



Bethlehem

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

2026-27 PROFILE

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BETHLEHEM CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Superintendent

Dr. David Hurst
Deputy Superintendent

Mr. John McPhillips
Chief Business and
Financial Officer

Mr. Matthew Urban
Principal, Bethlehem
Central High School

Mr. Darnell Douglas
Ms. Kimberly Sparkman
Mr. Nick Petraccione
Assistant Principals, Bethlehem
Central High School

BETHLEHEM CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELING CENTER

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K-12 School
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Mrs. Chynna Smith
Ms. Carla Young
Mrs. Deborah Zeh
School Counselors

Mrs. Cathy Lee
Registrar

ABOUT BETHLEHEM CENTRAL

Located just three miles from Albany, Bethlehem Central is a suburban community of more than 35,000 residents.

The school district serves nearly 4,100 students in kindergarten through grade 12 in the town of Bethlehem and the town of New Scotland. The average class size in the district is 20 students.

Bethlehem Central includes five elementary schools, a middle school that serves grades 6 through 8, and a comprehensive 9-12

high school which has an enrollment of 1,304 and an instructional staff of approximately 120 professionals.

Following a year of hybrid instruction for secondary students in 2020-21 due to COVID-19, all students in all grades K through 12 returned for daily in-person instruction in 2021-22 and have continued to receive in-person instruction.

Well known throughout the region for exemplary and innovative educational

programs, BC is dedicated to preparing students to meet success in the classroom today and in the opportunities they will find tomorrow.

Bethlehem Central schools have been ranked #1 among Albany area school districts eight years in a row by *U.S. News & World Report* and are consistently among the top performing schools in New York state.

BC enjoys the support of active, involved residents who recognize their schools as the heart of their community.

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BETHLEHEM CENTRAL: AT-A-GLANCE

K-12 Enrollment

► 4,059

2026-27 Budget

► \$119,757,737

Faculty and staff

► 854

ACADEMICS, CHARACTER, COMMUNITY & WELLNESS

The district's four enduring goals – and its pledge to students and community – are academics, character, community and wellness.

Academics

Delivering instructional and assessment practices that are aligned to a strong and relevant curriculum.

Character

Fostering positive character traits that are essential to becoming contributing members of society.

Community

Strengthening family, school, and community partnerships through transparent communication.

Wellness

Enhancing social-emotional wellness and balance for students and staff by supporting active, healthy lifestyles and promoting positive behavior.

Bethlehem Central High School

Bethlehem Central High School is a comprehensive 9-12 high school that enjoys local and national recognition for excellence. In addition to academic success, the school emphasizes community building and social, physical and emotional growth. Twenty hours of community service are required of every senior for graduation. Bethlehem Central High School features a wide array of extracurricular activities and organizations, including music and drama programs that are renowned in the community and a full breadth of interscholastic sports.

The 1,304 students self-select from a wide range of curricular offerings including AP and honors courses. The entire curriculum handbook with complete course descriptions is available on our website. The school day consists of eight 44-minute instructional periods.

An option for 9th and 10th grade students who would benefit from smaller classes and further skill development is the EXCEL program. It offers interdisciplinary team taught instruction in the four major subject areas.

NYS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS OF 2027

Regents Diploma		Advanced Regents Diploma	
English	4 credits	English	4 credits
Social Studies	4 credits	Social Studies	4 credits
Mathematics	3 credits	Mathematics	3 credits
Science	3 credits	Science	3 credits
World Lang.	1 credit	World Lang.	3 credits
Art/Music	1 credit	Art/Music	1 credit
Health	1/2 credit	Health	1/2 credit
Physical Ed.	2 credits	Physical Ed.	2 credits
Electives	3 1/2 credits	Electives	1 1/2 credits

REQUIRED EXAMS (Passing score of 65 and above)

Regents Diploma	Advanced Regents Diploma
English Language Arts	English Language Arts
One Mathematics Exam	Algebra 1
Global History & Geography	Geometry
U.S. History & Government	Algebra II
One Science Exam	Global History & Geography
Language Checkpoint A	U.S. History & Government
	Living Environment
	One Physical Setting Exam
	Language Checkpoint B

Advanced Placement and Honors Courses

Students who demonstrate strong ability and motivation may be recommended for honors, AP, or college level courses. Students may also "self-select" for these courses. While the AP exam is required of all those enrolled in an AP course, each year some students elect to take an AP exam without having taken the formal corresponding course.

