



# BETHLEHEM

## AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

### **FREEDOM HIGH SCHOOL**

3149 Chester Avenue  
Bethlehem, PA 18020-2896  
610-867-5843

April 27, 20201

Dear Freedom Family,

My name is Laurie Sage, and it is my distinct honor and privilege to introduce myself as the new principal of Freedom High School. I will begin my tenure July 1st, when Mr. Michael Laporta, Jr. retires. My dedication to this school, the staff, our students, and the Bethlehem community remains my top priority as I transition to this new role.

My post-secondary schooling occurred at Moravian College where I received a Bachelor's Degree in English and Master's of Education in Curriculum and Instruction. Beginning in 2003 and for the next 14 years, I taught English and served as a literacy coach at Freedom. I used my instructional background to design lessons for all levels of learners, while also serving on curriculum writing teams, as a mentor for new teachers, and in a team-teaching approach with a social studies instructor.

In 2017, I moved from teacher to Assistant Principal in the Student Service Center at Freedom, serving last names Gibson-O. In this role, I have been able to forge relationships with students over the course of four years. In addition, I am in charge of safety and security for the building, I lead a dual enrollment initiative for our 11th and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students, and I am trained in and a firm believer of the use of Restorative Practices and Trauma-Informed Practices.

As I transition to the role of principal, I will continue to build relationships with our students, staff, and community by being a positive, visible, and motivating presence. I will use my strong and diverse background in curriculum to be an instructional leader; one who leads by example. My expectations for student achievement remain high as I believe all children can learn given the proper scaffolding, supports, and opportunities. I will also operate through the lens of cultural competency, ensuring Freedom is a place of safety, understanding, and open-mindedness.

On a personal note, Bethlehem has been my home for 22 years, and I am choosing to raise and educate my children in this exceptional community and district. I look forward to growing my relationship with all stakeholders and welcome the opportunity to further our work together.

Thank you,

Laurie Sage

