



Elizabeth "Jean" Bingham, an MIT (Mathematics Intervention Teacher) at Central Elementary in Knox County, is one of seven recipients of the Northern Kentucky University Trailblazer Award for Mathematics Education. Jean explains that in her eight years of continued professional learning through Math Recovery and the KCM (Kentucky Center for Mathematics) she has changed the way she thinks about how students learn mathematics and has transformed her practice to focus on student thinking to

gauge progress and need through formative assessment. As her teaching improved, her students have gained confidence in their abilities as learners and are better able to explain their deep mathematical thinking in the regular classroom.

Through skilled and tireless leadership, Jean has helped hundreds of teachers understand and apply new ways to help students develop strong number sense. Jean has sought out opportunities for continued professional learning and leads training for preschool, primary grades, and intermediate grades teachers in her school, district, region, and the state. She has also presented popular sessions for national and state conferences and in addition was a valuable contributor to the Kentucky Department of Education webinar series on early mathematics released in June 2014. In addition, she also advises the KCM Senior Director during monthly online Program Advisory Team meetings.

Jean wishes that every school in Kentucky could have a Math Recovery teacher so no student would go unchallenged and no teacher would go untrained in the ways that students best learn math. She is hopeful that her school will continue to receive Mathematics Achievement Funds after June 2015 so she will have a sustained opportunity to serve as an MIT.

KCM (Kentucky Center for Mathematics) Regional Coordinators attested to her talent and commitment stating that:

- "Jean is the consummate professional with confidence that lights up the room! Her confidence and caring is always forefront whether she is leading regional professional development or working with students, she helps all to grow in their mathematical journey."
- "Jean cares about students and their teachers and she is committed to changing how mathematics is taught in Kentucky. She is a life-long learner - a great example for all of us!"
- "When I first met her, Jean was excited, motivated, energized, and generous as she shared the instructional strategies and activities. I was humbled and inspired by her expertise."
- "Jean goes beyond all expectations. She is always looking for opportunities to further her own professional growth and seeks out opportunities for helping other teachers grow."
- "Jean is persevering, professional, knowledgeable, kind, and selfless."
- "Kentucky is a better place because Jean became an MIT."