



Mrs. Leckenby
Teacher, 1st/2nd Grade

I attended Saginaw Valley State University and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in elementary education with minors in early childhood education, math, and science. I recently moved to Grand Rapids, and I am looking forward to learning more about the city and its surrounding areas. From kindergarten until eighth grade, I attended Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School in Chesaning. I feel that my Catholic school education set me up for success throughout my life, both academically and morally. I was drawn to teaching at St. Patrick's because I want to influence children in a positive and supportive way, as I was positively influenced and supported by my Catholic school teachers.

I believe that, as a teacher, it is my responsibility to help children grow and reach their full potential academically, socially, emotionally, and spiritually. I help children achieve this by creating a classroom environment that is child-centered and based around the needs and interests of the students in the class. In my classroom, students participate in activities such as centers, reading groups, writer's workshop, and whole-group learning. Through these activities, children are challenged at their own academic level and learn from each other as they interact with one another.

In first and second grade, literacy is extremely important and is integrated into every classroom activity. I want to instill a passion for reading and writing into my students and show them how important and exciting literacy can be. To me, reading and writing are not the only important components of literacy. Students will also learn how to comprehend what they are reading, make connections with different types of text, communicate with others through various means, and much more.