

# Parent | Student Handbook 2007-08

Saucon Valley Elementary School  
2085 Polk Valley Road  
Hellertown, PA 18055  
(610) 838-7001 ext. 4701 or 4702  
Attendance Office ext. 3710  
Weather Alert ext. 1234  
Lunch Menu ext. 2345

Saucon Valley  
Panthers WEBPAGE

[www.svpanthers.org](http://www.svpanthers.org)

Principal Roseria Frey  
Assistant Principal Lynn Cheddar  
Counselor K-2 Bonnie Mims  
Counselor 3-5 Patti Deutsch  
Coordinator of Academic Services K-4 Vivian Demko  
Coordinator of Academic Services 5-8 Laura Tooker  
Language Arts Coordinator K-8 Karen Swartz  
Math Coordinator K-12 Isabel Resende

## Regular School Hours

Extended Day Kindergarten and Grades One to Five: 8:50 to 3:10

A.M. Kindergarten: 8:50 to 11:30

P.M. Kindergarten: 12:30 to 3:10

## District-Wide Early Dismissal Days

On **SCHEDULED** District-Wide Early Dismissal Days,

Grades K-5 school hours will be as follows: 8:50-11:30

The Kindergarten modified schedule will be:

A.M. Kindergarten: 8:50 to 10:00

P.M. Kindergarten: 10:15 to 11:30

## Modified Kindergarten Schedule

Two Hour Delay as follows:

**A.M. Kindergarten:** 11:00 A.M. to 12:35 P.M.

**P.M. Kindergarten:** 1:35 P.M. to 3:10 P.M.

**Extended Day Kindergarten:** Follow the same schedule as Grades One to Five

## WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

It is our pleasure to welcome you to the Saucon Valley School District. We have great pride in our schools as well as in the students, parents and staff that constitute our school community. We hope that you will share in this feeling.

As your child attends Saucon Valley Elementary School, you will undoubtedly have many questions. We have tried to anticipate some of these and worked to answer them in this handbook. If you need additional information, our staff is ready to help you.

We are committed to providing a safe and secure learning environment while maintaining a high level of academic expectations. Please join us to work together to ensure a successful year for your child and our school community.

In the meantime, welcome to our school, and thank you for entrusting your child to us.

# ADMISSION/REGISTRATION

## Immunizations Needed

Tetanus/Diphtheria	4*
Polio	3
Hepatitis-B	3
Measles	2
Rubella	2
Mumps	2
Chicken Pox	1**

\* the 4th dose of Diphtheria/Tetanus must be after 4th birthday

\*\* If child has not had the Chicken Pox disease, he/she must be immunized before first entry into school

## ADMISSION TO OUR SCHOOL

### Registration

**Kindergarten:** A child is eligible for admission to Kindergarten if s/he has attained the age of five (5) years before September 1 of the Kindergarten year. Children whose 5th birthday occurs between September 1 and October 31 may apply, in writing, for exception to this policy through the Principal's Office as per procedural guidelines for early admission to Kindergarten.

## Transfers

Pupils entering SVSD for the first time should register at the building they will be attending. A transfer card from the former school district should be presented along with immunization records. Academic records will be requested from the previous district as soon as the child is admitted.

If your child is moving from our district, you should notify the school office of the withdrawal date as well as the name and address of the new school the child will be attending. A transfer card and immunization record will be given to parents to present to the authorities in the new school. This card must be picked up in the school office on the last day of attendance. Parents are also asked to sign a Release-of-Records Statement so that the child's records may be forwarded to the new district.

# HEALTH

## First Aid and Medication

**Illness:** When your child is ill please keep him/her home. Children who run a fever, vomit, experience diarrhea, coughing, sore throat, or other cold/flu related symptoms are not ready for a rigorous day at school. The child needs at least 20-24 hours to recover. Please supply a written excuse to the Attendance Office upon the child's return.

**Exclusion:** On occasion, a child may be suspected of having a health condition which may be contagious and warrant examination by the family doctor. In these instances, the school may issue a Health Exclusion Form, which requires a family doctor to complete before the child can be readmitted to school.

**Excuse from Outdoor Play:** A child healthy enough to attend school is considered healthy enough to participate in playground and physical education activities and will be expected to participate. Special consideration will be given to students who have health problems documented by a physician.

**Medication:** *Children are not permitted to carry or take any medication at school without a doctor's order and parent permission.* This policy includes prescription and over-the-counter medication. If you have any questions, please contact the school nurse.

