



***Welcome to this week's edition of the New York Jets Community Relations press release. We're excited to share the latest initiatives and events that highlight our commitment to making a positive impact in our community. From growing youth football to providing opportunities for disadvantaged populations, the Jets are dedicated to fostering a spirit of unity and support. Stay tuned for inspiring stories and updates on how we're working together to create lasting change both on and off the field.***

## Nyzier Matthews Named Jets High School Player of the Week Fueled by Gatorade



Each week during the 2025 high school football season, the New York Jets and Gatorade will recognize a player of the week from the tri-state area. All players will receive a \$1,000 donation from the Jets and Gatorade to support their high school football program. Along with the monetary award, each recipient will be invited to attend the Jets vs. Dolphins game on December 7<sup>th</sup>, where they will be honored on-field at MetLife Stadium.

This week's recipient is senior wide receiver Nyzier Matthews of Brick Memorial High School. In a Friday night matchup against New Jersey powerhouse Toms River North, Matthews scored the game-winning touchdown in the final seconds to secure a 28-21 victory for the Mustangs. Matthews had nine receptions for 169 yards and scored three of the Mustangs' four touchdowns. Brick Memorial will look to add another win on the road when it takes on Donovan Catholic this Friday at 6:30 p.m.

## Dan Dunaj Named Jets High School Coach of the Week

Dan Dunaj of Seymour High School in Seymour, Conn., has been named this week's New York Jets High School Coach of the Week. Coach Dunaj will receive a \$1,000 donation to benefit the school's football program. Along with the monetary award, Seymour will receive an automatic bid to compete in the 2026 New York Jets 11-ON Tournament.

Dunaj will be invited to attend the New York Jets vs. Miami Dolphins game on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, where he will be honored on-field at MetLife Stadium.

In its 30<sup>th</sup> year, the Jets High School Coach of the Week award is given to a coach in the tri-state area who serves the best interests of the game through the teaching of sound football fundamentals, the motivation of young players to achieve, and the promotion of youth football by way of dedication to their community, their school, and their student-athletes.

Coach Dunaj and the Seymour Wildcats had a historic victory over the weekend, defeating longtime rival Ansonia High School for the first time in 21 years. The Wildcats stunned the Chargers with a 28-yard touchdown run from Quarterback Connor Shea with 21.9 seconds left on the game clock, securing a 21-14 victory. This win improved Seymour to 2-0 on the season.

Dunaj grew up in Derby, Conn., and attended Southern Connecticut State University. He now teaches health and physical education at Seymour High School and is in his second season as the head coach of Seymour football. Coach Dunaj and the Wildcats look to remain undefeated when they face Oxford at 7 p.m. this Friday.





## The New York State Public High School Athletic Association, Section VIII Athletics Partner with InSideOut Initiative

The InSideOut Initiative launches in partnership with Section VIII Athletics, NFL Foundation, and the New York Jets

The InSideOut Initiative—a nonprofit organization aimed at inspiring, catalyzing, and equipping school leaders and communities to transform lives through purpose-based sports—has partnered with athletic leaders from 60 high schools in Section VIII in New York.

"The New York Jets are proud to partner with the InSideOut Initiative and Section VIII Athletics to bring this opportunity to high schools in Long Island," said **Jesse Linder, Vice President of Community Relationships for the New York Jets**. "Our organization is committed to supporting student-athletes and the communities we serve, and this initiative provides schools and coaches with the tools to ensure school-based athletics are a truly transformational experience. The InSideOut Initiative aligns with our values, helping coaches prioritize character and personal growth alongside competition, and we are excited to support this important work."

60 high schools, which are members of Section VIII Athletics in New York, will take part in the in-depth training and development on Purpose-Based Sports. "Section VIII is excited to team up with InSideOut and give our entire athletics community tools to recapture the true purpose of educational-based athletics, which is the basis of all the athletic programs in Section VIII. Character, civility, sportsmanship, and dignity will define our programs."

Powered by the NFL Foundation, the InSideOut Initiative has partnered with 24 NFL Teams across 20 states. InSideOut collaborates with educational leaders, state athletic associations, and local NFL teams to inspire, catalyze, and equip school leaders and communities to transform lives through Purpose-Based Sports.