2026-27 COURSES

AP COURSES

ART

AP Studio Art Portfolio

ENGLISH

AP English (Literature)
AP English Language & Composition

MATH

AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Computer Science A
AP Computer Science Principles
AP Pre-Calculus AB
AP Pre-Calculus BC
AP Statistics

MUSIC

AP Music Theory

SCIENCE

AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Environmental Science

SOCIAL STUDIES

AP American History
AP Art History
AP European History
AP Human Geography
AP Macro/Micro Economics
AP Psychology
AP World History

WORLD LANGUAGES

AP French
AP Spanish

HONORS COURSES

ENGLISH

British Literature Honors
English 9 Honors
English 10 Honors

MATH

Honors Algebra II BC
Honors Geometry BC

SCIENCE

Honors Earth & Space Science
Honors Biology
Honors Chemistry

SOCIAL STUDIES

Global History 9 Honors

WORLD LANGUAGES

Intermediate French Honors
Intermediate Spanish Honors
Advanced French Honors
Advanced Spanish Honors

ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMS: Student Performance

In 2026, 530 students took 1,313 exams; 93% scored 3 or above.

Academic area	SCORE					Written
	5	4	3	2	1	
2D Art & Design	1	1	0	0	0	2
3D Art & Design	0	0	1	0	0	1
Biology	26	27	8	0	0	61
Calculus AB	8	14	13	8	1	44
Calculus BC	19	13	14	10	3	59
Chemistry	12	6	2	0	0	20
Chinese Lang/Culture	0	2	0	0	0	2
Computer Science A	8	4	1	0	0	13
Computer Science						
Principles	8	17	19	5	0	49
Drawing	0	0	3	1	0	4
English Language & Composition	58	38	17	3	1	117
English Literature & Composition	38	36	20	1	0	95
Environmental Science	6	22	12	4	1	45
European History	9	8	4	1	0	22
French Lang/Culture	1	12	11	5	0	29
German Lang/Culture	1	0	0	0	0	1
Human Geography	10	5	3	0	0	18
Japanese Lang/Culture	0	0	1	0	0	1
Macroeconomics	12	22	17	5	0	56
Microeconomics	17	33	21	8	0	79
Music Theory	3	4	6	3	1	17
Physics 1	3	2	1	1	0	7
Physics 2	1	2	0	0	2	5
Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism	0	0	0	2	0	2
Physics C: Mechanics	0	0	2	3	0	5
Pre-Calculus	104	30	8	0	0	142
Psychology	31	50	22	4	1	108
Spanish Lang/Culture	6	5	10	0	0	21
Statistics	41	15	11	3	0	70
U.S. History	44	71	23	8	0	146
World History: Modern	38	31	3	0	0	72

SAT and ACT Score Information

CLASS OF 2026 SAT Score Report	
SAT Scores	Percentage of Students
1400 – 1600	27%
1200 – 1390	41%
1000 – 1190	28%
800 – 990	4%
600 – 790	0%
400 – 590	0%
Overall Mean Scores	
Mean Scores	1280
Mean Reading & Writing Scores	630
Mean Math Scores	650

Number Taking SAT = 213

CLASS OF 2026 ACT Score Quartile Values					
QUARTILE	ENGLISH	MATH	READING	SCIENCE	COMPOSITE
75th Percentile =	35	34	34	34	34
50th Percentile =	31	33	32	33	32
25th Percentile =	28	32	29	32	31

Number Taking ACT = 16

BETHLEHEM CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 2026 Post Graduation Plans

