

**Susquehanna Valley High School**  
**SABER NEWS**  
**December 2023**

***From the Administration***

It is December, and the wonder and magic of the season are upon us!

We have been busy at the High School and are excited for everything we have planned! Our High School Spirit Club came up with themes for a Holiday Spirit week and thought it would be great for the entire district to participate. All buildings enthusiastically said they would participate, and in fact, they have so much spirit, it will run for two weeks! It is exciting that families can all participate together even if kids are not in the same building. This is not just a celebration within our school walls; it's an opportunity for our entire district to come together, united in the spirit of the season, camaraderie, and fun. Each day will bring a new theme, allowing students, teachers, and staff to showcase their creativity and school pride. Make sure you check out each day's themes on the next page!

The grand finale for the High School is what we're all eagerly awaiting – the Super Saber Snow Show. We look forward to this every year and I cannot wait to see what the students come up with for performances! It is always nice to go into the winter break with the laughter and fun the Snow Show brings.

As we embark on these festive celebrations, let's take a moment to appreciate the dedication and hard work of our students, teachers, and support staff. We are already almost to the end of Interim 2, and students are trying to go into 2024 strong. So keep up the good work!

In the midst of the holiday rush, I encourage you to pause, take a breath, and savor the moments with your loved ones. Whether it's sharing laughter around the dinner table, creating memories during winter festivities, or simply taking a quiet moment to reflect, may this season bring you peace and happiness. Thank you for being an integral part of the Sabers family. I am wishing you all a wonderful holiday season filled with love, laughter, and good times!

**Important  
Dates:**

**December 19**  
Winter Concert  
6:30 p.m.

**December 20**  
Board of Education  
Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

**December 21**  
First day of Winter

**December 22-  
January 2**  
Winter Recess- No  
School

**December 25**  
Christmas Day  
All Buildings Closed



# *Super Saber Spirit Week(s)!*

<b>Monday, 12/11</b>	<b>Merry Monday Morning!</b> Comfy Clothes and PJ's
<b>Tuesday, 12/12</b>	<b>Festive Hat Day</b> Favorite Holiday Hat Day
<b>Wednesday, 12/13</b>	<b>Favorite Holiday Movie</b> Dress as your favorite holiday movie character
<b>Thursday, 12/14</b>	<b>Winter Wonderland</b> Winter Hats, Scarves & Cozy Sweaters
<b>Friday, 12/15</b>	<b>Festive Friday</b> Flannel, Festive Suits, Holiday T-shirts, Green & Red... any festive gear!
<b>Monday, 12/18</b>	<b>Island of Misfit Toys</b> Crazy Hair and Mismatch Day
<b>Tuesday, 12/19</b>	<b>Candy Cane Day</b> Red and White rule the day!
<b>Wednesday, 12/20</b>	<b>Ugly Sweater</b> Break out your ugly (or very cute) holiday sweaters!
<b>Thursday, 12/21</b> <i>*Super Saber Snow Show*</i>	<b>WHITE OUT</b> It's a winter wonderland, wear all white!



# *News from the Guidance Office*

## *December 2023*

### College Applications

Seniors planning to go to college after high school should be diligently working on applications. Regular admission deadlines are early in January so students are encouraged to submit their applications **BEFORE** winter break. Students should give teachers and counselors at least two weeks to write letters of recommendation. It is important to communicate regularly with your counselor about where you are applying to ensure your transcript gets to the college in time.

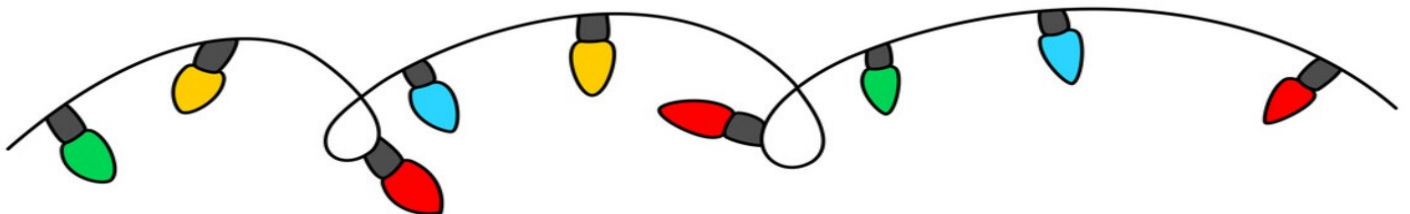
### Financial Aid

Filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is critical in determining how to pay for college. It allows students to find out which types and how much Federal Student Aid they may qualify for. If students are applying to a New York State school they should also be filing the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) application. Students and guardians should plan to submit the FAFSA and TAP by February 1! Shaunte Middleton from Binghamton University's Education Talent Search will be available to students that need help with this process.

