

AG Sunday Joins Carlisle School Leaders, Sen. Rothman to Spotlight Safe2Say Something's Impact on Pa. Students during 2024-25 School Year

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CARLISLE — Attorney General Dave Sunday — along with Carlisle Area School District leaders and Pa. Sen. Greg Rothman — recently <u>discussed</u> how the Safe2Say Something program helped students and communities during the 2024-2025 school year.

The anonymous reporting system, administered by the Office of Attorney General, offers a platform for students and other community members to provide information about bullying, threats and acts of violence, and other concerns within their school communities.

Launched in 2019, the program has fielded more than **185,000 tips** statewide — more than **32,000** of those were reported during the 2024-25 school year.

Attorney General Sunday and Special Agent Brittney Kline, director of the program, said the quality of tips improve every year as more schools and students are trained and experienced using the program.

"Students today face numerous challenges, and we need to offer them support — in their preferred communication channels — and Safe2Say Something is accomplishing that," Attorney General Sunday said. "The data shows that this program is being used by students speaking out about bullying, threats, and other concerning conduct in their communities. We also strongly believe that the program has saved lives, as we have seen recoveries of weapons in cases where threats of violence were made."

Attorney General Sunday joined school, community, and legislative leaders at a public event Monday at Carlisle High School to discuss the program.

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School leaders said Safe2Say Something has proven to be an "invaluable resource" for the Carlisle Area district, with more than 750 anonymous tips being provided since implementing the program.

"This tool has strengthened the partnership among the district, students, families, educators, and local law enforcement," Dr. Colleen Friend, superintendent of Carlisle Area schools, said. "We are proud of our students who have used Safe2Say to protect themselves and their peers. Their courage in speaking up has made a real difference. Their actions exemplify what it means to be Herd Strong."

"This issue is too big to be solved by one person— we have to work together," Pa. Senator Greg Rothman said. "Through the Safe2Say Something program, we are teaching our students that they have responsibilities to help police, and to help keep their communities safe."

Statewide, the most commonly reported behaviors for the 2024-25 school year were bullying/cyberbullying, suicide/suicide ideation, and drug distribution.

The Office of Attorney General in-takes the tips, vets them, then directs the information to the appropriate school and law enforcement agency for responsive action.

The Office of Attorney General also conducts trainings with school districts, with training programs and materials reaching more than half a million students across the Commonwealth.

Find more information about Safe2Say Something <u>HERE</u>.

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