**First Aid:** If a minor accident occurs in school, first aid will be administered. No treatment beyond first aid will be given. In more serious cases, the parent will be notified.

## Health Screenings

**Hearing Screening:** Hearing tests are performed annually by the school nurse for children in Kindergarten through third grade. Children with previously identified hearing problems are also examined. Classroom teachers may also refer children for hearing tests.

**Vision Screening:** The school nurse administers vision tests to all students annually and any concerns are reported to parents.

**Growth Screening:** Growth screening is performed annually on children Kindergarten-12th grade. The growth exam is the measurement of the student's height and weight. The school nurse will use these measurements to compute the BMI (body mass index) and parents will be notified of the results.

**Medical Examinations:** School health law requires medical exams for children upon original entry to school, either Kindergarten or first grade. These grades are selected because they represent critical periods of growth and development. Parents may wish to have the family physician examine their child and complete the required forms or have their child examined by the school doctor.

**Dental Examinations:** Dental examinations are required for children upon original school entry, Kindergarten or grade one, and grade three. Parents may choose whether to have the child examined by the school dentist or family dentist. Dental forms are provided to parents.

# TRANSPORTATION

We strongly encourage children to ride the bus transportation provided by the district. Children are to be at their bus stop 5 - 10 minutes prior to the established pickup time. All bus students arrive at school between 8:40 and 8:50 A.M. Thereafter, students are to report directly to their classrooms. Please note following dismissal Kindergarten and first grade students will not be dropped off at their bus stop unless a parent/guardian is present.

## AM Drop Off Procedures

Students are permitted to enter the building at **8:40 A.M.** through the **main and gym entrances**. Students transported by car or walking to school should not arrive before 8:30 A.M. because no supervision will occur prior to this time. Students arriving by car should be dropped off in the parent drop off loop between 8:40-8:50 A.M. ***at the back of the school at the elementary gym lobby.*** We ask that parents pull as far forward as possible in the "loop" to avoid a back-log of cars on the access road.

## PM Pick Up Procedures

Parents who pick up their children at the end of the day are asked to park in the lot behind the Elementary School Gymnasium and enter the building through the **Gym Lobby Doors** to sign out your child. This is new for this year and another opportunity for us to maintain and strengthen safety protocols. Children will be waiting in the gym, lined up by grade levels and supervised, ready for release to their parents/caregivers.

Please **DO NOT** enter the **Gym Lobby** prior to 3:10 P.M. since Physical Education classes are still in session until that time.

## Bike Riding

Only fifth grade students are permitted to ride their bike to school. Helmets must be worn, and the bike is to be locked in the bike rack provided located in front of the Middle School office entrance.

## After School Bus Transportation

There is bus transportation available for students each school day at 4:00 P.M. This bus is available for use by students (per teacher request) staying for additional remediation. Parents will receive prior notification from their child's teacher. **This bus is not available for students participating in extra-curricular activities.**

Radio Stations	
WAEB (Dial AM)	790
WEST (Dial AM)	1400
WZZO (Dial FM)	95.1
WCTO (Dial FM)	96.1
WODE (Dial FM)	99.9
WLEV (Dial FM)	100.7

Inclement Weather  
Emergency  
School Closing  
610-838-7001  
**Ext. #1234**

**WEBSITE** [www.svpanthers.org](http://www.svpanthers.org)

Television Stations	
WNEP (TV)	16
WYOU (TV)	22
WFMZ (TV)	69

In the event that it becomes necessary to close school because of inclement weather or for any other reason, the procedure outlined below will be followed. Emergency information, including school closings, will be listed on our district website at [www.svpanthers.org](http://www.svpanthers.org)

1. Notification will occur via website, radio and television stations. The above stations will make broadcasts as soon as it is possible to get information to them. This time will usually be between 6:00 A.M. to 7:00 A.M.
2. Please check with one of the media above if closing seems likely.
3. **PLEASE DO NOT CALL** the radio station, the homes of school personnel, or the Saucon Valley Elementary School Office. These lines must be kept open for emergency calls.
4. In the event it seems advisable to close school during the day after sessions have begun, announcements will be made by website, radio and television stations as well as at extension 1234 of the school's phone number.
5. Please note that the decision to delay the opening of school or to close the school is made in consultation with the Director of Transportation and the police departments of Hellertown and Lower Saucon. It is with their input concerning local traveling conditions and the forecast of the National Weather Service that a final decision is made.
6. If you do not contact the teacher regarding alternative transportation options for your child on early dismissal snow days, your child's normal transportation routine will be followed.

