

WELCOME TO THE 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR!



I wanted to take a few minutes to introduce myself. My name is Becky Kilgore and I will be the new full time Learning Specialist at New Urban High School. I'm so excited to be here with you!

While this is my first year at New Urban, this will be my 25th year teaching. The majority of my time has been spent as a Special Education Teacher in middle and high schools. More typically, in smaller schools with students who benefited from unique avenues to accessing their education. For the last fifteen years, I have been teaching at a small options high school, very similar to New Urban. I have also spent some years as a general education teacher (middle/high school) and am a parent of two daughters who have their own unique learning needs.

With all that said, I know there will be things for me to learn at New Urban and can't wait to meet my students and build relationships with them, you and my new colleagues. Working together is going to be an important aspect to your child's success so, I wanted to share some information with you.

I do have a teacher webpage that is linked to the New Urban website: <http://newurbanhs.org/kilgore/>. There you will find my contact information. While I do list a phone number, typically email is the best way to contact me. I will return messages, received either way, within 24 hours (usually sooner).

We will be using Google Classroom this year. It's a new strategy for me, but I feel it is an important way for students and parents to be aware of what's happening in Skill Builders classes. The "level" of Skill Builders class is linked to the student's grade level: Skill Builder 9 is for 9th graders/Freshman; 10 for 10th graders/Sophomores; 11 for 11th graders/Juniors and 12 for 12th/Seniors. All of my class periods have mixed grade levels represented and lessons may differ based on the age and/or experience of student.

A typical day in Skill Builders would be structured like this:

15-20 min. Opening "mini-lesson" to focus on targeted skill for entire class

20-30 min. Skill Building (based on individual need)

10-15 min. Study skills/ Organization/ Wrap up for the day

Students will need these supplies by Monday, September 11th for class. These items will stay in the room:

1.5 in Binder

Notebook paper

Pen (black or blue)

Pencil

I don't want to bombard you with too much information at once, but felt this was a good start. Students will be able to explain things in greater detail as the beginning weeks unfold. Please feel free to contact me with any questions and/or concerns.

Here's to a great school year,

Becky Kilgore