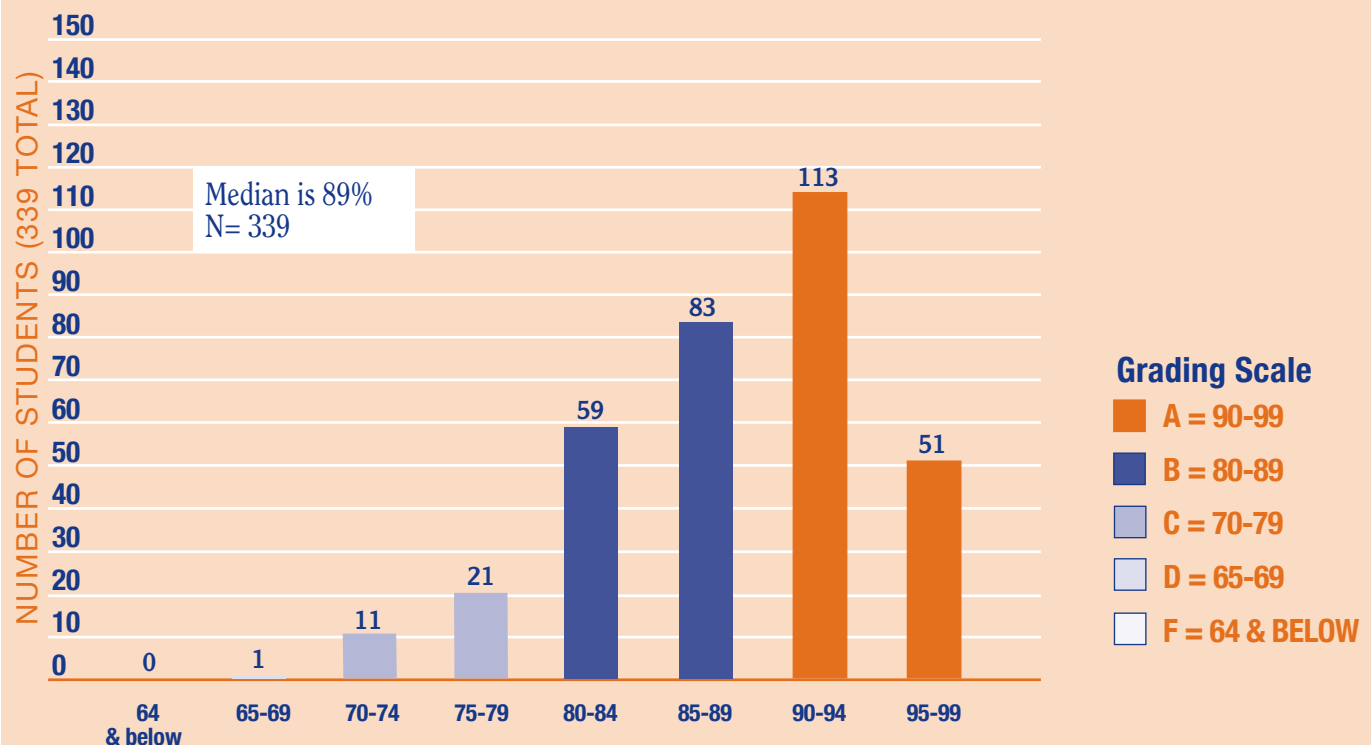
Four-year college or university77%

Two-year college10%

Military, Employment and Other13%

Class of 2027 Academic Averages

Class of 2027 — 3-year Unweighted Academic Averages



BCHS Student Achievement

BCHS students distinguish themselves on stage and in the visual arts; in the classroom and in extracurricular settings; and through various acts of community service and involvement. Below is a sampling of BCHS students' accomplishments in recent years.

