



Hancock, Senator Talk Student Safety

Students Lauren Sokal and Alyssa Makowski joined Principal Lori Asquith in representing the Hancock Central School District during Senator Fred Akshar’s School Safety Summit on Friday, March 23, at the Binghamton State Office Building.

A roundtable discussion focusing on school safety, gun control, mental health and school resource officers drew 120 students from schools districts throughout the 52nd Senate District.

“No topic was off limits,” Akshar wrote on his website, www.nysenate.gov/senators/fred-akshar. “These young men and women’s ability to have meaningful, articulate and respectful conversations about important issues no matter whether they disagreed with one another was a breath of fresh air and a sign of what’s absolutely right in our society and our community.”

The summit served as a follow-up to the New York State Senate’s passing of a package of critical school safety measures earlier this month. The package is intended to strengthen security and help keep students safe.

The website www.nysenate.gov recently posted that “the bills increase the ability of schools to hire qualified security personnel; create new state funding mechanisms for infrastructure investments that improve school safety; increase access to school-based mental health services; expand state actions and intelligence coordination to protect schools against attack; and strengthen penalties for crimes on school grounds.”

Sokal, Makowski and Asquith had front-row seats during the summit, as seen a little more than a minute into Akshar’s video diary of the event, and later posed for a selfie with the Senator.

To see the video, click: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XejBwOts1dk&feature=player_embedded