

# GOOD NEWS

FROM THE KENTUCKY CENTER FOR MATHEMATICS



## KCM REGIONAL CONSULTANT WINS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

KCM's own Regional Consultant Julie Adams was recently named the 2019 recipient of the Ann S. Booth MESA award by the Kentucky Council of Teachers of Mathematics (KCTM)!

The MESA (Mathematics Education Service and Achievement) award is given by KCTM to outstanding mathematics teachers (K-16), education professionals and business leaders in recognition of standout service to the mathematics community. Julie was honored with this designation at the KCTM Awards Recognition.

Julie has been a Regional Consultant for the KCM for five years, which she describes as "living the dream!" She became a leader with KCM prior to taking on the Regional Consultant role. As a teacher, Julie participated in KCM professional learning experiences (PLEs). "I was given the opportunity to share my experiences with other teachers through participating in PLEs," she says. "I was transforming into a leader organically, just by sharing my experiences as I tried to improve my own educator effectiveness."

Participating in KCM PLE's made a huge difference in Julie's teaching practices. Julie participated in PLEs for two years, focusing on early mathematics, linking literacy and math, professional noticing and personal reflections. "Improving my professional reflection and ability to analyze student behaviors and assessments to drive my instruction, was a result of my direct work with the KCM and their collaborators," Julie explains. "I became highly interested and invested in this work."

Julie reflects on her early interaction with KCM saying, "I really appreciated KCM's support and guidance in allowing me the opportunity to lead others." By sharing experiences and networking with teachers across the commonwealth, Julie was able to strengthen her leadership skills, while gaining valuable new perspectives on effective teaching.

A graduate of Morehead State University, Julie is currently embarking on her 21st year in the education field. Her time as a preservice teacher often informs her work today, allowing a unique viewpoint for assisting Kentucky teachers in her role as a Regional Consultant. "I remember well, my thoughts and excitement as I had my first classroom," Julie recalls. "I have loved working with kids of all ages and stages."

Julie's extensive experience in education has enabled her to feel the pulse of important issues in the field. She has found that the most common desire from teachers in Kentucky is for fellow educators at the school to be able to attend professional development courses as well. "If I could do one thing for Kentucky mathematics teachers, it would be to offer all teachers high quality professional learning experiences, as offered in our comprehensive courses." Julie says, adding also to "ensure that they have the availability of resources and materials to carry out rich, engaging tasks for their students."

**"The KCM fostered my growth as a leader, without me even realizing it was taking place."**

**- JULIE ADAMS, KCM REGIONAL CONSULTANT**



When faced with unsettling times, Julie knows that the best approach for educators is to "rally together, share our information and resources and continue to shine our light for others to see!"