



Knights News - St. Patrick School
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<https://www.stpatrickmccook.com/>



Beginning of school year,
2025—2026



**ANNIVERSARY OF OUR
STAR JEWEL OF A SCHOOL**



Please meet in
the gym for a
short welcome
meeting at 5:30
before heading
to classrooms.

**THIS
YEAR IS
GOING TO BE
AWESOME!**

Meet Your new Teachers



Hello! I'm Mrs. Abbey McNutt



I'm so excited to be joining the team this year as the K-8 Music and 5-8 Band teacher! This is my first-year teaching here, and I'm thrilled to be part of such a great school community. I've spent the last 15 years teaching vocal music at McCook Junior High and High School, and I'm looking forward to this new adventure.

One of the best parts is that my daughter, Kinley, is a 2nd grader here this year—I love that we get to be at school together! My husband, Josh, is an electrical salesman and welder, and we have two sweet dogs named Josie and Ray. In my free time, I enjoy golfing, making and listening to music, spending time with my family, and, of course, playing and cuddling with our pups. I can't wait to make music and memories with all of you this year!

Hello again! I am Kristi Geschwentner

St. Patrick School is where I began my teaching career in 2013, and after being away for six years, I'm happy to be back! In addition to teaching 5th and 6th grade math and 5th grade science, I'll be the math interventionist. 7th graders will be my homeroom crew.

This school year will be my 13th year of teaching. I taught six years of 5th-8th Language Arts as well as a year or two of 6th grade math here at St. Pat's, followed by a year of preschool and five years of 2nd grade in Oberlin. I'm certified in both elementary education and special education, so dividing my school day between a traditional classroom and interventions is an exciting opportunity for me.

My older daughter Emily and her husband Brad live in North Platte with their sons Hezekiah and Ezekiel. They own and operate multiple businesses including a production company, a construction company, and an MMA gym. My younger daughter and her husband live in Arkansas, where Kelsea is an elementary instructional coach and Juan is a high school social studies teacher and running coach.

I'm thankful for the countless blessings that come with teaching here at St. Pat's, and I look forward to getting reacquainted with you all! Have a great year!



Hello! My name is Mrs. Cassa Easter. Summer is almost over and I'm excited for a new school year at a new school! I will be the Algebra, 7th, and 8th grade math teacher this year. I am a science teacher by trade, but I am excited to teach something new! I grew up in Indianola, Nebraska, and my husband and I moved back to the area a year ago. We have been enjoying our summer with our three kids, and two of them will be joining me at Saint Patrick's in the fall. I am looking forward to meeting all of Saint Patrick's students and families and having a fun, math-filled year!

Cheers
to 40
years

in our beautiful school



Serving our
students



First Day of School,
Monday, August 18th at 12:30



Our school continues to look awesome after 40 years due to the help of parents and parishioners, such as these guys, Steve, Aaron and Galen, replacing the playground fences on hot August days. Thank you all for your kind generous examples.

Mr. Einspahr has been working to prepare for the new school year with some important updates to various classrooms, and by ensuring our school looks great for another 40 years!

The Science Room will still have science lab capabilities, and has also undergone renovations and been converted to a more welcoming classroom space. Mrs. Rogers has been busy organizing it—it looks wonderful!

Mrs. Nokes has moved to the Conference Room off of the office. This will now serve as her classroom. The library classrooms have added a door between them to allow for a flow of teachers and students to have a working space.

Ms. Geschwenter will be the 7th grade homeroom teacher. She will be in the Grade 7 room in the mornings. Mrs. Easter will utilize the Grade 7 room in the afternoons teaching Math and Algebra.

The lobby area can now also serve as additional meeting or conference space, increasing the tools we have to serve our students.



Welcome to another school year!

I am Gale Slattery. I am in charge of the school lunch program. This is my 15th year in this position. Before I took this position, I was a veterinarian and also a special education para. My husband, Mike, also a veterinarian, and I have 4 children, all past students of St. Patrick School. I'm excited to be back and see so many familiar faces as well as the new students and staff!

I have a few reminders for the new year. You should have received a free/reduced price application this summer. Please feel free to fill it out and return it to me. All information is kept confidential. Even if you do not qualify it helps the school system in other areas. You can also apply at any time throughout the year.

