

# GOOD NEWS

FROM THE KENTUCKY CENTER  
FOR MATHEMATICS



## ELEVENTH ANNUAL KCM CONFERENCE WAS A SUCCESS

Over 500 math educators from across the commonwealth came together March 11th and 12th, 2019 for the eleventh annual KCM conference, titled Connect: Fostering Mathematical Minds and Communities.

Held at the Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington, KY, the conference featured 79 unique breakout sessions. These sessions were led by teachers, enabling them to share their classroom success stories with fellow educators. Feedback from conference participants was glowing. They enjoyed a "well-balanced" array of sessions, where they gained "valuable tools." One participant felt that the speakers were "very energetic, had amazing examples and had concrete steps to put their ideas into place."

The 2019 conference also welcomed six featured speakers, who came from across the US and Canada to share their mathematics education knowledge with attendees. These special guests included: Sara Van Der Werf, Math Consultant with VanDerWerf Educational Consulting; Peg Smith, Professor Emerita at the University of Pittsburgh; Grace Kelemanik, co-founder of Fostering Math Practices; Karen Karp, Professor in the School of Education at Johns Hopkins University; Marian Small, former Dean of Education at the University of New Brunswick; and Cathy Fosnot, President and CEO of New Perspectives on Learning.

Conference attendees gained invaluable knowledge from the special guest presentations. "I left their sessions with some practical and immediately applicable tools to use," noted one participant. Many teachers were thrilled to work with Sara Van Der Werf, being familiar with her popular education blog. Their enthusiasm can be summed up by one participant who noted that Sara "was a true inspiration! Her message motivated me to make some changes on my expectations of students that struggle."

A collection of exhibitors graced the hallway of the Marriott for teachers to explore cutting edge classroom tools and teaching aids. These exhibitors included conference special guest Cathy Fosnot. Fosnot engaged with conference attendees during breaks, taking time to sign copies of her books. One attendee shared, "it was awesome having known authors speaking. I love the work of Cathy Fosnot, and it was great to meet her in person."

At lunch on Tuesday, KCM's own Executive Director, Dr. Dan McGee, gave a touching farewell address to attendees. Dr. McGee has been leading the KCM for almost 6 years. He will be stepping down from his role at KCM in July of 2019, when he will return to the math department at Northern Kentucky University.

**"I always come away with new ideas and a fresh motivation to keep moving my students forward in mathematics!"**

- CONFERENCE PARTICIPANT



Many Kentucky teachers look forward to attending the KCM conference annually. "KCM always provides the best math related content that I can immediately take back to my classroom/school and implement. They seek out the most knowledgeable presenters in the field to make sure best practices are being delivered in the sessions."

KCM looks forward to sharing this experience with teachers again at our 12th annual conference next March!