage.....	Rocky Hill
Wayne Morgan.....	North Haven
Richard Olson.....	Stamford
Mary-Ann Bergeron.....	E. Hartford
Patrick McMahon.....	Norwich

- Boys State Staff –

Wayne Morgan – Staff.....	North Haven
Mary-Ann Bergeron – Staff.....	E. Hartford
Everett Shepard III Staff.....	Woodstock
Butch Hansen – SR Counselor.....	Florida
Matthew Flagge – SR Counselor.....	Washington D.C.
Callahan Hughes – SR Counselor.....	New Hartford
Noah Gee – SR Counselor.....	Suffield
Richard Olson – Counselor.....	Stamford
William Gibbs – Counselor.....	Hartford
Joseph Savage – Counselor.....	Rocky Hill
John DeGumbia – Counselor.....	Southington
Alexander Grey – Counselor.....	Rogers
Eddie Ansah – JR Counselor.....	Bristol
Deonte Williams – JR Counselor.....	Hartford
Shawn Carr – Jr Counselor.....	Harwinton
Richard Ferrari – Jr Counselor.....	Monroe
Jacoby Fry – Jr Counselor.....	Bristol
John Duca – Jr Counselor.....	Norwich
Rocco Paolino – Jr Counselor.....	Monroe