PLEASE try to keep your child's lunch account current. One suggestion is to send a small amount every week or two if sending a large amount at once is difficult. I try to email or send letters home every 1-2 weeks once their balance goes more than \$5 past due. If you don't see one, check their bookbag or call the kitchen at 345-5542.

If your student has any food allergies or sensitivities we have forms to fill out. We NEED to have this on file to avoid any health issues. Also, if you do not want your 1st-8th grader served

seconds you must let us know in writing.

Sometimes they forget that seconds are costing their parents \$0.75. Parents might be surprised how quickly the lunch money goes away! This applies to those who qualify for free or reduced-price meals as well.

Finally, **if your family qualified for free or reduced-price meals last year you need to re-apply by September 29.** Eligibility from last year only carries over until that time. If you do not submit a new application by the deadline you will lose your eligibility. If your situation changes, remember you can apply any time throughout the year.

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to get to know your children and serve them. We are looking forward to a blessed school year!! God Bless!





Hello! I am Ms. Khaley Lee and this is my 10th year teaching 2nd grade at St. Patrick School.

In my spare time I enjoy cooking, reading, camping, fishing, and spending time with my family, friends, and three dogs; Dixie, Izzy, and Scout. Over the summer, I took piano lessons from Shannon Corder. I had a blast learning a new skill and practicing to get better.

I'm excited to get this year started and celebrate our wonderful school! Have a great year!

Hello! My name is Shannon Corder. This will be my 4th year of working at St. Patrick School as the Development Director and Stewardship Teacher for the 5th-8th graders. I've worked in education now for close to 30 years and I'd have to say it's a blessing to now be in a Catholic School. I knew it would be great working here as my girls are both St. Pats alumni and had a wonderful experience. My girls will admit there were times they wanted to go to MPS junior high, but we stayed true to our beliefs at St. Pats and they will tell you know they are glad I had them stay! Even in high school, they made comments about missing St. Pats.

They are both in Lincoln now. My oldest, Maria, is in her 3rd semester of graduate school and my youngest, Christina, will be a senior at UNL. My days after school are spent teaching piano lessons at my home. This year will begin my 26th year of teaching private lessons. I love to read and collect house plants. Prayers for another great school year for all our families, students, teachers, staff, and priests!

I hope everyone had a great summer! My name is Stephanie Barger-Roth, and I'm looking forward to serving in the lunch room this year. I'm so excited to see everyone return as well as all the new faces. This will be my 10th year here at St. Patrick's School. My husband Casey, who works at McCook Public Power, and I have three children. Ashlyn, my youngest, just graduated from here and will be a freshman this year at McCook Senior High. My son Mason will be a senior also in high school, and my oldest Aiden will be a senior at UNO. I look forward to seeing all of your smiling faces in the lunch line.

Hi! My name is Amanda Peterson and this will be my 17th year of teaching and my 8th year in first grade. I am married to Aaron Peterson who is an engineering tech and partner at W Design Associates here in McCook. Aaron and I have 5 children, so I feel like we are always on the run! Our oldest son lives in Lincoln and works for an HVAC company. Our daughter Sara recently moved to Kearney and is attending nursing school at UNMC. Rebecca just recently moved to Lincoln to attend culinary school. Hannah will be a sophomore at the highschool this year and playing on the softball

team. Our youngest daughter Lexi is in 5th grade here at St. Pats. I am excited for what will be a busy fall sports season!

My summer went by very fast and was filled with lots of family time, watching Softball, packing and moving kids out of the house, and a trip with my husband to Nashville TN. I am excited to finally have kids in my room so we can begin an exciting new year in first grade! I look forward to all that God has in store for us this year, HE will always be our guide as we grown and learn together.



Hello. My name is Jill Koenig. This will be my fifth year teaching at Little Knights Preschool. My husband Carl and I have been married for 20 years. We have been blessed with four great kids. Becca is 19 and working in McCook. Addison will be a Senior and Lance will be a Sophomore at MHS this year. Katelyn will be a sixth grader at St. Patrick Elementary.