How to Apply for Financial Aid:

1. Create an FSA ID.
2. Complete the FAFSA at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).
3. Apply for TAP at [www.tapweb.org](http://www.tapweb.org).

Please reach out to the Counseling Office to setup an appointment with Ms. Middleton if you would like help completing this process.



## SAT and ACT

There is still time for college-bound seniors to take the SAT or ACT. While some schools have a test-optional policy, there are schools and programs that require SAT or ACT scores. Both exams still have dates available!

### **SAT:**

<u>SAT Test Date</u>	<u>Regular Registration Deadline</u>	<u>Late Registration Deadline</u>
March 9, 2024 (Digital)	February 23, 2024	February 27, 2024
May 4, 2024 (Digital)	April 19, 2024	April 23, 2024
June 1, 2024 (Digital)	May 17, 2024	May 21, 2024

**\*Please note: SV is not a testing site, so students will have to take the exam at a neighboring high school such as Binghamton HS, Vestal HS, Maine-Endwell HS or Chenango Valley HS.**

### **ACT:**

<b>Test Date</b>	<b>Regular Registration Deadline- Late Fee Applies After This Date</b>	<b>Late Registration Deadline</b>	<b>Photo Upload and Standby Deadline</b>
February 10, 2024	January 5	January 19	February 2
April 13, 2024	March 8	March 22	April 5
June 8, 2024	May 3	May 17	May 31
July 13, 2024*	June 7	June 21	July 5

Preparing for the SAT/ACT:

Students should familiarize themselves with the test(s) and create a study plan. Here are some tips on how to prepare for the SAT/ACT:

- Khan Academy
- This is a free, personalized, online study tool. Khan Academy has partnered with College Board to deliver a tailored guide to the SAT based on the student's PSAT results. If a student took the PSAT in October, they can link their results to Khan Academy!
- SAT Practice Tests: - <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/practice/full-length-practice-tests>
- ACT Practice Tests: <https://academy.act.org/>

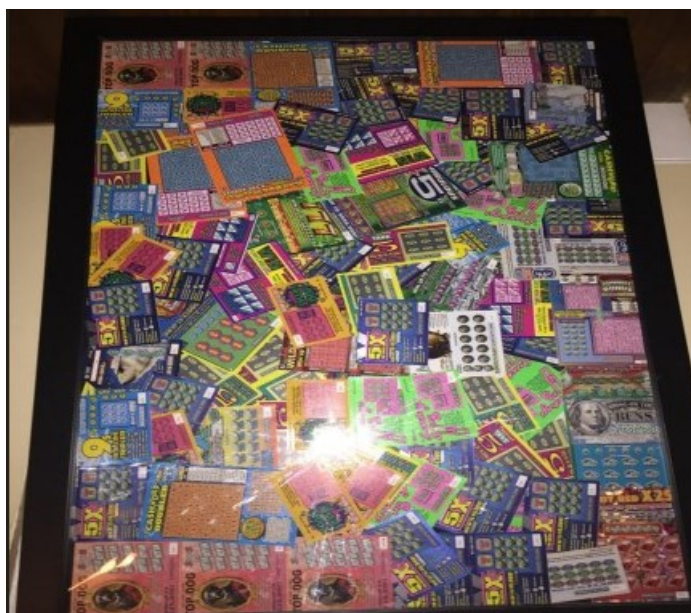
Please check with the schools you are interested in for the most up-to-date information. If you are still interested in taking the SAT/ACT, you must register online at [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) for the SAT or [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) for the ACT. SV is not a testing site, but our students can test at local high schools in the area such as Binghamton HS, Vestal HS or Maine-Endwell HS.

# EXAMINATION SCHEDULE: JANUARY 2024

*Susquehanna Valley CSD Report Times for Regents Examinations Listed*

JANUARY 23 TUESDAY	JANUARY 24 WEDNESDAY	JANUARY 25 THURSDAY	JANUARY 26 FRIDAY
8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.
English Language Arts	Geometry U.S. History & Government	Global History & Geography II	Physical Setting/Earth Science Physical Setting/Chemistry
12:00 p.m.	12:00 p.m.	12:00 p.m.	<u>Uniform Admission Deadlines</u>
Living Environment	Algebra I Physical Setting/Physics	Algebra II	Morning Examinations – 10:00 a.m. Afternoon Examinations – 2:00 p.m.

