

**Sauk Valley Community College  
September 23, 2024**

**Action Item 4.5**

**Topic:** Faculty Retirement – English Language Arts

**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:**

Dr. Odile Blazquez has submitted her intent to retire as a Professor of English Language Arts effective May 31, 2025. Odile is a tremendous asset to the College. She is the epitome of a team player who often steps outside of her required duties to support both students and the institution. She serves on more college committees than she is contractually obligated to do, which allows for the faculty voice to be present throughout the College. Odile is a wonderful professor with sound pedagogical strategies. She is committed to every learner, at every stage, which is an invaluable strength that she brings to the quality of instruction at SVCC.

**Recommendation:**

The administration recommends the Board approve the retirement of Dr. Odile Blazquez as a Professor of English Language Arts effective May 31, 2025.

Ms. Kathryn Snow

August 20, 2024

Director, Human Resources

Sauk Valley Community College

Dixon, Illinois

Dear Kathryn,

I have decided to retire in May 2025 at the close of the spring semester. It was not an easy decision to make, but I believe it is the right one.

I had my appointment with SURS this past May, and since nothing will have changed on my end, there's no need for me to meet with them again. I believe all I need to do is contact them at least 60 days before my retirement date. The representative I met with told me to use May 31, 2025, as my retirement date.

I can't believe it will be 25 years! SAUK has always been more than just a job for me, and I will miss the students and the camaraderie with my coworkers. However, I know it is time for me to retire.

Thank you so much for your guidance and support all these years!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Odile M. Blazquez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Odile M. Blazquez