



## Mrs. Nicole Vaculik K4 Instructor

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### [My Favorite Things](#)

#### **What is your favorite part of teaching early childhood?**

My passion has always been to teach the youngest of learners. I enjoy the wonder and curiosity of 3- & 4-year-olds as well as their confidence and willingness to try new things. I'm excited to lead a play-based classroom where I can guide positive social interactions, encourage critical thinking, and provide opportunities to explore the world around us.

#### **What do you feel makes St. Joseph Parish School special?**

Definitely the Christian family atmosphere! With the unique perspective of first experiencing the SJPS community as a school family prior to becoming a teacher, my answer to this question is solid. My family first experienced the warm, inclusive SJPS environment upon enrolling our oldest son in 2004. We were immediately taken in by the "family" community that St. Joe's offered and appreciated that the Catholic morals we were teaching at home were also taught in the classroom. Now, as an SJPS teacher, I notice –much like my own children– students flourishing in the caring SJPS environment, performing exceedingly well academically, and participating in extracurriculars like basketball, volleyball, and musicals. All of this is why SJPS is such a special place.

#### **What are your hobbies?**

More than anything, I love spending time with my family. With four (technically) adult children, I cherish the time we spend together, especially when it's the entire gang. I also love taking long walks in nature, gardening, and reading.

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

I love breakfast and would totally eat breakfast food for every meal– especially bacon and waffles, or any type of pastry! My favorite drink is definitely coffee– hot or iced, as long as it has plenty of sugar and creamer. Caramel Macchiato is my current go-to.