**NOTE:** In the event of severe weather or an emergency weather situation at **DISMISSAL**, (a severe thunder and lightning storm), bus dismissal may be staggered so that children can enter buses with the protection of the portico, thus delaying their arrival home.

# ATTENDANCE

Attendance Office (610) 838-7001 ext. 3710

Attendance is essential for success at school. Every effort should be made for students to be here every day that school is in session. **Teachers take attendance at 8:50 A.M.**

Procedure: Parents are required by law to send in a written note explaining the nature of the absence within 3 days of the student's return. The School Board considers the following conditions in constituting acceptable excuses for absence from school: illness, recovery from an accident, required court attendance, death in the immediate family.

If an excuse is not received within three days, the absence will be recorded as **Unexcused**.

If your child's absence is expected to be for an extended period of time, please call the Attendance Office or the teacher's voice mail **before 8:00 A.M.** to arrange for homework assignments. A student may not participate in any school sponsored after-school activity for any day of absence unless previous arrangements are made with the Principal.

---

## EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

- If a student accumulates **7** absences, excused or unexcused, parents will receive a letter of concern.
- If a student accumulates **10** excused or unexcused absences, a second letter will be sent home requiring that any further absences be accompanied by a doctor's excuse, as per district policy.
- If absences continue without a doctor's excuse, the absences will be marked unexcused and the district procedure for unexcused absences will be followed.
- After 3 unexcused absences, a student may be referred to a Truancy Intervention Specialist from Northampton County to facilitate a meeting with the district magistrate and school personnel. After 4 unexcused absences a citation is typically filed.

## TARDINESS

Students who arrive late to school (**AFTER 8:50 AM**) will be marked tardy. Interruptions detract from the educational program for all students, and parents will be notified if lateness occurs frequently. Disciplinary measures, such as loss of recess and/or after-school detention will be imposed following repeated incidents of tardiness.

---

## EXCESSIVE TARDINESS

- If a student accumulates **7** tardies, parents will receive a letter of concern.
- If a student accumulates **10** tardies, the student will receive an after-school detention.

**Incidents of tardiness are cumulative throughout the school year. Missed time may cumulate resulting in unexcused absences causing a citation.**

### *Family Trips*

Absences from school for family trips are considered unexcused, unless the trip can be judged educational in nature by the building principal. A Request for Approved Absence Form can be secured from the Attendance Office, District Office or Website. Parents need to inform the teacher of the trip and receive schoolwork that needs to be completed prior to returning to school. The procedure for excused absences will be followed. (See the Attendance and Absence Procedure).

### *Doctor Appointments*

Parents wishing to have their child excused during the school hours for a medical or dental appointment should send a note to the classroom teacher stating the time and reason for dismissal. The student must be signed out at the Attendance Office. Children will only be released to the custody of their parents or the child's designated caretaker.

# SAFETY

It is our goal to maintain a safe and secure learning environment. We aim to create and sustain an atmosphere where each child feels safe physically, emotionally, and socially. Our school counselors and teachers highlight school safety and violence prevention activities throughout the year by encouraging respect and appropriate conflict resolution. If your child does not feel safe, we need to know. Please communicate any concerns you may have with your child's teacher, school counselor, or administration. In an effort to accomplish this goal, we have developed a school-wide discipline plan that encourages students to demonstrate respect for self, others and school property. In addition, we emphasize common character traits throughout the year. While the children are aware of the individual character traits and slogans, and demonstrate this as a school community, our goal is to increase the application of the traits by the children within their daily lives and interactions with peers. Approximately twice a month, we add a *zero day* to our 6 day cycle, wherein staff members will offer character education activities for the students to internalize the meanings of the character trait for that quarter. Doing so will push back the regularly scheduled specialist to the following day. Every grade level will also offer similar activities/classroom meeting topics to reinforce the character trait. Buddy classes will actively participate in school wide assemblies to celebrate the character trait of the quarter. Our 8 identified character traits are as follows:

**Respect for Self and Others:** Give it, Get it!

**Caring:** Builds the Heart!

**Determination:** Stick with it!

**Fairness:** Play by the Rules!

**Responsibility:** Begins with me!

**Citizenship:** Get on Board!

**Honesty:** The Road for Me!

**Courage:** Trust in Yourself!

Students who do not maintain our high standards of behavior will be subject to consequences outlined in our district policy. Consequences may include communication with parents, loss of school privileges, referral to administration, after-school detention, referral to the Child Find Team, or school suspension.