## Chem Free Post Prom



We are excited to announce that our Lotto Board Fundraiser for Post Prom has begun! We have three prize winning scratch off lotto boards to be raffled off this year. Our grand prize board totaling \$500 worth of scratch-offs, second prize board of \$200 worth of scratch-offs and third place will be \$100 worth of scratch-offs. The drawing will be held on December 20, 2023. Tickets can be purchased from senior students for \$10 per ticket or \$40 for five tickets and tickets will be sold up until drawing day. If you are a senior parent and would like to donate scratch off tickets for the raffle boards, they must be dropped off at the AP Office no later than December 7, 2023. We appreciate all the parents who have contributed by either generously donating scratch offs or by helping your student sell their raffle tickets.

Our next Chem Free Post Prom meeting will be held on Monday, December 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Library. If you are a senior parent and have not attended a meeting, we hope to see you on December 11!

If you have any questions please contact Zach Tarnowski or Emily Schuster

[ztarnows@svsabers.org](mailto:ztarnows@svsabers.org) or [eschuste@svsabers.org](mailto:eschuste@svsabers.org)

Phone: 607-775-9114





# Give your teen the gift of reading!

Numerous studies show that reading for pleasure is tied to many academic and social benefits. Here are some ways to inspire your teen to read: [“Reading for Fun.”](#) Not sure what book to choose? A gift certificate to a book store is a great idea, too.

(Also, feel free to email Ms. Westgate, High School librarian, for book suggestions: [pwestgat@svsabers.org](mailto:pwestgat@svsabers.org).) Remember: A book is a present you can open again and again.



**December 9, 2023**

**12:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

Calvary Baptist Church  
466 Chenango Street  
Binghamton, NY 13901

**An event for those in need**

Free Clothing & other items

Free haircuts

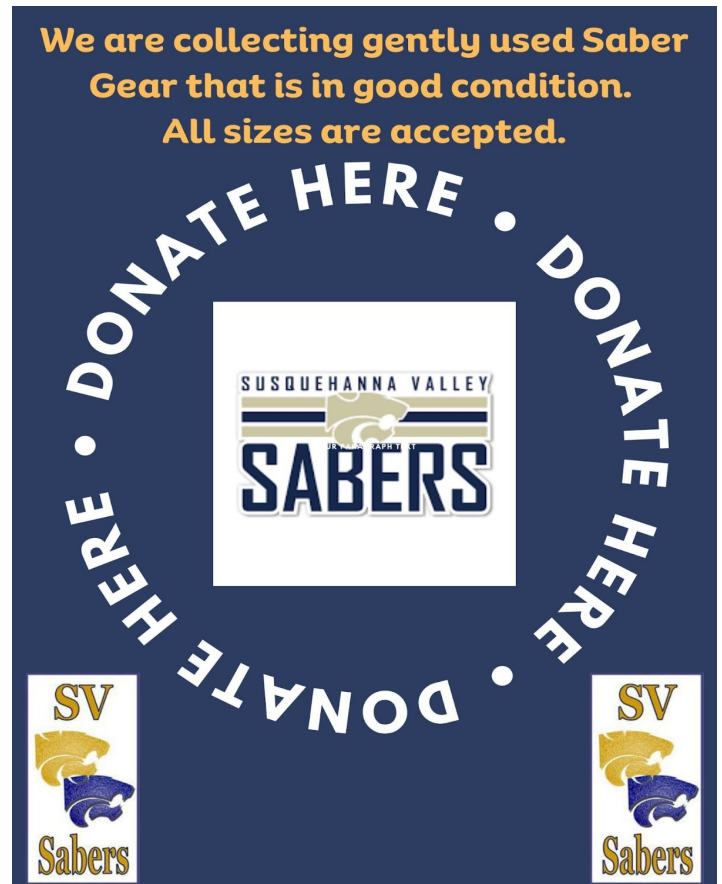
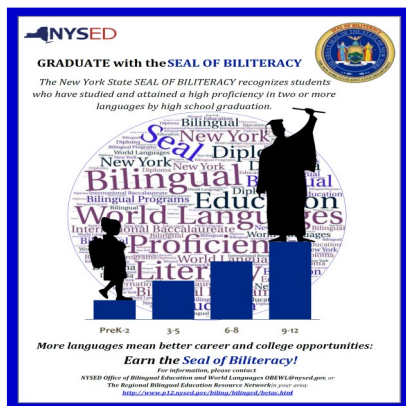
Free Children's craft table

Free Stockings

Take a picture with your camera with  
Santa!

