



“St. Thomas has granted me the privilege to pursue my greatest passion: teaching.”

Joe Olson

5th - 8th Grade Social Studies

8th Grade Homeroom

Mr. Olson came to St. Thomas in 2014. He grew up in Chicago and attended Catholic grade school and high school. He has a degree in Business Economics from Benedictine University and spent many years in the banking industry until he decided to pursue a long term desire to become an elementary school teacher. He entered the Masters in Education program at North Park University and earned endorsements in Middle School Social Studies, Mathematics and Business Management, and also became certified as a Learning Behavioral Specialist I instructor.

In his spare time has been a Board Member of the Chicago Youth Organization and a volunteer football coach. He enjoys camping and traveling with his wife and two large dogs, Tucker and Storm.

About the Students

“I believe that the enrollment size of our school allows the teachers the ability to get to know and understand the students’ learning behaviors.”

On St. Thomas of Villanova

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Grade Level Curriculum Highlights

5th Grade:

- Early American history

6th Grade:

- Rome and its contribution to society

7th and 8th Grade:

- U.S. and Illinois Constitution
- 20th Century History