



Freedom Grads ---> Future Stars

Dean Ward, a 2017 graduate of Freedom Area High School, attended the Community College of Beaver County, School of Aviation Sciences and graduated with an Associate's degree in Applied Science: Air Traffic Control. While at Freedom, he was a member of the football and wrestling teams. Dean was also a member of the 2017 Homecoming Court, Chess Club, and Freedom Fortune 500 Screen Printing. He also attended the Beaver County Career and Technical Center to study welding. Dean was captain of both the football and wrestling teams and was recognized as the 2017 Earl Genova Award for football.

Dean earned his FAA Certified Private Pilot license in August 2018 and his Certified Control Tower Operator license in April 2019. He received the 2017 Building Trades' Scholarship and the following scholarships for higher learning: Asa Donaldson Scholarship Lil' Bulldogs Football and the Freedom Varsity Football Scholar Athlete Award.

Dean was direct-hired at the Beaver County Airport in May 2019 and worked part time in the control tower until April 2020, when the coronavirus temporarily shut down operations at the control tower. Midwest ATC, a contract air traffic control company that operates nearly one hundred air traffic control facilities world-wide offered Dean a full-time position at the Lancaster (PA) Airport where he started in May 2020.

Dean's thoughts on Freedom, "My education at Freedom was most enjoyable because of the dedicated educators involved every step of the way. Being a small school, the educators took a vested interest in each students' growth. From the administration to the teachers and everyone in-between, a true sense of community exists. Parents should enroll their students at Freedom, knowing that their child's growth will be fostered year in and year out. While being a small-school, Freedom provides quality education to those who seek it, and a great community to those who embrace it."