

Philosophy of Education

I believe that education begins first with love. Developing a deep-seeded love of learning, reading, thinking, and problem solving is essential to student development and education. As a teacher, it is my responsibility to inspire my students to find joy in the everyday classroom experience, to cultivate and grow that love and emerge as lifelong learners and leaders. Furthermore, love of self and others allows for a trusting community of curious and thoughtful collaborators. I am committed to ensuring my students see themselves as members of a learning community and have the skills to interact productively, relying on God's love throughout their journey of education and faith.

Educational Background

- University of Puget Sound, Bachelor of the Arts in English
- University of Puget Sound, Masters of the Arts in Elementary Education

Teaching Experience

I substitute taught for seven years in the Franklin Pierce and Tacoma Public School systems while my daughters were young. I joined Saint Patrick Catholic School full-time in 2016.

Fun Facts

- I have three daughters, and two female pets - a cat and a tortoise.
- I LOVE reading and participating in the Tacoma Public Library's Extreme Readers Challenge, attempting to read 50 books in one calendar year.

Abby McElligott
Vice Principal



- I attended Saint Patrick Catholic School for 1st through 8th grade and cried on my last day of 8th grade as I gathered my things, sad that my years in those halls were over. Little did I know my journey at Saint Pats was only beginning!