

Comet Inspiring Leaders

Miss Jade Schmidt- 3rd Grade Teacher



Educational Background:

I attended Saint Vincent de Paul from kindergarten through eighth grade and then went to Peoria Notre Dame for all four years of high school. After high school I spent some time at Illinois Central College where I graduated with my Associate in Arts degree. In 2022, I transferred to Bradley University where I obtained my Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with an ESL Endorsement!

Why I teach in a Catholic School:

I believe that teaching in a Catholic school is a more holistic approach to education. I was raised in the faith and grew up in Catholic schools as did the rest of my family. Being able to share that with a group of people is a different sense of community and belonging that can't be found in every school. Saint Thomas provides a space for me to be able to share and deepen my own faith while guiding students in their spiritual growth.

Dream meal:

My mom's meatloaf, my dad's stuffed mushrooms, mashed potatoes, and I have to have my Dunkin refresher! Yum!

Hobbies/Interests:

I love to spend my free time with my three dogs. We go to the park, for runs, to my dad's property to watch the chickens and chase the golf cart, and pretty much anything else they can tag along to do! I also love trying new things and traveling with my fiancé. We've gone skydiving, swimming with pigs, cliff jumping in waterfalls, ran a half marathon, and completed crossfit challenges together. Our last adventure was to a small town in Veracruz, Mexico where I got to experience the amazing food and culture of the people.

Who inspires you:

My biggest inspirations have to be my parents. They are and have always been my greatest supporters whether that meant sitting at the table helping me complete homework or traveling fifteen hours to be front row at one of my competitions. I see how hard working they are and the level of patience it takes to raise three girls. No matter the difficulties my sisters and I have put them through we are met with SO much love and I strive to be the same way as a parent some day.

My favorite teacher was:

A few come to mind but I would have to say my middle school science teacher, Miss Oljace, is very high up on the list. She always made her classes fun and exciting and it was with her that I realized I really do love science. It's still my favorite subject to learn and teach to this day! My favorite thing about her though is that I felt like she actually knew me and cared about my interests.

Outside of school:

I've been working at a restaurant called Clink that is owned by an amazing Saint Phil's family. I love mornings at the gym, catching up with friends, and convincing my sisters to do things like a mud run with me. I also enjoy lazy evenings snuggled up with all of my dogs and spending time with my fiancé.