

Dear parents and guardians,

My name is Kelly Kaufman and I am excited for the opportunity to be your child's English teacher this year. I have an English degree from Duke University and a Masters in Secondary Education from Cabrini College. I have had the privilege to teach and coach at several local districts, and I am thrilled to be at Newtown Middle.

I am looking forward to meeting your child next week. In the meanwhile, I would like to share a few words with you about my core teaching beliefs.

- I believe in creating a positive classroom environment that is respectful of all students.
- I believe that the ability to communicate effectively is paramount to success. In my classroom, students will have daily practice reading, writing, and speaking. Students will receive timely feedback so they can steadily improve their skills.
- I believe in the importance of fostering emotional intelligence to promote responsibility, self-control, optimism, discipline, and motivation.
- I believe in a student-centered learning environment with high levels of student engagement. Students learn most effectively when they are active participants. They take more ownership for their learning and feel greater satisfaction when they are actively engaged in the learning process.
- I believe in differentiating instruction to meet the needs of students of all learning styles and abilities.
- I believe that learning is supposed to be FUN and expectations are to be HIGH.

I am passionate about teaching, and I promise to care about your child and to encourage him/her to reach high. I want to thank you in advance for partnering with me to help your child achieve maximum success in the English classroom. Without a doubt, this will be a unique school year. Adaptability and perseverance will be a part of our everyday vocabulary! I promise you that I have been working hard to blend traditional and digital formats and have included activities that will build and foster connections and community. I have embraced this challenge and will encourage my students to do the same. There is so much to learn and so many ways to grow!

Finally, if there is any information that you think I should know, please don't hesitate to contact me. I am looking forward to a great 2021-22 school year.

Respectfully,

Kelly Kaufman