I am very excited to implement the Science of Reading program in our Pre-K classes this year! St. Patrick Elementary has been using this program for a couple of years and has seen phenomenal results. I am excited to see the success of our students at preschool!

I am looking forward to a great preschool year filled with fun, learning, and growing!

Welcome back! I am excited to get the 2025-2026 school year started. In the first month of school we will be electing our Student Council, preparing for our Fall Festival and celebrating the 40th Anniversary of our school, I am so excited to get back to school and see my students in class every day! I will be teaching 5th – 8th grade Social Studies, 7th grade Civics, study hall, and also 6th grade Science! My home room will be the 8th graders. This will be my 14th year here at St. Pat's. Teaching at St. Pat's has fulfilled a lifelong dream of mine. Not very many people can say that they love their job, look forward to each new day, and work in a supportive, friendly close net group of teachers and administration. I have the opportunity to teach and enjoy the students every day. My husband Bob and I just celebrated our 25th Anniversary this past July. We have four children (Drew & Tausha Wilson, Jessica Fritsch, Ryan & Austin Martin, and Sarah & Tom Sughroue. We also have 14 grandchildren. (Asher, Abel, Annabelle, Aiden, Aaron, Adley, and Aizley Wilson, Peri Joy, Charli Mae, Letti Belle, and Andi Lynn Martin, MaKenna, Parker, and Hanna Heron) I enjoy fishing, camping, golfing, gardening, any outdoor activities, and watching my grandkids participate in summer activities, sports and just spending time with family and friends.

I have an open door policy and look forward to meeting and working with each one of you. Please do not hesitate if you have a question or concerns about your student. I am sure that by working together as a team we will have a rewarding and successful year. Remember, "To Teach is To Touch a Life Forever!"

Mrs. Lanae Fritsch



It's time for wonder, inquisitiveness, and intellectual growth! I'm Tama Kain, born and raised in Ohio but endeared to Nebraska where my husband, Fritz, and I raised our 8 children on a small acreage nestled between prairie hills and the Republican River. I'm looking forward to sparking curiosity in my 4th-grade students, allowing them to latch on to a love of lifelong learning.



My name is Toni Gerver this is my 26th year at Saint Patrick School and I love it. Our students are the best. I teach P.E. so I joke I play all day but play is learning for students. I am married to my high school sweet heart, Bill Gerver. We have been married for 43 yrs. and have 3 grown children, Danni and husband Walter of McCook. They have 2 boys Paxton and Ashton, both in Senior High. Son Chance and daughter Rikki 8, of McCook and another son Nick also of McCook. The kids will tell you I love my pets, boxer Zena and macaw Molly. I spend my free time mostly with family and I enjoy our neighborhood as we have lots of children running around. I am looking forward to another faith filled year with our students.

Hi, my name is Shaelin Stiver. I am the 5th-8th grade English, 5th and 8th grade Reading, and the 5th grade homeroom teacher. This will be my fourth year at Saint Patrick School. I live in McCook with my husband Douglas, my son Jullian, my daughter Kenzie, our 3 dogs, 2 cats, and our fish. This year we will be moving my daughter away to college and adjusting to a new chapter in our lives. In my spare time I enjoy fishing, reading, and spending time with my family. I am looking forward to another amazing year.

Welcome back! I am Mrs. Stewart and I am looking forward to another great school year! I have been a "lifer" at St. Patrick School. I began teaching fourth grade, moved to second grade and now reside in the Kindergarten room. I LOVE St. Patrick School and my Kinders! I grew up in Haigler, NE. I attended college at UNK, met my hubby and moved to McCook. My husband, Kevin, is an agronomist at Frenchman Valley and our daughter, Brooke, also lives in McCook. She is also a proud St. Patrick alumni! The summer flew by entirely too quickly! Our biggest summer activity was Brooke's wedding and adding Ben to our family. Here is to a great year and I look forward to seeing everyone!



Hi, my name is Mindy Rogers, and this will be my third year at St. Patrick's School. This year, I will be the kindergarten para and the 5th and 6th grade religion teacher. My husband, Brock, and I have five children who have all attended St. Patrick's. Kolbe is a 3rd grader this year, Caleb is a sophomore at MHS, Aubrey will be a Freshman at MCC, Gabby is a cosmetologist at Willow and Co., and Isaac is a bar manager in Lincoln. I am so excited to get back to the school routine and see all the kids fill the hallways.