## **Visitation**

All adults who enter the elementary school should report to the elementary school office, sign in and receive a Visitor's Badge. This includes morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up if you will be moving through the building. The badge allows the staff to readily identify if it is appropriate for an individual to be in the school. In addition, we will stop all visitors who are not wearing badges and redirect them to the office to sign in. We don't wish to inconvenience anyone, but we feel it is important for us to follow this routine so as to maintain the safety and security of our building.

## **Student Responsibilities** Taken from 22 PA Code § 12.2.

- (a) Student responsibilities include regular school attendance, conscientious effort in classroom work and homework, and conformance to school rules and regulations. Most of all, students are responsible to share with the administration and faculty a responsibility to develop a climate within the school that is conducive to wholesome learning and living.
- (b) No student has the right to interfere with the education of fellow students. It is the responsibility of each student to respect the rights of teachers, students, administrators and all others who are involved in the educational process.
- (c) Students should express their ideas and opinions in a respectful manner.
- (d) It is the responsibility of the students to conform to the following:
  - (1) Be aware of all the rules and regulations for student behavior and conduct themselves in accordance with them. Students should assume that, until a rule is waived, altered or repealed in writing, it is in effect.
  - (2) Volunteer information in matters relating to the health, safety and welfare of the school community and the protection of school property.
  - (3) Dress and groom to meet the standards of safety and health, and not to cause substantial disruption to the educational processes.
  - (4) Assist the school staff in operating a safe school for the students enrolled therein.
  - (5) Comply with Commonwealth and local laws.
  - (6) Exercise proper care when using public facilities and equipment.
  - (7) Attend school daily and be on time at all classes and other school functions.
  - (8) Make up work when absent from school.
  - (9) Pursue and attempt to complete satisfactorily the courses of study prescribed by local school authorities .
  - (10) Report accurately in student media

**Fire Drills and Emergency Situations** Fire drills and other safety drills are held regularly to insure the safety of our students. Students are instructed in the exits to use, procedures for leaving rooms, areas in which to assemble, and return to the building. In the event of an emergency, students and teachers will be evacuated from the building to the far end of the recreational fields (weather permitting) or to locations within our community.

## SAFETY cont.

**Weapons Policy** We are compelled by state law and school district policy to deal harshly with any incidences of weapons brought into our schools. The Saucon Valley School District Policy “prohibits possession of weapons or replicas of weapons in any school district building, on school property, at any school sponsored activity, and in any public conveyance providing transportation to school or a school sponsored activity by any student, employee or other person. . . The school district shall expel, for a period of no less than one year, any student who violates this weapons policy . . . The Superintendent may recommend discipline short of expulsion on a case-by-case basis.” Please discuss this policy with your child as well as the definition of weapons, which includes pocket knives, kitchen utensils, nail clippers with pointed files, or toy weapons. Encourage your child to check with you before they bring anything to school or to talk to an adult immediately if they mistakenly bring a toy weapon to school.

**Cell Phones** Parents may want students to carry cell phones. During the school day, all cell phones must be turned off and stored in the child’s back pack. Cell phones should not be kept in the desk or on the child’s person. Each classroom has a phone should students need to call home in an emergency. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen or broken cell phones.

## COMMUNICATION

**Special Instructions From Parents** When it is necessary for a child to deviate from his/her normal routine, please send a note indicating this change. Pertinent situations include staying after school for a special event, riding or walking to an address other than his/her own, being picked up by a parent when the pupil usually walks or rides the bus, etc.

**Wednesday Envelopes** When possible, all communications from the school office will be sent home weekly in the Wednesday Envelope. After removing the contents, please sign the front of the envelope and return it to school the next day. One Wednesday Envelope will be provided to each student through the generosity of the Saucon Valley Community School Association (SVCSA). Should a student misplace the Wednesday Envelope, his/her teacher will replace it with a similar envelope for the cost of the envelope.

In addition we use a *Family Count* format for larger items, such as, calendars, newsletters, etc. These items will be distributed to the youngest member of a family.

**Telephones** Each teacher has a voice mail number which allows him/her to access incoming calls. To communicate with your child’s teacher please call 610-838-7001 press 9 for accessing a voice mail box by last name. To encourage student responsibility, students normally are NOT permitted to use the classroom phones for any reason including: asking a parent to bring forgotten homework, lunch money, library books, instruments, etc. However, emergencies are the exception.

