

VCES LEARNING SUPPORT TEAM

OUR BELIEF

Valley Catholic Elementary School supports our families in their role as primary educators of their children. Together we educate the whole child – spiritually, intellectually, culturally, socially, emotionally, and physically. We honor the dignity and diversity of our students by fostering their ability to recognize and develop individual strengths and talents. We maintain high academic and social standards, preparing our students for lifelong learning, leadership, and service in the community, country, and world.



Kim Smith
**Learning Support Coordinator &
Learning Specialist**
ksmith@valleycatholic.org

The VCES Learning Specialist works closely with students, teachers, and parents to address academic support for students in the elementary school, focusing on providing appropriate instruction and intervention based on educational best practices supported by research. Additionally, the Learning Specialist monitors student progress using quantitative and qualitative metrics, provides specialized instruction, and collaborates with outside providers to ensure students' strengths and needs are met.



Erin DeClark
Reading Specialist
edeclark@valleycatholic.org

The VCES Reading Specialist supports, supplements and extends classroom teaching and works collaboratively to implement a quality reading program using an Orton-Gillingham based, multi-sensory approach through systematic, explicit, direct instruction. By carefully monitoring students' progress, the Reading Specialist is able to provide small group instruction for struggling readers, focusing on increasing phonemic awareness, phonics skills, word decoding, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension development.



Sue Yockey
School Counselor
syockey@valleycatholic.org

The VCES School counselor works closely with students, teachers, and parents to foster social and emotional development. During classroom visits the counselor works with students on bullying prevention, nutrition, and exercise. The counselor also provides support to students through individual and group sessions in identified areas of concern. Additionally, the counselor provides parent education and community resources for counseling referrals and evaluations.



Kathryn Welsh
Math Specialist
kwelsh@valleycatholic.org

In collaboration with the Learning Support Team and classroom teachers, the VCES Math Specialist identifies students in need of additional instruction and establishes a schedule to provide targeted instruction during push-in or pull-out situations. The Math Specialist utilizes various evidence based strategies to support effective mathematics instruction and student learning for students in grades first through fifth grades.