



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Fred Akshar

Senator Fred Akshar continues “Akshar's All-Stars” student recognition *program **at *Seton Catholic Central, Broome-Tioga BOCES, Thomas Jefferson Elementary and Horace Mann Elementary schools****

FRED AKSHAR November 19, 2021

| ISSUE: **AKSHAR'S ALL-STARS**



Senator Fred Akshar continued the fourth year of his district-wide “Akshar's All-Stars” student recognition program this week by recognizing students at four Broome County schools.

Each year, Senator Akshar recognizes local students selected by their school districts in the 52nd Senate District who have shown great leadership, compassion, school spirit or improvement amongst their peers.

Since starting the program, Akshar has recognized over 80 students across school districts in Broome, Tioga, Chenango and Delaware counties.

At **Seton Catholic Central High School**, Akshar recognized senior **Anika Christensen** for her leadership and excellence both in and out of the classroom. Gifted both academically as well as musically, Anika is a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist and NYSMMA State qualifier. Not only is Anika an accomplished flutist and a member of select chorus, band, she's in charge of all of the Seton Catholic Central Service groups, constantly working with her fellow students to give back to her community.

From **Broome-Tioga BOCES**, Akshar recognized 8th grader **Domanick Taylor** for epitomizing hard work, patience and perseverance. Displaying incredible growth and improvement academically, socially and emotionally throughout the past 3 years, Domanick is described by his teachers as a polite, kind, caring and considerate student, always encouraging his fellow classmates and leading by example. Domanick has worked hard to manage his anger, express his emotions appropriately and overcome school avoidance to tremendous success in BOCES' Reclaim and Crossroads programs. His ultimate goal of returning to his home school district of Windsor is now on the horizon.

At **Thomas Jefferson Elementary School**, Akshar recognized 5th grader **Abigail Okogu** for being an incredibly hardworking student who shows exceptional dedication, responsibility, maturity, wisdom and caring for others, her studies and her school. In addition to excelling academically, Abby is always kind and willing to help her fellow classmates, solving problems

as they arise. If one of her classmates needs a friend, she is there. In addition to her academic pursuits, Abby participates in Odyssey of the Mind and plays viola in her school's orchestra.

At **Horace Mann Elementary School**, Akshar recognized 5 grader **Dante Osborne** for being exceptionally kind, caring and always trying to take care of everyone around him. Always going out of his way to make sure his friends, classmates and teachers are okay and happy, Dante is described by his school as a responsible, enthusiastic hard worker and a wonderful role model to his peers. During his All-Stars presentation at Horace Mann, several of Dante's classmates raised their hands to share how Dante had been a friend to them and others when they needed him and to express their full support of Dante's recognition.

Senator Fred Akshar said, "It's truly a unique experience to be able to shine a light on some of the amazing work and service that's being done by young people in our community. Whether they're spending their valuable time with younger students who need a friend or providing support and leadership to their fellow classmates, it's important to recognize these bright stars and let their stories be told. In a time when the nation seems so divided, I'm happy to support such a great recognition program that shows the best in our young people."