## SEAL OF BILITERACY

Please contact Mrs. Rowe,  
department chair for languages, if you  
would like more information about  
earning the **NYS Seal of Biliteracy**:  
[srowe@svsabers.org](mailto:srowe@svsabers.org).



**Saber Stage Productions** is proud to announce "*Seussical The Musical*" is coming to our high school stage! *Seussical* is one of the most widely produced musicals in the country. It is a story of friendship, loyalty, and love based on some of the most beloved Dr. Seuss stories. We follow Horton and Gertrude as they band together to save the Whos, free Horton, and restore peace and unity to the Jungle of Nool against all odds! The musical will be performed Friday and Saturday, February 23, & 24, at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 25, at 2:00 p.m. All tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased online in February.





# National Honor Society



## **Gift Wrapping Event**

- **Tuesday, December 5, in the high school library from 6-8 p.m.**
- **Volunteers are needed as well as supplies such as wrapping paper and tape.**

## **Induction Ceremony**

- **Congratulations to our newly inducted members!**
- **Thank you to Mrs. Burkhardt for being our guest speaker.**

## **Stay Informed**

- **Join NHS on Remind text #81010 and enter message @estrn.**
- **Join NHS on Instagram.**

## **Community Service Hours**

- **Please have your first 10 hours completed by January.**
- **New members need to have 10 hours complete by May 2024.**
- **Students in NHS must complete 20 hours of community service per year by June.**
- **Please see posts on Google Classroom for updated opportunities along with the form.**

## **NHS Dues**

- **NHS dues are mandated by the organization.**
- **Dues are \$20 per year.**
- **SENIORS-If you pay before January 1, 2024, you will receive your NHS cord for graduation for free-worth \$10.**
- **Checks should be made out to SV NHS.**

**Your NHS Advisors,**  
**Elizabeth Strnatka & Karen Lyke**  
[estrnatk@svsabers.org](mailto:estrnatk@svsabers.org) & [klyke@svsabers.org](mailto:klyke@svsabers.org)



*National Honor Society*  
*invites you to their*  
*Holiday Gift Wrapping Event*

*Come have a gift or two wrapped by a  
National Honor Society member !*

*When: Tuesday, December 5th*

*Time: 6-8 pm*

*Where: High School Library*

*Cost: Free*

# SENIOR 2024

## Just a reminder...

❖ Pay your Class Dues by Dec 31

❖ Prom Planning starts soon.

Students contact Mrs. Root or Mrs. Lyke if you need to know how much you owe, or if you're interested in helping with planning.



# JUNIOR

## Class of 2025

### Poinsettias & Wreath Nanticoke Gardens Fundraiser

- Poinsettias/wreaths will be delivered the morning of December 6.
- Plants and wreaths must be picked up that day.
- Please make arrangements to bring these items home.

### Krispy Kremes

- We will be selling Krispy Kreme donuts in the beginning of February.
- More details will be given in February.

### Winter Fundraising Dance

- On March 8, we will hold a winter dance.
- All proceeds will go to the Class of 2025.
- Refreshment donations will be needed to make a successful profit.

### REMIND

- Please join our REMIND group by texting the message @svclass25 to 81010.

### Class Dues

- Class dues help pay for all senior activities.
- Dues are \$10 until January 1.
- It is the cheapest to pay all 4 years ahead of time, the amount is \$50.
- Checks should be made out to SV Class of 2025.

Your Class Advisors,

**Dan Simonds & Elizabeth Strnatka**

[dsimonds@svsabers.org](mailto:dsimonds@svsabers.org) & [estrnatk@svsabers.org](mailto:estrnatk@svsabers.org)





## Class of 2026

### REMIND

- Please join our REMIND group by texting the message **@svclass26** to **81010**.
- **Parents and students** please join the group for important information and updates.

### Fundraisers

- No fundraisers for December!

### Class Dues

- Class dues help pay for all senior activities.
- Each **sophomore** is responsible for paying **\$10 this year**.
- If you wait until **January**, the amount is **\$15**.
- **If you have not paid for your freshman year dues**, you will also be responsible for paying an **additional \$15**.
- **Checks** should be made out to **SV Class of 2026**.

