



**Saucon Valley School
District Upgrades
Wireless with
integraONE and Partner
Meraki Systems**



Saucon Valley School District (SVSD) is located in Hellertown, Pennsylvania, a suburb of Bethlehem located in the Lehigh Valley. The school district was consolidated into a single, state-of-the-art complex known as the SVSD Education Campus in September, 1999 and offers modern facilities and classrooms that are wired and networked for the Information Age.

The Education Campus' unique design encompasses 106 acres which include the Saucon Valley High School, Middle School, and Elementary School all contained under one roof. Included on the campus are a freshwater stream, ball fields, playgrounds, stadium and track facilities alongside learning spaces equipped with the latest in educational technology.

In order to consistently provide the best and most current instructional technology tools, the SVSD IT team continually evaluates system performance, maintains hardware, implements critical updates, and monitors industry trends. Outdated components are replaced and investments are made in new equipment when necessary.

Michael Hanssen, Supervisor of Technology for the district, manages these efforts along with his three person IT team. Hanssen and the team are responsible for network administration, engineering, and IT design for the district.

“Saucon Valley School District has been an integraONE client for over 10 years... The integraONE team has always been reliable, dependable, and responsive.”

**Michael Hanssen
Supervisor of Technology
Saucon Valley School
District**



Saucon Valley School District Case Study



Technology Needs

When the district's wireless network began to age, Hanssen did his homework. He reviewed multiple product and service options before beginning the process of purchasing and implementing a new wireless solution. While he had a good idea of what would work best for the district, he needed the input of a reseller to make the considerable purchase that would be required to make an upgrade possible.

integraONE - A Trusted Advisor

Hanssen and SVSD have an ongoing, 10-year relationship with the team at integraONE. Although his capable in-house staff manages most projects independently of outside help, Hanssen considers integraONE to be a valuable resource for brainstorming sessions, an advisor for purchasing decisions, and a sounding board for technology considerations. It made sense to bring in the integraONE engineering and sales staff to coordinate the district's current wireless purchase and installation project.

Meraki - The Right Solution for SVSD

"After exploring several possibilities, I decided Meraki Systems offered the best product for SVSD. I had read such positive reports about the Meraki solutions," noted Hanssen. "In addition, we were able to request some demo products which allowed us to work out some of the necessary configurations prior to making a purchasing decision." Some other high priority benefits offered by the Meraki solution include its cloud-based controllers and its simple design and low maintenance requirements.

"The simplicity of the Meraki product allows our team to save time and frees us to focus on other projects," Hanssen stated. "In addition, the Meraki solution had a cost point that was significantly less than some others we reviewed. We were able to save money, which is always a bonus."

integraONE coordinated a successful purchasing process for SVSD, and after some initial consulting with integraONE engineering staff, Hanssen was ready to complete the installation of the new wireless solution with his in-house team. He replaced all access points within the district campus and completed the testing process. The SVSD Education Campus is now largely converted to the Meraki wireless solution, with the remaining 30 percent scheduled to be completed in coming months. All goals for the project have been met with resounding approval from staff, students, and the community.

"One of the most popular new features of the Meraki solution is our guest access," explained Hanssen. "The feature automatically activates at the end of our school day and then turns itself off at 10 pm every night." The guest access is also available all weekend, and allows parents and visitors at the school's campus and sports fields to use the district's internet access. In addition, the guest access instance is segregated from the internal network, providing secure access that does not risk the privacy of student or staff information.

"integraONE always responds quickly to any questions or needs that we have at the district," concluded Hanssen. "That pretty much sums it up— The integraONE team has always been reliable, dependable, and responsive."