**Updating Student Emergency Information** Please notify us with any change of telephone number, address, emergency contact numbers or parent's place of employment as soon as possible. Parents’ email addresses and cell phone numbers are welcome if available.

**Pest Control Notification** Parents/guardians of students enrolled in the district may request prior notification of specific pesticide applications made at the school. To receive notifications, you must be placed on the district’s notification registry. If you would like to be placed on this registry, please mail in your written request to: Saucon Valley School District, IPM Manager, 2097 Polk Valley Road, Hellertown, PA 18055. Please include your name, address, telephone number, cell phone number and email.

## STUDENT SERVICES

**Report Cards** Report cards are issued four times a year. Parents are asked to retain the report card, sign the envelope, and return it to school. Please refer to the school calendar for anticipated report card dates. Parents need not wait until report card time to be appraised of their child’s progress. They should expect continuous feedback through the year via teacher conference, homework assignments, voice mail messages, tests, class work, and dialogue with their child. Please feel free to contact your child’s teacher with any questions or comments.

**School Counselors** With parent permission, individual and small group sessions for particular needs, such as grief and bereavement, divorce, difficulty with peers, etc., are conducted along with orientation activities. Short-term intervention is also available for children with behavioral, social or emotional needs. School counselors may assist individuals, small groups, or classes with conflict resolution, problem-solving and positive social skill development as the need arises. Please contact the school counselors if you have any questions.

# STUDENTS SERVICES cont.

**Academic Core Program** In keeping with its commitment to ensure that all students achieve grade level standards, SVES has implemented an Academic Core Program. This program targets students experiencing difficulty in language arts. Students in grades Kindergarten through five are eligible. This program provides students with additional and extended instructional time during the regular school day in the area of Language Arts.

**Child Find** Any student experiencing consistent academic difficulties may be a candidate for the Child Find process. Students are identified for this service by the classroom teacher, other educators, or parents in collaboration with the classroom teacher. Should you feel that your child is in need of remedial services, please contact your child's classroom teacher and/or the Coordinator of Academic Services.

**Psychological Services** The services of a certified school psychologist are available as parent and/or teachers make referrals through the Child Find process. Specific classroom concerns are identified and recommenda-

**Standardized Testing** Our school district has a comprehensive assessment program. We collect information on student achievement compared to district, state and national standards. These data are gathered and recorded in student portfolios, which are available for parent review. Additionally, our school participates in the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) grades 3-5. Of course, classroom teachers continually monitor children's achievement and communicate this on a timely basis to parents.

**Student Records** A permanent record file for each student is kept in the school office. This file contains academic records and standardized test results. In addition, health, attendance and discipline files are maintained for each student. Parents may inspect all records kept on file for their child by signing a Records Examination Request Form in the School Office. Confidential records regarding special education services or specific individualized tests are housed in the school's guidance office. Parents may access these records by contacting the counselor's office and signing an Access Records Form.

**Gifted Education Program** Referral for gifted testing may be made by teachers and/or parents. Elementary school students who demonstrate superior academic achievement and meet minimum standards on screening instruments may be identified as eligible for the Gifted Education Program. Consequently, a skills program will be designed to provide instruction for students in the areas of communication, research and problem-solving as well as critical and higher-order thinking.

**Hearing and Vision** The services of a Vision and Hearing Therapist are available and applied as needs are identified.

**Speech** When students are referred because of speech and language concerns, evaluations are completed. The speech and language therapists work with classroom teachers to provide occasional classroom lessons and flexible, small group instruction. More intensive programs are offered to pupils in need of greater assistance.

**Homebound Instruction** Students who will be absent from school for an extended period of time due to serious illness or injury may qualify for Homebound Instruction. Please contact the school counselor or building principal for information if this situation should arise.

## HELPFUL INFORMATION

**Student Appearance** Students are expected to wear comfortable clothing appropriate for a school setting. Should a student's attire be considered inappropriate, he/she will be asked to call home to obtain a change of clothes. Flip-flops are discouraged. It is important that your child wear comfortable, safe shoes. Other examples of inappropriate clothing would include halter-tops, half or bare-backed shirts, and fish-net shirts. T-shirts or other clothing that in any way promote alcohol, drugs, smoking, or contain inappropriate language are not permissible at school.

**Lost And Found** Articles found are turned in to the school office and are kept for a reasonable length of time. To prevent loss of articles, **please label all students' clothes and lunch boxes with their name.**

**Personal Property** Children are not to bring unnecessary personal belongings to school without permission from their teacher. Misplaced or stolen items may not be found, and broken belongings can cause hurt feelings. Examples include: electronic devices, dolls, toys, etc. **Please label all students' clothes and lunch boxes with their name,** as well as their teacher's name.

