

Saucon Valley School District
Academic and Personnel Committee
December 15, 2020 – 6 pm
ZOOM Meeting

Welcome to the meeting of the Academic and Personnel Committee. Our objective is to serve the students, parents, and residents of our community. You are an important part of this meeting and we look forward to your questions and comments.

We are all here for the same reason. All opinions are welcomed and equally valuable. Our only request is that we address each other with civility and respect. Our courtesy toward each other is the best way to show our students how much we respect them as well.

**Committee Members - Susan Baxter, Cedric Dettmar, Tracy Magnotta,
Shamim Pakzad**

Committee Agenda

- I. Call to the Order – Tracy Magnotta, Committee Chair**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Recording of Attendance – Tracy Magnotta, Committee Chair**
- IV. Motion to Approve Agenda**
- V. Approval of Minutes – November 17, 2020**
- VI. Courtesy of the Floor to Visitors – Agenda Items Only – Visitors should state their name and address**
- VII. Discussion**
 1. 2021-22 High School Schedule
 2. 2021-22 High School Program of Studies
- VIII. New Business**
- IX. Old Business**

X. Citizens' Inquiries and Comments – *Visitors should state their name and address.*

XI. Announcements

Future Meetings ~

Next Meeting Dates: Meetings will begin at 6 pm.

Wednesday, January 6, 2021	Tuesday, January 19, 2021
Wednesday, February 3, 2021	Tuesday, February 16, 2021
Wednesday, March 3, 2021	Tuesday, March 16, 2021
Wednesday, April 7, 2021	Tuesday, April 20, 2021
Wednesday, May 5, 2021	Tuesday, May 18, 2021
Wednesday, June 2, 2021	Tuesday, June 15, 2021

XII. Motion to Adjourn Meeting

The Saucon Valley School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or handicap.

**Saucon Valley School District
Academic and Personnel Committee
Minutes of November 17, 2020 Zoom Meeting**

Present were Academic and Personnel Committee Board Members: Susan Baxter, Cedric Dettmar, Shamim Pakzad, and Tracy Magnotta. Also present were: Administrators Craig Butler, Jaime Vlasaty, Amy Braxmeier, Tamara Gary, and School Directors Sandra Miller and Shawn Welch.

Meeting commenced at 5:02 pm.

Mr. Dettmar, second by Dr. Pakzad, made a motion to approve the agenda.

Mr. Dettmar, second by Dr. Pakzad, made a motion to approve the minutes of November 1, 2020.

I. High School Program of Studies

Ms. Gary walked the committee through the POS document covering various areas such as grading, graduation requirements, scheduling, programming, advanced placement courses, math pathways, schedule change procedure, virtual programming, standardized testing including PSAT and SAT, and all departmental offerings. BAVTS courses and changes were also mentioned and highlighted by Ms. Gary. New courses for the high school for the 2021-2022 school year were also presented and discussed.

Director Baxter brought up a concern about the schedule change process and it being somewhat complicated and not user friendly for students and parents. Dr. Butler stated the process will be reviewed.

Concerns were raised by Directors Dettmar and Pakzad regarding the math pathways, the sequencing of math courses, some courses not meeting all year and problems with student progress and preparation for subsequent courses and how this may impede the success of some students due to a lack of strong foundational knowledge. This issue will be discussed further at a subsequent meeting.

The committee also raised the topic of the number of electives available at the high school and whether consideration should be given to removing elective courses that have not run for consecutive years.

The committee discussed and approved to start time of the Academic and Personnel Committee meetings to begin at 6 pm instead of 5 pm for all meetings moving forward.

Meeting adjourned at 6:43. Unanimously approved.

Next Meetings:

Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 6 pm

Tuesday, December 15, 2020 at 6 pm