



Carren Gratz  
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[My Favorite Things](#)

**What made you decide to join the teaching staff at St. Joseph Parish School?**

I decided to join the teaching staff at St. Joseph Parish School after being given the opportunity to teach Science and Mathematics to the Middle School students. I jumped at the opportunity because I am passionate about sharing the knowledge I have worked for and gained with young, moldable minds of the communities in which I grew up in. I also have familial connections to St. Joseph Parish and have nothing but fond memories of the Parish community. This chance to give students a hands-on, interactive experience with both the scientific and mathematical world is a blessing for me and I hope to excite and inspire the students I get to teach.

**When did you realize you wanted a career in science?**

I realized I wanted a career in science while still in high school. This dream was then reinforced by my professors and classes that I attended at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. At all three institutions, I was given the chance to apply scientific knowledge and concepts to real-world situations and “get my hands dirty”. Those experimental learning opportunities only further enhanced my excitement and curiosity of the natural world and lead me to this path.

**Where are you originally from?**

I grew up in Cedarburg and lived in the area most of my life.

**What are your hobbies?**

Coaching softball, camping, organizing, and chasing my energetic sons around to play.

**What is your favorite food and drink?**

Peanut butter and jelly toast, melon, and meatloaf.