



BETHLEHEM

AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT EDUCATION CENTER

1516 Sycamore Street
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August 12, 2024

Dear BASD Families, Faculty, Staff, and Community,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year!

Bethlehem consistently ranks among the 100 most livable small and mid-sized cities in America. The *2023 Livability.com Report* stated, "Education is also stellar in Bethlehem, with excellent public and private schools....Bethlehem residents feel the love all year as this tight knit community promotes togetherness and has a welcoming vibe for newcomers." The Bethlehem Area School District is proud to contribute to what makes Bethlehem special.

Through academic innovation, district traditions, and community partnerships, our 22 schools are a major part of the #BASDcommunity. We are also proud of our national recognitions. Whether it is our designation by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts as an *Any Given Child* city or the reporting of the *New York Times* on our leadership in evidence-based reading instruction, the BASD is known and regarded across the nation.

The BASD is proud of its robust academic programming and extensive extracurricular activities that provide a well-rounded education to all of our students. Our approximately 13,000 students come from many different economic, racial, social, and cultural backgrounds. We like it that way! Our students work with, learn with, and play with diverse classmates, preparing them for the world they will one day lead. Please see our 2024-2025 annual printed calendar (mailed to each home) highlighting the great variety of BASD programming.

With such wonderful diversity comes the need to focus on equitable access to learning. We define equity as giving each student what they need to access our academic and extracurricular opportunities. We thank the dozens of community partners who join us in that effort.

Working together with parents, our community and municipal partners, and our talented teachers and administrators, we continue to make Bethlehem a top-ranked place to live and learn.

Best wishes for a wonderful year!

Sincerely,

Jack P. Silva, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

