



KENTUCKY CENTER FOR MATHEMATICS

Good News from KCM Coaching 2008-2009

Good News from Union County

By Margie McGraw, Sophomore Math Coach

As a math coach at Union County Middle School I have been a witness to the benefits of the Cognitive Coaching program through the Kentucky Center for Mathematics. The program has helped strengthen the pedagogy and teaching skills of the math teachers. We have been able to come together as a math department to share ideas, concerns, and successes.

By having the Cognitive Coaching model to follow barriers have been smashed and a real learning community is developing. Teachers see the math coach continue to teach in the classroom and therefore have the same responsibilities of lesson planning, creating student

activities, and develop student assessment a shared responsibility deepens. The teachers also come to see the coach as a resource for help, information, and a sounding board. The benefit of the coach observing and offering feedback in a non-evaluative role is invaluable.

~Margie McGraw, Union County Middle School Math Teacher and Math Coach

“As a teacher at an alternative school, the math coach at the students’ home school, Mrs. Margie McGraw has been invaluable to me. Although I am not in her building, she, along with the entire math department, makes an extra effort to

include me. In past experiences, without a math coach, the

teachers seem to work much more independently and stay to themselves. This year, with Mrs. McGraw, I feel like I have been included on a math team of teachers to help students learn together. It is amazing! I don’t feel alone as a teacher anymore! I have others to bounce ideas off of, and share successful strategies with...every teacher needs a group like this!”

~Terra Caudill, Union County

