



## Kentucky Educators Reason about Improving Readiness



The KCM (Kentucky Center for Mathematics) hosted its fifth annual conference on February 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> in Lexington, Kentucky. The theme of the conference, *Reasoning for Readiness*, was based on one of the Standards for Mathematical Practice. Encouraging quantitative and abstract reasoning by students ensures they gain strong foundations that will establish readiness for the next stage of learning.



Over 450 educators gathered to participate in this statewide event that represented preschool education, over 85 K-12 Kentucky school districts, all Kentucky public post-secondary institutions, adult education, and other educational organizations throughout the state and across the nation.



The conference kicked off with remarks from Commissioner Terry Holliday and Northern Kentucky University President Geoff Mearns regarding the important role mathematics education plays in helping kids get ready for college and careers.

Commissioner Holliday took impressive notice of the work that educators are doing to improve student achievement and specifically referenced Kentucky's astonishing improvements from ranking 34<sup>th</sup> a few years ago to recently being ranked 10<sup>th</sup> by Education Week!



*Kentucky Education & Workforce Development Secretary Meyer chats with teachers during an afternoon lunch at the conference.*

The 135 speakers presented 84 sessions for participants to engage in mathematics education topics related to reasoning for readiness at all grade levels. Participants have ongoing online access to materials and resources presented during the conference for use in their local schools and classrooms.

This year's annual conference provided a venue for mathematics educators to share their knowledge and expand their thinking and understanding for developing students' quantitative and abstract reasoning. Participants were able to connect with educators statewide, grow their professional networks, and nourish their passions for teaching mathematics, all of which is done in effort to support students in achieving academic and life-long success.