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PRESS RELEASE

Bethlehem Area School District Students Earn 25 Medals at 40th SkillsUSA PA District 11 Championships

Bethlehem, PA, February 6, 2026—While the Olympic medal count has yet to begin, the results are already in for Bethlehem Area School District students attending Bethlehem Area Vocational-Technical School (BAVTS) who competed at the 40th SkillsUSA Pennsylvania District 11 Championships, held on Wednesday, February 4.

BASD students earned a total of 25 medals, including 6 Gold, 11 Silver, and 8 Bronze, highlighting their exceptional skills, preparation, and dedication across a wide range of technical and career fields.

“We are extremely proud of our BASD students who competed at SkillsUSA and represented BAVTS so well,” commented Dr. Jack Silva, BASD Superintendent. “Their success speaks to the high-quality instruction, hands-on learning, and commitment to excellence that define our career and technical education programs.”

The annual SkillsUSA District 11 competition serves as a Showcase of Skills, bringing together students from technical schools across the region and offering parents, educators, and future employers a firsthand look at the talent and professionalism of tomorrow’s workforce. These students, among the best in their trades, competed for the opportunity to advance to the SkillsUSA State Conference, scheduled for April 8–10 in Hershey, PA.

Bethlehem Area Vocational-Technical School proudly serves students from the Bethlehem Area School District, Northampton Area School District, and Saucon Valley School District, and was proud to be one of six schools participating in more than 60 competitions, including automotive technology, culinary arts, cosmetology, criminal justice, electrical construction, graphic communications, plumbing, welding, and many more.

Gold medal winners will advance to the state competition and will be invited to a future Joint Committee meeting to be formally recognized for their achievements.

Participation in SkillsUSA competitions would not be possible without the continued support of educators, administrators, industry partners, and the BASD community. Their commitment ensures students have community-wide opportunities to apply their learning, build confidence, and prepare for successful careers.

Best of luck to all competitors as winners are announced, and congratulations to every student who represented BASD with pride.



Medal Winners include:

GOLD:

- Emily Feijoo, Freedom High School - Competition: Esthetics 2
- John Gonzalez, Freedom High School - Competition: Collision Repair Technology, Auto Collision Repair
- Madysin Grim, Freedom High School - Competition: Prepared Speech, Culinary Arts
- Yolishka Negrón, Freedom High School - Competition: Nurse Assisting, Health Careers
- Anjali Sookram, Freedom High School - Competition: Advertising Design, Graphic Communications
- Cole Stefano, Freedom High School - Competition: Marine Service Technology, Automotive Technology

SILVER:

- Andie Chamberlin, Freedom High School - Competition: Extemporaneous Speaking, Electrical Construction
- Madina Dostzada, Freedom High School - Competition: Nurse Assisting, Health Careers
- Marinellys Ibanez, Freedom High School - Competition: Medical Terminology, Health Careers
- Mark Keglovics, Freedom High School - Competition: Plumbing
- Nazarii Lozinsky, Freedom High School - Competition: Web Design
- Xander Tavarez, Freedom High School - Competition: Carpentry
- Daniela Arroyo-Mojica, Liberty High School - Competition: First Aid/CPR, Protective Services
- Ian McConnell, Liberty High School - Competition: Internetworking, Computer Networking
- Lunabelle Rivas-Alarcon, Liberty High School - Competition: Medical Math, Health Careers
- Jazzlyn Rivera, Liberty High School - Competition: Esthetics 1, Cosmetology
- Bridget Roberts, Liberty High School - Competition: Welding Sculpture, Welding

BRONZE:

- Kiara Alvarez, Freedom High School - Competition: Nurse Assisting, Health Careers
- Halidi Asheem, Freedom High School - Competition: Cyber Security, Computer Networking
- Jurne Bather, Freedom High School - Competition: Employment Application, Health Careers
- Prince Beck, Freedom High School - Competition: CNC Programmer, Precision Machining



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- Salima Rahman, Freedom High School - Competition: Cyber Security, Computer Networking
- Noah Rivera, Freedom High School - Competition: Building Construction, Building Trades
- Aubrey Simmavath, Freedom High School - Competition: Electronics Technology
- Jesiel Plaza, Liberty High School - Competition: Mechatronics

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For interview opportunities and more information, please contact:

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About the Bethlehem Area School District

The Bethlehem Area School District is the 6th largest school district in Pennsylvania serving nearly 13,000 culturally and economically diverse students in 22 community-based schools. The district serves five municipalities: City of Bethlehem, Bethlehem Township, Hanover Township, Freemansburg, and Fountain Hill. The district enjoys numerous community partnerships with universities, businesses, and arts providers that extend the schools' rich curricular and co-curricular offerings.