

**Bethlehem Area School District
Freedom High School
Graduation Memorandum**

To: Graduating Seniors, Parents, Guests

From: Laurie Sage, Principal

Subject: Commencement Protocol

When: Thursday, June 4, 2026

Where: Stabler Arena on the campus of Lehigh University

Protocol: In order to have a dignified, memorable ceremony for all parties involved, we are asking that everyone adheres to the following:

- A. Upon entering Stabler Arena, all guests must present an official commencement ticket at the front doors. Admission will not be permitted without a ticket. Please note that graduation announcements do not serve as tickets.

Each student will receive six (6) tickets. Requests for up to ten (10) additional tickets will be granted on a first-come, first-served basis. Students who require more than the additional ten tickets may have the opportunity to request more during the second graduation practice, pending availability after all tickets have been distributed in student graduation packets. Please scan the QR code below to request tickets.

Please note: All ticket requests must be submitted using the student's BASD email address.

TICKETS

USE THIS CODE TO REQUEST UP TO 10
ADDITIONAL GRADUATION TICKETS



Every student automatically receives 6 tickets.
Complete this form only if you need additional tickets

Parents or guests who require accessible seating due to a physical impairment should contact the Guidance Office at 610-867-5843 ext. 53904 or 53907.

- B. Students will be instructed on behavioral expectations for the ceremony throughout the rehearsals. In order for everyone to hear the speakers, it is imperative that there is no talking by audience members.
 - a. The City of Bethlehem Police Department has been instructed to remove anyone who serves as a major distraction to the events of the evening.
- C. There will be concession stands open for the purchase of food and beverages within Stabler Arena.

Rehearsals: There will be THREE rehearsals to prepare our graduates for their ceremony. It is an expectation that all students attend all rehearsals so that they may be properly prepared. They are:

- A. **Tuesday, June 2nd at 8:30am** (following Senior Breakfast) - Freedom Main Gym
 - a. Senior Breakfast - 7:30am in Freedom's Cafeteria
- B. **Wednesday, June 3rd at 7:45am** - Freedom Main Gym
- C. **Thursday, June 4th at 8:30am** - Stabler Arena

Attire: Commencement is a special occasion that calls for semi-formal attire. Please review and adhere to the following guidelines:

- A. Students are encouraged to dress professionally. Appropriate attire includes dresses, skirts and blouses, or collared shirts with ties, dark dress pants, and dress shoes.
- B. Graduates may not carry personal items during the processional. All valuables should be left with parents or guardians, as there is no secure storage area available at Stabler Arena.
- C. Caps should be worn with the pointed (deeper) portion toward the back. Place the cap securely on the head, positioning it down over the forehead and then pulling it straight back so it sits level. Caps should not be worn at an angle.

- D. Caps must be worn throughout the ceremony, except during the singing of the National Anthem and Alma Mater, when graduates who identify as male should remove them.

- E. The tassel should be positioned on the left front side of the cap and remain there until after diplomas are presented. At that time, the Class President will instruct graduates to move their tassels to the right, symbolizing their official graduation. Graduates may keep their cap, gown, and tassel as commemorative keepsakes.

**Freedom High School
End-of-Year Activities for Seniors 2026**

May 20, 21 and 22nd

Senior Final Exams - *specific schedule attached*

***Chromebook collection - 5/20 + 5/21 - 8:30am to 12:00pm
(Main Gym Garage)***

Friday, May 29th

Seniors who will not graduate will be notified by their Assistant Principal and counselor

**Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be notified by the Principal*

Tuesday, June 2nd

Senior Breakfast - 7:30-8:15am (Cafeteria at Freedom HS)

Rehearsal - 8:30am (Main Gym at Freedom HS)

Chromebook collection - 7:30-8:30am (Main Gym Garage)

Wednesday, June 3rd

Rehearsal - 7:45am (Main Gym at Freedom HS)

Distribution of caps, gowns, and tickets will occur at the end of rehearsal

Chromebook collection - 7:30-8:30am (Main Gym Garage)

**All financial obligations must be paid by 2:30pm. Any student who does not meet his/her obligations will not participate in our graduation ceremony.*

Thursday, June 4th (AM)

Rehearsal - 8:30am at Stabler Arena on the campus of Lehigh University

If you need transportation, please contact the Guidance Office by May 29th.

**Thursday, June 4th (PM)
Commencement**

Arrival at 6pm - Class Officers, Student Council Officers, Speakers, Valedictorian, and Salutatorian

Arrival at 6:15pm - All graduates in caps and gowns

7pm - Commencement ceremony

**Diplomas will be distributed during the ceremony*

Friday, June 5th

Students who are not participating in the ceremony will be able to pick up their report cards and diplomas beginning today at 8am in the Main Office of Freedom HS (or at an arranged time after this).

**Freedom High School
Senior 2026 Final Exam Schedule**

To: All members of the Senior Class and Parents/Guardians
From: Laurie Sage, Principal
Subject: Senior Final Examinations

The examination schedule, listed below, will follow the schedule of classes taken throughout the second semester. The four blocks will be spread over two days. Students should check with individual teachers to determine if each class has a final exam. The only acceptable excuse for absence from an exam is a doctor's note turned into the Attendance Office.

Room assignments for exams will be given by your classroom teacher.