*If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to Alyson Herman or Hailie Balachick.*

Your Class Advisors,  
**Alyson Herman and Hailie Balachick**  
[aherman@svsabers.org](mailto:aherman@svsabers.org) & [hbalachi@svsabers.org](mailto:hbalachi@svsabers.org)



**JOIN OUR CLASS REMIND** by texting the message **@svclass27** to the number **81010**. **JOIN OUR GOOGLE CLASSROOM BY ENTERING CODE slnwnpc**. Students need to join to get important class updates and fundraising information and parents/guardians are encouraged to sign up as well. The more, the merrier!

**Congratulations to our Class Officers!** President- Maia Lewis, Vice-President Lillian Cook, Treasurer- Henry Chen, and Secretary- Sakina Hussein

A huge **THANK YOU** to all the **parents, guardians, family members, and students** who helped with our freshman homecoming float. For our first showing at homecoming, the float looked **AWESOME!**

Additionally, another **THANK YOU** to all who have participated in our first two fundraisers! We have gotten off to a great start with collecting funds for senior year, and we could not have done this without your support. Check back in the New Year for some new fundraising events, and as always, reach out to your advisors and officers with any new fundraising ideas.

Lastly, please do not forget about class dues. The payment schedule is posted below. **The least expensive option is to pay for all 4 years at once - by the end of December- and it will cost \$40.** After winter break, the cost will increase by \$5. Checks should be made out to “SV Class of 2027.”

Year	September- December	Paid For All 4 Years	January- June	Paid For All 4 Years
Freshman	\$10	\$40	\$15	\$45
Sophomore	\$25	\$45	\$30	\$50
Junior	\$40	\$50	\$45	\$55
Senior	\$55	\$55	\$60	\$60

Your class advisors,  
**Mackenzie Barker and Jennifer Potter**  
[mbarker@svsabers.org](mailto:mbarker@svsabers.org) & [jpotter@svsabers.org](mailto:jpotter@svsabers.org)



# High School Music News December 2023

## December Concert Reminder

**The High School Concert will take place on Tuesday 12/19/23, at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium.**

- Students should arrive in concert dress (black shirt, black dress pants, black socks, black shoes) by 5:45 p.m.
- Auditorium doors will open at 6:15 p.m. (concert warm-ups take place until this time. Please do not enter the auditorium until the doors open at 6:15 p.m.)
- This is a mandatory performance for all students in Band, Chorus, Orchestra, Jazz, and Percussion Ensemble.

We will celebrate our performance with a lunch during the 3 lunch blocks on Thursday, December 21, 2023. Students who wish to participate can bring in \$5 towards the food and drink, or \$3 and something to share (soda, chips, desserts, etc.) Students must sign up to participate, so we know how much pizza to order! Sign-up here: [PIZZA PARTY SIGN-UP](#).

## Cookie Dough/Pie Sale Order Pick-Ups

For those who sold frozen foods, such as cookie dough and pies, through the music department, the orders will be in for pick up on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023.

- Plan to pick up your order between **2:15-5:30.**
- Reserve time for checking your order for accuracy.
- Orders will be available in the High School Cafeteria. Park in the back lot and enter through the cafeteria doors.

## Honors Acceptances

Congratulations to our students accepted to Area All-State this year.

### **Junior High Area All-State Orchestra**

Allicyn Bisaha and Genevieve Brown

### **High School Area All-State Band**

Andrew Waite - alternate

## Music Department Trip

Students participating in the Virginia trip on March 26-29, 2024, please make sure you check with your conductor for payment schedule information. A letter will be given to each student who is participating on or before December 8. All payments are different, depending on the fundraising your student has participated in. Reach out to Mrs. Perkins with any questions or concerns about the trip.

All students are given the opportunity to fundraise for the trips we take. This year, our fundraising calendar will include the events below. Please watch for more information about each event.

- 12/15 - Gertrude Hawk Bars money is due.
- TBD Music Clothing Sale.

## Scholarships

Throughout the year, a variety of music scholarships are offered to area students. Keep your eye on our Google Classrooms for applications and deadlines. These are posted as they are received by the music faculty.





# Senior Photos and Grad Ads for the Yearbook

Please be advised of the following important dates regarding your child's senior year deadlines for Yearbook submissions:

## Senior Portraits

Schedule your **senior portrait** to ensure proper delivery to the school. Senior portraits are **DUE ASAP**. Failure to meet this deadline may result in an absence of a senior portrait. If you're unable to schedule a senior portrait, plan on using November 8 (our retake day) as an opportunity to get a senior photo. No costumes or props will be allowed for photos.