**School Store** A school store is available for students to purchase supplies. Parent volunteers from the SVCSA run the store several days a week. Written permission is required for purchases over \$1.

## HELPFUL INFORMATION cont.

**Homework** Parents and students should expect daily homework during the week. For each grade level, the common expectation is 10 minutes per grade level (e.g., 3<sup>rd</sup> grade: 10 minutes x 3 = 30 minutes) plus 15 minutes of independent reading. Additionally, there are common expectations for students as well. Our children need to commit math facts and sight words to memory and so they can recall them quickly. In the primary grades, this means that the children need to have their addition and subtraction facts memorized as well as sight or Star Words. In the intermediate grades, the children need to have their addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts memorized as well as fraction/decimal conversions, etc. Your classroom teacher should share the expectations for the grade level and let you know if your child needs extra practice at home.

**Care of Textbooks** Textbooks issued to students are the property of the school district. Pupils are expected to take care of the texts and return them in usable condition. A charge will be incurred if texts show evidence of damage such as torn pages, water damage, or writing inside the books. Pupils will be expected to pay the replacement cost of any lost or damaged textbooks.

**Library** To reinforce literacy development, we encourage students to borrow books from our school library. The school librarian is available to assist you and your child with book selection. Students who have overdue library books will be fined two cents day for each school day that the book is overdue. A charge will be made for all lost or damaged books. The replacement cost of the book will be taken into consideration when determining the charge.

**Six-Day Specialist Schedule** During every six-day cycle, your child will participate in the following classes: art, music, library, health and two physical education classes. A six-day cycle will occur throughout the school year to avoid missed specialist classes when school is cancelled or not in session. Your child's specialist schedule will be communicated via the classroom teacher.

**Insurance** Student accident insurance is offered yearly to all students at a prevailing rate by a commercial agency. Insured students are covered by the policy while school is in session, while traveling directly to school, and while participating in school-sponsored activities. The extent of the coverage is outlined in the policy. Information will be sent home with every student in September.

**Disbursement of Party Invitations** In order that no child feels excluded, we ask that students only use the classroom setting to deliver party invitations if ALL students in the class have been invited and will be receiving an invitation. Please DO NOT hand out invitations to selected children.

**Lunchroom Procedures** Students must either purchase a lunch in school or bring a packed lunch. Please remember to mark any lunch container with your child's name. Cafeteria menus will be sent home on a monthly basis in the Wednesday Envelope. Monthly menus are also available on the school district website. Daily menus may be obtained by calling ext. 2345. School lunches conform to the National School Lunch Program standards and may be purchased at the prevailing price (\$1.65). Students may purchase either white or chocolate milk (.50) without purchasing the full school lunch. Parents are asked to refrain from bringing fast food into the cafeteria for their children during lunch.

If a child forgets his/her lunch money, we will provide an alternative lunch consisting of a cheese sandwich and a milk. We are not able to provide for "borrowing" of lunch money.

Families who meet the qualifications established for free/reduced lunch must complete an application and submit it to the school anytime during the school year. Applications are available in the office.

The Department of Food Services for the SVSD uses a Point-of-Sale (POS) computer system in our school cafeterias. This technology allows us to provide debit accounts for student meals and improve meal-tracking capabilities. The identification of students occurs via a unique four-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN) which has been randomly assigned to every student. You will receive a copy of your child's PIN prior to the start of school. Children will enter their PIN to gain access to their account. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Food Service Office at 610-838-8802.

**Wellness Policy—Healthy Snacks** While federal regulations have predicated a district policy encouraging healthy cafeteria menus, we support this endeavor and encourage healthy snacks for parties, birthday treats, classroom incentives/rewards and the like. We discuss this in the context of respecting our bodies by exercising and choosing healthy snacks. We ask teachers to reinforce this idea in their classroom newsletters.

**Saucon Valley Parent Teacher Organization** Consider joining this wonderful organization that helps us provide a strong educational program for all students. Membership is open to all parents of children at SVES. SVPTO meetings usually take place monthly. By attending these meetings you become better informed of what is going on at school. It also means you have the opportunity to vote and express your ideas and opinions. Information will be sent home on a regular basis explaining the SVPTO functions. If possible, please volunteer for one of the various programs the SVPTO offers. Please refer to the school calendar for meeting dates and times.