## Student Ambassador Spotlight: Chloe Jackson of Franklin

It's safe to say that Chloe Jackson is a very active individual.

The junior at Franklin High School played soccer, basketball and ran track as a freshman, and now participates in basketball and track.

"The sport I enjoy the most is basketball," she said. "I say this because the FHS basketball team has a family bond amongst the team and the coaches. This makes it a lot more easy and fun to play."

Chloe is also a leader. She's very outgoing, and has been her class president every year since sixth grade.

"I've been re-elected as class president since sixth grade, which was back in 2018," Chloe said. "This position means a lot to me because the Class of 2025 has instilled their trust in me to be their voice when it comes to things that directly or indirectly affect our class. I try to bring an open mind to the job because at the end of the day, I, along with administration, want to make the school year as fun and educational as possible."

With such a perspective and background, Chloe was also an ideal candidate to become a NJSIAA Student Ambassador. She submitted an application last year, and was one of 19 student-athletes from throughout the state who were chosen to serve as a voice for the nearly 283,000 high school athletes in New Jersey. In their meetings, the ambassadors have lively discussions talking about issues affecting athletes with each other and also NJSIAA administration.

"I am a firm believer that kids should have a seat at the table because a lot of decisions directly affect us," Chloe said. "With that being said, I wanted to become a Student Ambassador because it will allow me to have a seat at the table and voice how the student athlete feels and views certain things.

"I am confident that this group will help better high school sports not only for the sports themselves, but for each student athlete involved in sports," she said.

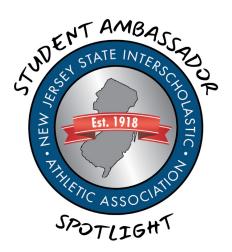




Photo provided by Chloe Jackson

Chloe has enjoyed the meetings so far, and has found one emerging topic to be particularly interesting.

"The most interesting thing that I have been hearing and that we've been talking about in our meetings is the expansion of flag football in athletic programs across New Jersey," Chloe said. "I found this idea pretty cool, but given that my school didn't have a flag football team, I just sat back and listened. A few months ago, our school approved a flag football team, so it was pretty cool knowing about the program before it came to our school."



Photo provided by Chloe Jackson

## Getting to know Student Ambassador Chloe Jackson:

*Favorite subject:* "My favorite subject is English, because I love to write. But my best subject is Math."

*Favorite Athlete:* "My favorite athlete is LeBron James. My second-favorite player, who is also a baller, is definitely Damian Lillard."

Favorite team: "My favorite team is the L.A. Lakers."

**Do you have any superstitions or pre-game rituals?** "My pre-game ritual before every basketball game is to fist bump both athletic trainers and our D.J."

How do you spend time on the bus on the way to an away game? "For close away games, I usually am listening to music and looking out the window. For far away games, I am listening to music and sleeping."

Favorite food: Mashed potatoes and broccoli.

*Favorite lunch at school:* "I bring my own lunch from home. I usually make chickpea salad, a sandwich of some sort and lots of snacks."

*The best thing about my school is...* "The best thing about my school is definitely the diversity."

What's your favorite thing about being a high school athlete? "My favorite thing about being an athlete is the social aspect of it. Having your teammates in the beginning of the season and having them become your family throughout the season is a great and special experience. I also like the bus ride home from a game we won or a meet we did well in."

*What's the best quality in a teammate?* "I feel like the best quality in a teammate is being trustworthy. To me, if there's trust off the court, field or track, then there will be trust when the game begins or the gun goes off."

What's been your proudest moment so far as a student? "One of my proudest moments as a student is being voted class president each year that I've run since sixth grade."

**Do you have a favorite sports memory?** "My favorite sports memory was during basketball season. One day we had a free throw contest and the coaches and parents got us all pizza, and for an hour and a half, we sat on the gym floor eating pizza, listening to music and talking."



Chloe Jackson (left) with 2023 NJSIAA Hall of Fame Inductee Ajeé Wilson

"My other favorite memory during basketball season was every day before home games, we would be given a pre-game meal and I, and the whole team, would sit in the events lobby listening to music, talking, and getting into game mode."

## Is there a sport you don't play, but would some day

*like to try?* "I would like to play softball. When I was younger, my grandmother entered me and all my cousins into a summer T-ball league when we visited over the summer. So whenever I watch baseball and softball, I think back to that time. So it would be fun to play the bigger version of the sport again."

Have you ever met anyone famous? "I met Rajon Rondo way back when I was 9. My sister Tiana played in a AAU tournament in Kentucky and one day we went to get breakfast and was just sitting outside with his friend eating."

If you had a superpower, what would it be and why? "If I had a superpower, I would want to be a time traveler. With this power I would go back into the '90s and listen to all the '90s music as it was coming out. I would also want to meet Tupac and Whitney Houston."

If there were 25 hours in a day, what would you do with the extra hour? "I would definitely sleep."

*What's the best place you've ever traveled to?* "A three-way tie between the Poconos, the DMV and Chicago. Really, anywhere me and my family go together."

**Do you have a career ambition yet?** "As of right now, when I grow up, I want to be a college athletic director. My backup plan is to be a sports contract lawyer."



Chloe Jackson (right) with NJSIAA Executive Director Colleen Maguire