



**NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT**

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## **NYSPHSAA Announces 2018-2019 Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Members**

### **Fourteen New Members Welcomed for Upcoming School Year**

Latham, NY- The New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) is pleased to announce the members of the 2018-19 Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). This year, 14 new members will join the SAAC teaming with eight returning members who served as juniors last year. The committee is comprised of two student-athlete representatives (one male and one female) from each of the 11 sections in New York State. A total of 61 student-athletes applied to be members of this year's SAAC.

The SAAC was developed to encourage and facilitate involvement of student-athletes within NYSPHSAA. Over the course of the school year, the committee will discuss topics of concern to high school student-athletes and examine and develop ways to address those concerns to help student-athletes maintain a positive athletic experience.

One of the primary goals of the SAAC this year will be to create a mental health initiative to help student-athletes around the state who confront mental health issues. Furthermore, members of NYSPHSAA SAAC hope to expand and create student committees within their own section. Sections IV, VIII, and XI are among the sections who have begun the process.

The 2018-2019 Student-Athlete Advisory Committee is listed below:

\*indicates new member

<b>Section</b>	<b>Student</b>	<b>School</b>
I	Jacob Fridakis* Jessica Polvino*	Briarcliff High School Clarkstown North Senior High School
2	Toussaint Santicola Jones* Grace Wysocki	Albany High School Hoosick Falls Jr/Sr High School
III	Richard Francisco* Chloe Williams*	West Genesee Senior High School Holland Patent Central High School

IV	Jasper Koota Alli Miller*	Delaware Academy High School Bainbridge-Guilford High School
V	Ryan Reynolds* Payton Powers	Canaseraga School Dalton-Nunda High School
VI	Clayton Osborne Mindy Doktor*	Williamsville-East High School Akron High School
VII	Terrence Benedict* Allison Post	Ticonderoga Senior High School Peru Secondary School
VIII	Kevin Carratu* Olivia Rodriguez	Manhasset Secondary School South Side High School
IX	Deeya Modhwadiya Ryan Strobach*	Newburgh Free Academy Wallkill Senior High School
X	Andy Downs* Sydney Levison*	H C Williams Senior High School Norwood-Norfolk School
XI	Erin Holler* Matthew Weltmann	Smithtown High School - East Half Follow Hills High School East

“In the three years since the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee was formed we have seen tremendous results from the student leaders selected to serve,” said Robert Zayas NYSPPHSAA Executive Director. “This group of young men and women are dedicated to helping student-athletes across the state and give their teammates and fellow competitors a voice within NYSPPHSAA.”

The SAAC will meet via teleconference four times during the school year. They will also have an opportunity to collaborate in person at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual SAAC Summit held in Syracuse in November. The first meeting will take place Sunday, September 16.

About NYSPPHSAA (Twitter: @NYSPPHSAA | Facebook: NYSPPHSAA | YouTube: NYSPPHSAASports):

The New York State Public High School Athletic Association Inc. is a non-profit, voluntary, educational service organization composed of public, parochial, and private schools dedicated to providing equitable and safe competition for the students of its member schools. The organization conducts 32 championship events and governs the rules and regulations of high school athletics in New York State. Membership is open to secondary schools providing interschool athletic activities for boys and girls in grades 7-12.

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