



# Public Schools of Plainfield New Jersey

## Office of Community Engagement Liaison

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### **PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL STAR ATHLETES NAMED SCHOLAR-ATHLETES BY THE UNION COUNTY INTERSCHOLASTIC CONFERENCE (UCIAC)**

**Plainfield, NJ. – June 15, 2020** – Plainfield High School star varsity captains of the Girls and Boys Soccer Teams, were named Scholar-Athletes by the Union County Interscholastic Conference (UCIAC). Stephanie Pantaleon and Anderson Lopez were honored during a curbside event at Arthur L. Johnson High School, in Clark, N. J., on Friday, June 12, 2020.

Joe Skrec, UCIAC Assistant Director, said Pantaleon and Lopez are among “The Best of the Best” of Union County Scholar-Athletes. “We annually have a banquet that is the highlight of the academic sports year, since that was not possible, the UCIAC wanted the students to feel special by recognizing them here. Both students received a plaque, a gift watch and a scholarship check towards their college education.”

Stephanie Pantaleon a varsity starter for three years and team captain from 2018-2019 was the recipient of numerous awards since 2018 including being named to the All Star Sky Team and All Star Valley First and Second Teams. She was a member of the National Honor Society and the Jazz Band at Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies (PAAAS).

Coach Kevin Pellew, who nominated Pantaleon, said during the three years she played, “Stephanie has not only earned the respect of the coaching staff, but also her peers. Her hard work and determination to achieve will aid in her educational goals.”

Anderson Lopez, varsity goalkeeper for the Boys Soccer Team, was nominated by Coaches Ronald Umana and Eric Orlando. Coach Orlando said that Lopez has shown all the proper characteristics and attributes that a Varsity captain must possess, "As a leader, he maintained positivity throughout the season uplifting the entire team. Anderson is responsible for many top-notch saves that kept the team very competitive throughout the season."

Coach Orlando said that as a student, Anderson maintained a 3.2 GPA and a hard focus on college. "He is the perfect example of an elite student athlete: A fierce competitor who understands that education will always come before athletics. Good luck in the years to come!"

John Quinn, Director of Plainfield Public Schools Athletics, said, "This is the result of four years of hard work. First and foremost, in the classroom and then obviously, they are outstanding athletes that are moving on to the college level. Their accomplishments are a great reflection of all the time and hard work they have invested and their character. I want to congratulate their parents for raising such nice young people. Congratulations!"

Pantaleon will be attending Rutgers University in the fall where she will pursue a masters in Education. Her goal is to become an educator. Lopez will attend Berkeley College to pursue a career in criminology. He aspires to work for the U.S. Department of Justice as an FBI Agent.

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