

MARCH 2021

GOOD NEWS

FROM THE KENTUCKY CENTER FOR MATHEMATICS



KCM VIRTUAL CONFERENCE REACHES TEACHERS ACROSS THE GLOBE

The annual KCM conference adjusted to the times by going virtual this year. The conference, entitled "Imagine: Building New Realities through Collaboration," was held March 7-9, 2021, with 1,045 registered attendees from all across the US, as well as eight other countries.

The conference kicked off on Sunday evening with a phenomenal opening keynote by national speaker John SanGiovanni. This session was all about dynamic, doable activities that engage students in meaningful ways. Participants left with ready-for-use resources and ideas. "I loved the examples and access to materials for immediate use," shared an attendee.

Monday was the first full day of the conference, starting off with a keynote from international math guru Sunil Singh. Following this session, participants chose from eight breakout sessions in various focus and grade level areas. Monday's breakout sessions even included special guest, Kanita DuCloux. Wrapping up Monday evening was a keynote from Kentucky's own, WKU Professor Natasha Gerstenschlager.

The professional learning carried on in day three with an opening session about debate in the mathematics classroom from author and math educator, Chris Luzniak. "I loved Chris Luzniak!" an attendee commented, saying his session offered, "very practical and easy to implement ideas."

Tuesday brought additional opportunities for attendees to connect, through more targeted breakout sessions and a special "meet up" hour. During this hour participants could enter a virtual meeting hall to share comments and ideas about conference material.

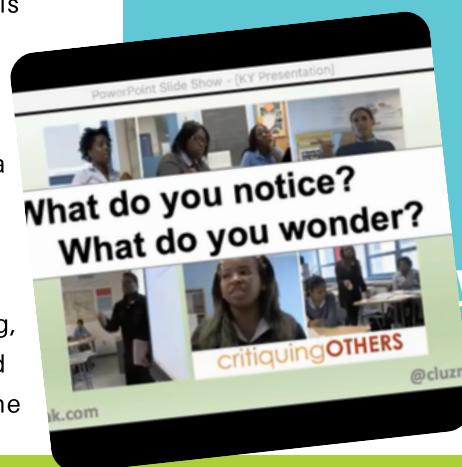
A celebration ended the conference on Tuesday evening, as the KCM shared appreciation to those who attended and spoke. This celebration also recognized KCM's birthday! The center celebrated 15 years of growth, innovation and

servicing the math teachers and students of Kentucky.

Conference participants were ready to jump out of their comfort zones and explore the new learning opportunities of a virtual conference. "Of all the times I've done a similar presentation with teachers, [KCM] was the most interactive! I was so impressed at how your group was unafraid and open to jumping in and trying out some new activities" noted keynote Chris Luzniak.

Participants also had opportunities to connect with conference sponsors and win prizes! Forty signed books from conference featured speakers were given away. One lucky teacher even walked away with \$100 worth of classroom materials from ORIGO Education. "Great conference and I win a prize! Can't get any better than that!" said prize winner Kristie Manley. "Thank you [KCM] for all you have done for me in my journey as a teacher and a mathematician."

All conference sessions were held in the evening to accommodate the teachers' school hours, although every session was recorded. Recordings will remain available for teachers to view anytime they wish.



"The KCM conference is the best PD I have ever had in my 26 years of teaching!"

-2021 CONFERENCE ATTENDEE

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