Ms. Allison Harder Librarian, Reading Teacher

Mrs. Harder is in her seventh year at MES and has served as our librarian and first grade reading teacher during that time. Mrs. Harder graduated from Chadron State College with an endorsement in elementary education and she received her Master's Degree from the University of Nebraska Kearney in instructional technology and library media specialist. Mrs. Harder has five children: Collin (12th grade), Preston (11th grade), Liam (7th grade), Isle (2nd grade), & Violet (preschool). She is married to Mark Villagrana. Mark works at CenturyLink/Lumen. They both own Sweet V's together in Scottsbluff. Ms. Harder also has seven cats that wander the home.

Why did you become a teacher?

"I have a passion to help people. I started out in nursing and I changed my mind to do education. It's definitely what I am meant to do."

Who was the most influential person in your life?

"I would say my co-workers and students influence me everyday to be a better person and better teacher."

What event in your life had a huge impact on your being? "Having my son Collin at a young age had a huge impact on me."

What is the most enjoyable thing about being a teacher?

"Building relationships & carrying on those relationships as students get older."

What do you like most about MES?

"It's not like coming to a job everyday - it is a lot of fun."

What are your hobbies?

"I enjoy reading, hanging out with my kids and family and watching my kids' activities. I also enjoy traveling."

Where do you go to get your mind straight?

"I enjoy alone time - taking baths and listening to books."

What do you consider to be your greatest accomplishment? "My family!"

If you could do anything else, what would that be?

"I would like to own and operate a cat rescue. I think it is something our area desperately needs."

What is something you would be willing to share about yourself that few know? "Ms. Katie Scott (kindergarten teacher) and I have been close friends since preschool."

What is something on your bucket list?

"I would like to go to Nantucket, Massachusetts. Several of the books I have read are based there. I would like to travel with my sister."

Favorites:

Food: Mexican & Sushi
Place to Eat: Runza

Music: Everything - Zach Bryan, Dave Matthews, Bon Iver, and Post Malone

Color: Purple

Animal: Cats & Monkeys
Book: Colleen Hoover Books

Movie: What Dreams May Come with Robin Williams

Place: Somewhere warm in California