- In the Class of 2026, one student was named a National Merit Scholar, four students were National Merit Scholarship finalists and 16 were National Merit Commended Students.
- In 2026, 160 students were named AP Scholars with Distinction, 71 were named AP Scholars with Honor, and 66 were named AP Scholars. 026 AP scholars: 160 scholars with distinction, 71 scholars with honors, 66 scholars.
- Bethlehem Central High School was rated the top high school in the Albany metro area by U.S. News & World Report in 2026.
- In 2025, two students earned first and second place in New York State in the SIFMA Stock Market Game, out of more than 4,500 competitors.
- In 2026, 140 students were honored for world language proficiency, earning recognition for their achievements on the National Spanish Exam and in the National French Contest.
- In 2026, 68 students were awarded the Seal of Biliteracy for achieving proficiency in more than one language.
- A team of seven students earned sixth place at the 2026 Odyssey of the Mind World Finals, finishing among top teams internationally.
- Three students were NYSSMA Conference All-State Musicians in 2025-2026. A total of 20 students were selected as Area All-State musicians.
- Nine students featured at the 27th Annual High School Regional, a juried art show held at the Albany Center Gallery.
- A team of students finished in the top five in the 37th annual Siena College High School Computer Programming Contest in 2025.
- In 2025, a student earned second place in the Empire State Youth Orchestra's Annual Concerto Competition and performed a movement from their winning concerto with the Empire State Repertory Orchestra.
- More than two dozen high school students are trained as peer leaders through the National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI). They offer peer-led Kindness Assemblies to middle school students twice a year.

Colleges and Universities Accepting Bethlehem Central High School Graduates

Graduates from 2022-2026 were accepted to more than 150 colleges including:

Adelphi University
University of Alabama
Albany College of Pharmacy
Alfred University
American University
Amherst College
Appalachian State University
Bard College
Bennington College
Boston College
Boston University
Brandeis University
Brown University
Bryant University
Bucknell University
Canisius University
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
University of Central Florida
Champlain College
College of Charleston
Clark University
Clarkson University
Coastal Carolina University
Clemson University
College of the Holy Cross
University of Colorado
Columbia University
University of Connecticut
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
University of Delaware
University of Denver
Dickinson College
Drexel University
Elmira College
Elon University
Emerson College
Emmanuel College
Endicott College
Fairfield University
Florida State University

Fordham University
The George Washington University
Gettysburg College
Hamilton College
Hartwick College
University of Hartford
High Point University
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
Hofstra University
Iona University
Ithaca College
James Madison University
Johns Hopkins University
Johnson & Wales University
Keenan State College
University of Kentucky
Kenyon College
Keuka College
Lafayette College
Lehigh University
Le Moyne College
Louisiana State University
Loyola University Maryland
University of Maine
Manhattan College
Marist College
Marymount Manhattan College
University of Maryland
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
McGill University
Merrimack College
University of Miami
University of Michigan
Michigan State University
Middlebury College
Montclair State University
Mount Holyoke College
Muhlenberg College
Nazareth University

University of New England
University of New Hampshire
University of New Haven
New Jersey Institute of Technology
University of North Carolina
Niagara University
Northeastern University
Oberlin College
Ohio State University
University of Notre Dame
Pace University
University of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania State University
University of Pittsburgh
Pratt Institute
Providence College
Purdue University
Quinnipiac University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Roberts Wesleyan College
Rochester Institute of Technology
University of Rhode Island
University of Rochester
Roger Williams University
Rutgers University
Sacred Heart University
Saint Joseph's University
Salve Regina University
Savannah College of Art & Design
Seton Hall University
Siena University
Skidmore College
University of South Carolina
University of South Florida
University of Southern California
St. Bonaventure University
St. John Fisher College
St. John's University
St. Lawrence University
Stonehill College
St. Michael's College

The College of Saint Rose
SUNY
All 4-Year Campuses
Adirondack Community College
Hudson Valley Community College
Syracuse University
Temple University
The Sage Colleges
Tufts University
Union College
Utica University
Vassar College
University of Tampa
University of Tennessee
University of Toronto
University of Vermont
Villanova University
University of Oregon
University of Virginia
Vermont State University
Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Wake Forest University
Wellesley College
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Wesleyan University
West Virginia University
Western New England University
Williams College
University of Wisconsin
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Yale University