Buses will run at their regular times in the morning to bring students to school. There is NO bus service to bring students to school if they do not have to arrive until the second exam. **There is NO TRANSPORTATION after exams. Students are responsible for finding their own ways home.**

Wednesday, May 20th:

Block 1 Exam - 7:30-9:00am (students may stay until 9:30am if needed)

Block 2 Exam - 9:30-11:00am (students may stay until 11:30am if needed)

Thursday, May 21st:

Block 3 Exam - 7:30-9:00am (students may stay until 9:30am if needed)

Block 4 Exam - 9:30-11:00am (students may stay until 11:30am if needed)

Friday, May 22nd:

*Examination Make-up Day - scheduled with individual teachers provided a doctor's note has been received

**BETHLEHEM AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
FREEDOM HIGH SCHOOL
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
MEMORANDUM**

TO: All Faculty Members, Students, and Parents/Guardians
FROM: Ms. Laurie Sage, Principal
SUBJECT: Keystone Exams May 12, 13, & 14, 2026
 Final Examinations Schedule

Keystone and Final Exams Schedule

Students who are scheduled to take one or more Keystone Exams will receive a separate letter with specific testing information. The Algebra, Literature and Biology Keystone Exams will be administered on May 12th, 13th, and 14th, 2026. Only students taking a Keystone Exam will report to school. **Testing students will remain in school for the entire day.** All other students will not report to school. Twelfth grade students **do not** need to take Keystone exams. Please refer to the information below for the end-of-year schedule.

Keystone Exam & Final Exam Schedule	
Tuesday, May 12, 2026	Algebra Keystone - All day
Wednesday, May 13, 2026	Literature Keystone - All day
Thursday, May 14, 2026	Biology Keystone - All day
Tuesday, May 19, 2026	Primary Election Day - Teacher In-Service (no students)
Wednesday, May 20, 2026	Senior Final Exams (Blocks 1 and 2)
Thursday, May 21, 2026	Senior Final Exams (Blocks 3 and 4)
Tuesday, May 22, 2026	Senior Final Exam Make-up Day*
Monday, May 25, 2026	Memorial Day- School Closed
Thursday, June 4, 2026	Underclassmen Final Exams (Blocks 1 and 2)
Friday, June 5, 2026	Underclassmen Final Exams (Blocks 3 and 4)
Monday, June 8, 2026	Underclassmen Final Exam Make-up Day*

**Final Examination Make-up Day - scheduled with individual teachers provided a doctor's note has been received or provided the reason for final exam absence has been approved by the student's assistant principal*

Daily Keystone Exam Schedule	
Keystone Exam Module 1	7:30AM-10:30AM
Lunch & Break	10:30AM-11:30AM
Keystone Exam Module 2	11:30AM-2:30PM
Student Dismissal	2:30PM

TRANSPORTATION: During Keystone Exams, the school buses will run at their regular times in the morning and afternoon for Keystone Exams testing students.

LUNCH: All students will eat lunch from 10:30AM-11:30AM during Keystone Exam testing. The cafeteria will be open as usual during Keystone Exam testing.

CHROMEBOOKS: Each testing student will complete the Keystone exam on their BASD-issued Chromebook. Students should report to testing with a fully-charged Chromebook.

FREEDOM HIGH SCHOOL
FINAL EXAMINATIONS SCHEDULE (Grades 9, 10, 11)
JUNE 4th, 5th, & 8th, 2026

FOR STUDENTS: The attached final examination schedule will follow the schedule of classes you pursued during the second semester. The exception is that the four (4) blocks will be spread over two (2) days. Final examinations are given in the following areas: English, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science, World Languages, Business, and Health. In these subjects, all pupils will take examinations. Examinations will be administered in your regular classroom, supervised by the classroom instructor or an instructor designated by the administration.

	<u>SESSION 1 (7:30 AM – 9:30 AM)</u>	<u>SESSION 2 (9:45 AM – 11:45 AM)</u>
THURSDAY, JUNE 4th	BLOCK 1	BLOCK 2
FRIDAY, JUNE 5th	BLOCK 3	BLOCK 4
MONDAY, JUNE 8TH	Make-up exams in consultation with the individual teacher + Asst Principal	

EXAMINATIONS WILL BE GIVEN IN THE REGULAR CLASSROOM
Students will remain in class for the duration of each exam.

THE ONLY EXCUSE ACCEPTED FOR FAILURE TO TAKE AN EXAMINATION IS AN EXCUSE FROM A DOCTOR OR FHS ADMINISTRATION.

AUTHORIZED STUDENT AREAS DURING FINAL EXAMS: During the examination periods, no students are to be in the halls or main lobby areas of the school. If you are not scheduled for an examination and must be at Freedom High School because of transportation constraints, you are to report to the cafeteria. Once you have reported to the cafeteria, you are to remain there until the end of the period.

TRANSPORTATION: During the final examination periods on June 4th and 5th, the school buses will run at their regular times in the morning, and at the end of the second examination period, school buses will take students home at 12:00pm. There will be no buses to take students home after the first examination session on each exam day. There will be no scheduled bus service on Monday, June 8, 2026. Students who need to make-up exams on Monday should arrange personal transportation.

LUNCH: The last day for the cafeteria will be Wednesday, June 3, 2026.

BETHLEHEM AREA VOCATIONAL-TECHNICAL STUDENTS: Wednesday, June 3, 2026 will be the last day for underclassmen.