## Portrait Requirements

Senior Portraits must be submitted electronically (CD, email jpeg, USB). The digital image must be a resolution of 300 dpi and the color mode must be RGB. The image should be sized to a 5x7 image to ensure proper clarity. The yearbook is an all-color book so please plan accordingly when choosing a photo for the yearbook. To maintain a consistent look, only head and shoulders will be in the yearbook photo. No costumes or props will be allowed for photos. Photos submitted should be in color and with a simple background. The SVHS yearbook reserves the right to refuse a photo not meeting specifications.

## Senior portraits are due ASAP.

All electronic submissions are to be sent to [dzietz@svsabers.org](mailto:dzietz@svsabers.org). If submitting in person, please see Mr. Zietz in room 22. Any picture received after the due dates listed are not guaranteed to be in the yearbook. It is the student's responsibility to check with their studio to see if the studio has submitted the senior portrait to Susquehanna Valley. Portraits from Sean Murphy Studios will automatically be sent to the school.

For the 2023-2024 school year, our yearbook photo contract is with Sean Murphy Studios. They offer free yearbook sessions in their Binghamton studio for all Susquehanna Valley seniors. Sean Murphy Studios also offers full senior sessions which include the sitting and a selection of prints or digital images starting at only \$100. Many of their senior portrait collections include multi-location sessions with custom Photoshop graphics, personal smartphone apps, and some even include 50 free prints! For more information, please visit: <https://www.seanmurphystudios.com/svsabers> or call 607-203-9043.

## Purchasing a Yearbook

Yearbooks may be purchased online at [Jostens.com](https://www.jostens.com) until June 2, 2024. **Personalized year books may be purchased until January 31, 2024.**

Yearbook is a student run publication and your child is encouraged to join Yearbook Club. By joining Yearbook Club, your child will have the power to make their contributions to the assembly of this publication.

## SVHS approved alternate professional photographers:

### Jim Pavlik

Pavlik Photo and Design  
970 Conklin Road  
607-779-2220

Email is: [jim@jimpavlikphotography.com](mailto:jim@jimpavlikphotography.com)  
fb: Pavlik Photo and Design  
website: [Pavlik Photo and Design.com](http://PavlikPhotoandDesign.com)

### Karen Bixby

Karen Bixby Photography  
126 Abbey Road, Windsor, NY  
607.765.3759

Email: [Kbixby@karenbixbyphotography.com](mailto:Kbixby@karenbixbyphotography.com)  
Link: <https://karenbixbyphotography.com/sessioninfo>

### Upstate Images

1245 Vestal Pkwy E, Vestal, NY 13850  
855-773-3321  
[upstate-images.com](http://upstate-images.com)

## Grad Ads

Grad Ads are the perfect way to commemorate achievements and celebrate milestones. In addition, revenues from Grad Ads help our school create a better yearbook. This is optional and an additional cost, and must be created online at [Jostens.com](http://Jostens.com). To purchase your ad online, please go to [Jostens.com](http://Jostens.com) and follow the instructions on the website. Jostens is responsible for our school's yearbook ad sales. Please do not contact or send materials to the school. Our school reserves the right to edit ads per our guidelines. Please make sure all submitted materials are appropriate for school publication.

**All Grad Ad orders must be placed by February 8, 2024.**



Susquehanna Valley High  
School

**Calling all proud  
parents.**

Recognize your student's milestones  
and successes with a yearbook ad.

Create and purchase online by  
**02/08/2024**



[jostensadservice.com/student](http://jostensadservice.com/student)



# December 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					College Sweatshirt Day 1	2
3 	4 <b>Day 4</b>	5 <b>Day 5</b>	6 <b>Day 6</b>	7 <b>Day 1</b> <b>SUNY</b> <b>Broome Visit</b>	8 <b>Day 2</b>	9
10	11 <b>Day 3</b>	12 <b>Day 4</b>	13 <b>Day 5</b>	14 <b>Day 6</b>	15 15 Wk. Period Ends	16 
17	18 <b>Day 2</b>	19 <b>Day 2</b> Winter Concert @ 6:30 p.m.	20 <b>Day 3</b> BoE Meeting @ 6:00 HS Christmas Caroling	21 <b>Day 4</b> First Day of Winter	22 <b>Winter Recess</b> <b>No School</b>	23
24	25 	26	27	28 Saber Snow Show	29	30
31	<b>Winter Recess - No School</b> <b>December 22 - January 2</b>					