

## Alumni Profile: Abbey Smith

Dr. Abbey Smith said her time at Metro-East Lutheran High School gave her a great foundation in the biological sciences.

Abbey, who is now a dentist with LifeSmile Dental Care in St. Louis, particularly credits former MELHS science teacher Vicki Gillespie for helping to cultivate her blossoming interest in the scientific field.

"The enthusiasm she had about her program continued to encourage me along my path to becoming a general dentist," said Abbey, who graduated from MELHS in 2006.

After high school, Abbey earned her bachelor's of science from SIUE then went on to earn her doctor of dental medicine from Midwestern University College of Dental Medicine in Downers Grove, Ill. She returned to the St. Louis area after completing her schooling and has been practicing general dentistry in the area since 2016.

### ***What are some of your favorite MELHS memories?***

I was able to be involved in so many activities - cheerleading, soccer, track, band, National Honor Society, and plenty of others. Some of my favorite memories are cheering for home football and basketball games, being the first competitive cheer team at MELHS, and of course meeting my high school sweetheart, who is now my husband, Luke.

### ***What are you most grateful for from your MELHS experience?***

I'm eternally grateful for a teaching staff full of God-fearing individuals and the love, grace, and mercy of Christ they modeled to us on a daily basis. That is truly the greatest gift MELHS has given me and continues to give to all of its students.

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**DR. ABBEY SMITH**



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