



## What is the Excel Learning Center?

The Excel Learning Center at St. Paul exists to support students with special learning needs. Through research we know that children have different learning styles and learn at different rates. At times children benefit from learning within a small group setting. The Excel program supports eligible students that need extra help to be successful in learning. Excel also offers ENRICH for 3rd-5th grade to challenge and address the needs of those students that qualify. Instruction is provided by teachers from Lutheran Special Education Ministries (LSEM).

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## Excel Learning Center Focus is Early Intervention



All students in Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades are assessed with DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills). Upon teacher recommendation and DIBELS feedback, students that can benefit from extra literacy instruction and support are invited to be in a *Step Up to Reading* group. This is a small group (2 to 4 students) that comes to the Excel Learning Center for a 30 minute class, 2 or 3 times a week. This is a temporary intervention, usually lasting only one to three semesters

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## Excel Learning Center Offerings

**Excel Step Up to Reading K-2nd**— See above article.

**Excel Reading 3rd-5th** - Students receive extra assistance outside of the regular classroom setting. Instruction focuses on vocabulary, word attack skills, comprehension and written expression in a small group setting.

**Excel Math 3rd-5th** Students receive extra assistance in Math calculation, fluency, and problem solving. Math instruction will be given through the use of hands on math manipulatives while in a small group setting.

**Excel ENRICH 3rd –5th** Program is designed for students who exhibit high performance in an intellectual or creative area, or excel in a specific academic field and is designed to challenge the gifts, talents, and needs of individual students..

**Study Skills 6th-8th**—Academic support provided in an individual or small group setting with study skills instruction given on an as needed basis.



## Excel Learning Center



### What is LSEM?

*Lutheran Special Education Ministries* (LSEM) is a national organization that exists to enable children with special learning needs to receive a Christian education. LSEM has teachers and consultants in Christian schools in 8 states across the country. Visit the website:

[www.luthsped.org](http://www.luthsped.org)

### Family Resources

Understanding Learning Differences

[www.allkindsofminds.org](http://www.allkindsofminds.org)

Children and Adults with ADHD

[www.chadd.org](http://www.chadd.org)

TAGT Texas Association for the Gifted  
Talented [www.txgifted.org](http://www.txgifted.org)

National Center for Learning Disabilities  
[www.ncld.org](http://www.ncld.org)

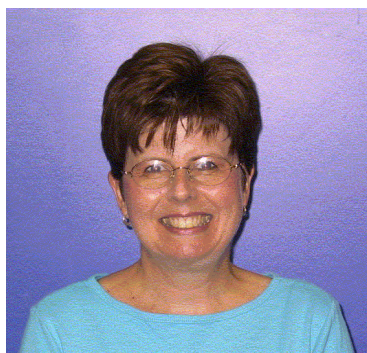
International Dyslexia Association  
[www.interdys.org](http://www.interdys.org)

### What are *special learning needs* ?

Children with special learning needs includes:

- Speech/Language Delays
- Visual/Hearing Impairments
- GT Gifted/Talented
- Attention challenges
- Learning Style Differences
- Learning Disabilities
- Dyslexia
- Autism Spectrum Disorders

### Meet the Excel Teachers at St. Paul



**Mrs. Sharon Messmann, M.Ed.**

Reading Specialist

Special Education

Gifted/Talented Trained

[sharon.messmann@stplcfw.org](mailto:sharon.messmann@stplcfw.org)



**Mrs. Kendell Blake, M. Ed.**

Elementary Classroom Teacher

Reading Specialist

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# LSEM

Lutheran Special Education Ministries