

Sauk Valley Community College
March 16, 2026

Action Item 5.3

Topic: Administrator Appointment – Director of Athletics

Mission: Sauk Valley Community College is dedicated to teaching and scholarship while engaging the community in lifelong learning, public service, and economic development.

Presented By: Drs. David Hellmich and Jon Mandrell

Presentation:

The administration has been in the process of hiring a Director of Athletics. The position was advertised online on Sauk Valley Community College’s website. The College received twenty-two applications. Three candidates were invited for on-campus interviews and forums. The committee was composed of Valerie Kerns-Lyons, Jon Mandrell, Kristy Richard, and Megan Rivera. Jennifer Schultz served as chairperson.

Academic Background: Derron Sellers earned his Master’s in Exercise Science from California University of Pennsylvania.

Professional Background: Derron has worked as the Head Softball Coach for SVCC since September 2022. Prior to that, he was the Head Softball Coach for Polo High School for five years. Derron is a National Academy of Sports Medicine Certified trainer. He also volunteers with the Polo Park District as a softball and baseball coach.

Recommendation:

The administration recommends the Board approve the appointment of Derron Sellers as Director of Athletics beginning March 2, 2026, at an annual base salary of \$76,960.

DERRON SELLERS

Derron.r.sellers@svcc.edu

Dear Search Committee

NOVEMBER 25TH, 2025

I would like to express my interest for the position of Athletic Director at Sauk Valley Community College.

Currently, I am in my fourth year as the head softball coach at Sauk Valley Community College. My passion for athletics at the collegiate level has become unparalleled to any previous athletics involvement. The privilege to mentor student athletes in academics, life situations, and the game of softball has given me great satisfaction as a coach at Sauk Valley Community College.

I have great life experiences that would make me valuable for this position. I have been a student athlete at four different institutions in two different sports. All of them have an athletic department that displays maturity, professionalism, and a student first mentality. They strived to give each and every student athlete a positive atmosphere to grow and prioritize becoming college graduates. Their mentoring and compassion have made me who I am today.

My general business background includes solely running two different businesses successfully, managing a multimillion-dollar business, and running my own business. My experiences that would relate include the management of employees and creating a positive work environment among departments, along with the overseeing of financials.

The excitement of becoming the leader of the athletics department at Sauk Valley College is immense. I feel I have the correct mindset to create a positive department. My vision is to focus on working in harmony with all departments within Sauk Valley Community College. The priority is giving every student athlete a great experience and every opportunity to help them become successful in life.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Derron Sellers

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DERRON SELLERS

derron.r.sellers@svcc.edu

SUMMARY

Current head softball coach at Sauk Valley Community College, with twenty seasons of head coaching experience, looking to further my career in an athletic and academic environment.

EXPERIENCE

Sauk Valley Community College Head Softball Coach 2022-Current

Oversee day to softball operations including recruiting, scholarships, field maintenance, scheduling, communications with team and school administration.

Polo Community High School Head Softball Coach 2017-2022

Oversee day to day operations with team communications, practice planning, field maintenance, scheduling, and softball performance.

Illinois Gold Fastpitch Head Softball Coach 2011-2019

Recruitment of teams on a yearly basis, financials, scheduling, fundraising, and team communications.

Forreston High School 2004 Assistant football coach

Assistant to the head coach with special teams and quarterbacks

Polo Community High School Assistant Track and Field Coach

Assistant to the head coach, specialist in throwers

Galena Avenue Car Company 1992-2001

Sales and Finance

D&D Powersports 2004-2006

Owner and Operator

Galena Avenue Car Company 2006-Current

General Manager of daily operations

Reconditioning and Inventory Manager

EDUCATION

2004 Rockford University Rockford IL, BA in Physical Education with Illinois State teaching endorsements.

2016 California University of Pennsylvania, California Pennsylvania. Master's degree in exercise science with emphasis on performance enhancement and injury prevention.

AWARDS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Building a collegiate level softball program from the depths of nothing
- Head coach of first year program at Polo Community High School. Fourth season 2nd in conference, .500 winning percentage, five all-conference players
- Nine travel ball tournament championships and a second at Midwest Nationals
- Played four years of Division III football, all conference senior year, one year of college baseball.