



STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

WELCOME BACK FOR FALL 2023! - BECKY GILMORE

I hope your fall semester is off to a good start! Now is a great time to set new goals, form new habits, and make new friends. I would also like to remind those of you who are already in the SSS program to take advantage of all the additional resources that are provided to SSS students to help you succeed in college and in life. All of these resources are free. If you have questions about SSS resources, workshops or events, please contact any SSS staff member. Some of these resources include:

- Learning Workshops
- Quiet study space
- English Specialist
- Transfer Assistance
- Peer Tutoring
- Social Events

There are *only 50 openings* left for new students in our program. If you know of someone who could benefit from being a member of Student Support Services, please bring them to the SSS offices on the second floor of Irvin Hall. We would be happy to visit with them to see if they qualify!

Have a great semester!
Becky Gilmore, M.S.Ed
Student Support Services Director

MEET THE STAFF



**BECKY GILMORE
DIRECTOR**

Hello all! I am Becky Gilmore, the Director for the Student Support Services (SSS) program. I am a graduate of HCC and Kansas State University, where I earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. My master's degree was earned from the University of Kansas in Higher Education Administration. I started my career in higher education as the Regional Student Services Coordinator for HCC. After completing my master's degree, I accepted a position at Missouri Western State University as the Assistant Director of Career Development. I also served as Director of Career Development at Benedictine College, Civil Engineering advisor at Texas A&M University, and as a Kinesiology advisor at Kansas State University before returning to Highland.

I am married with 3 children (all redheads!) and 5 grandchildren. I love being with family, playing piano, listening to praise music, watching KSU sports (GO CATS!) and pulling weeds.



**DEANNA BECKMANN
ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT**

Hello everyone! My name is Deanna Beckmann, and I am the office assistant for the SSS Program. I have been working with the SSS program for a little over a year! I do a little bit of everything and help those that want it, if and when possible.

In my spare time, I like to spend time with my family and ride four wheelers. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to come and ask!

MEET THE STAFF



KIM BECHTOLD
TRANSFER ADVISOR

Hey everyone! My name is Kim Bechtold and I'm beginning my 11th year working with the SSS program as the Transfer Advisor. I attended HCC and transferred to Northwest Missouri State University where I earned a bachelor's degree in Merchandising. After working in the design field for a few years, I began my career in higher education as a Graduate Enrollment Advisor at Baker Universities Overland Park campus. The best part of my job here at Highland, is getting to know our students and seeing how we can help them reach their goals!

Outside of work, I enjoy hanging out with my husband (Josh) and two kids (Mason-12 & Mila-8). The kids keep us busy with football, basketball, baseball, dance, and many other activities throughout the year. We love living in the country and letting our dog, Steven the boxer, run free! When I have time, I love reading, gardening, and watching reruns of New Girl or whatever series that makes me laugh.



RENAE WELCH
ACADEMIC SPECIALIST

Hello everyone! My name is Renae Welch, and this is my third year working as an Academic Specialist for SSS. If you ever need help proof-reading assignments or working on homework for English/Business classes, make sure you stop by and find me!

Since graduating Summa cum laude from Lincoln Christian University with a Bachelor in Business Administration, I have worked as a Social Media Coordinator and in higher education. Two very different fields that I really enjoy! When I'm not at HCC, I enjoy reading, road trips, and baking.



AMBER HUTFLES
**SSS RETENTION AND
TUTOR COORDINATOR**

Hi all! I am Amber Hutfles, the new SSS Retention/Tutor Coordinator. I couldn't be more excited to serve in this role and work with you! If I have not had the opportunity to meet you, please come by and say hello! I grew up in a neighboring community, graduated from Highland Community College, and transferred to Kansas State University to complete a degree in Hospitality Management, with an emphasis in Event Management, and a minor in Business Management. While I was a student at Kansas State University, I received the "Extraordinary Student Award." This award is given to students who have been successful in their academic pursuits while facing opposition or significant obstacles.

After graduating from Kansas State University, I began my professional career in Manhattan, KS. Most recently, I served as the Talent Strategies Coordinator for the Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce. I have a passion for engaging and growing young people and community development. In 2022, I was awarded NextGen Under30 Kansas, a recognition program presented by the Kansas Department of Commerce honoring talented young adults in Kansas under the age of 30, for the contributions made in their communities.

I recently married Joel Hutfles and we decided to move back to the area to be closer to family. In my spare time, I volunteer on the Flint Hills Praisefest Board, stay active, and spend quality time with friends and family.



WHITE CLOUD CULTURAL TRIP (8/31/23)

Thursday, Aug. 31, students from Student Support Services (SSS) traveled north of Highland on a cultural trip to visit the White Cloud School and Ma-Hush-Kah Historical Museum to learn more about the area's history.

Students enjoyed exploring the museum, writing on the chalk boards and picturing what it would have been like to live in northeast Kansas during White Cloud's heydays. For lunch, students were also able to try new foods like Navajo Tacos (Indian Fry Bread) and explore the White Cloud Flea Market; a first for many of them!

"This was an amazing experience for our students. Linda and Dick Maris presented very interesting facts about White Cloud and where the Ma-Hush-Kah museum got its name. We saw the basement of the Community Christian Church where a fire occurred in 1959 killing two high school students. Seeing the Four State Lookout was the "high point" of the trip. Several of the students were able to meet one of HCC's board members, Vernie Coy, who was serving lunch at the Legion. A lot of information and fun was packed into this educational trip."

Becky Gilmore, SSS Director

FALL EVENTS:

SEPTEMBER:

- Organization Workshop 9/7 at 12:30pm
- Financial Workshop 9/13 at 10:30am
- Study Skills Workshop 9/27 at 12:30pm

OCTOBER:

- Transfer Week 10/16-20
- KSU Transfer Trip 10/19
- Fall Social at Klinefelter Farm 8/25