Mrs. Hinz

Art and Computer
Technology

Meet the Teacher

Philosophy

I believe a quality art education empowers students as lifelong learners and innovative thinkers. I use various teaching techniques to engage all learners and connect art with other subjects, emphasizing its everyday significance. My goal is to help students build confidence and develop a deep appreciation for the arts.

About Me

I have been teaching for 18 years and all of them here at Saint Patrick's School. I live with my husband (Merlin), 2 dogs (Kahl and Rossi), cat (Rue), and 15 chickens on a farm southwest of McCook. My hobbies include anything art related, gardening, and spending time with my family and grandkids. I love to go camping and boating at the nearby lakes.

Items Needed

- clean egg cartons - used for paint trays
- plastic lids - soda pop lids
- newspaper - sculpture project
- baby wipes - help clean up hands

Favorites

Coffee from Jolin Joes
Working with clay
Experimenting with art
Materials

The "Cool" Colors
Star Wars Movies

Contact



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308-345-4546



BE A KNIGHT

Knights are:

- ♦ Brave
- ♦ Self Giving
- ♦ Honorable
- ♦ Faithful
- ♦ Hard Working
- ♦ Fair
- ♦ Respectful
- ♦ Humble



Our Knights demonstrated their Knighthood in many instances over the summer.



They helped to make downtown McCook beautiful by watering plants and flowers.

Patrick continued to visit his friends at Hillcrest and Kinship Pointe with Mrs. Redl.



Several students and Miss Shannon shared their musical talents by entertaining friends at Kinship Pointe and singing at church.

Many Knights helped at the fair food booth, plus many other Knightly projects and actions throughout the summer. We are proud of our Knights!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Hot Dog on Bun Pork & Beans Vegetable Fruit Milk	19 Deli Sandwich On Flatbread Vegetables Fruit Milk	20 Chicken & Noodles Mashed Potatoes Vegetable Fruit Biscuit Milk	21 Chef Salad w/ Ham & Cheese Cucumbers Fruit Breadstick Milk	22 Cheese Pizza Baby Carrots Vegetable Tropical Fruit Milk	29
24 <hr/> 31	25 Chicken Nuggets Green Beans Vegetable Mandarin Oranges Birthday Cake Milk	26 Biscuits & Gravy Eggs Hashbrowns Fruit Juice Milk	27 Pasta Spaghetti Sauce w/Meatballs Vegetable Fruit Garlic Toast Milk	28 COOK'S CHOICE	29 PBJ or Tuna Salad Sandwich Salad Vegetable Fruit Milk	30

Menu Subject to Change

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

MEDICATIONS—This form will be available at Open House

Designated school personnel will be allowed to give medications to students. All medication will be housed in the school office and secured during non working hours. **NO MEDICATION WILL BE GIVEN WITHOUT A MEDICATION PERMISSION FORM (SEE BELOW).**

We encourage parents/guardians to give medication at home. Three times a day dosage may be given before school, after school and at bedtime. If your child needs to take a medicine at school a few rules apply.

1. All medication will be kept in the school office.
2. No medication will be given without a signed medication permission form from the parent or guardian indicating the medication to be given, the amount to be given and the time to be given (see below).
3. The medicine must be sent to the school in the original container appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician. **Any medicine not in the original container cannot be given. This includes over-the-counter medication (cough drops, throat lozenges, Tylenol, ibuprofen, cough syrup, allergy medicine, etc.)**

Please help us insure safety in the administration of medicine at school.

Thank you,

Mrs. Rebecca Redl
Principal

PLEASE DETACH MEDICATION PERMISSION FORM AND FILE FOR FUTURE USE.

ST. PATRICK SCHOOL McCook, NE MEDICATION PERMISSION FORM

Student's Name _____ Date _____

Type of Medication _____

(Please write in the full name including generic name and brand if applicable.)

Dosage of Medication _____

What time to be given and how often to be given. _____

How long will the student be taking this medicine? _____

Personnel of St. Patrick School have my permission to administer the medicine I have just described.

Signature of Parent or Guardian