This past March 6th-7th, at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Lexington, Kentucky, the KCM hosted its 15th annual math teacher conference. The KCM conference is an event dedicated to professional learning among educators working to improve mathematics achievement, where educators engage in activities, breakout sessions and conversations to advance their understanding of the learning and teaching of mathematics. This year our conference theme was "Empower: Building United Mathematical Communities". Kentucky educators are so resilient, and with this conference theme, our goal was to place those educators in a venue with powerful mathematical minds from across the nation to learn and collaborate with, thereby building united mathematical communities and empowering all!

The conference featured 5 outstanding keynote speakers, hosted over 70 different breakout sessions, and saw just over 480 attendees with even a special appearance and talk by the Kentucky Commissioner of Education, Dr. Jason Glass. The conference launched on Monday morning with a powerful keynote presentation from The Math Pact authors Dr. Sarah Bush and Dr. Barbara Dougherty, encouraging and empowering attendees to form their own "math pact". During lunch, Deborah Peart inspired attendees with her presentation "Mathers Gonna Math: The Rebranding of Mathematics", empowering them to rework their mathematics perspectives, and demonstrating how we can empower students to view math as exciting and fun, rather than as scary and difficult.
The energy from Monday held strong into Tuesday; which was packed with more breakout sessions and two more stellar keynote presentations from Dr. Kyndall Brown, author of *Choosing to see: A Framework For Equity in the Math Classroom*, and *Rough Draft Math: Revising to Learn* author Dr. Amanda Jansen. The KCM Conference was an incredible blend of great sessions, opportunities to engage with other educators, and access to strong resources with a true sense of community. Conference attendees were wowed and inspired by the litany of talented speakers and sessions made available to them, with even some of the keynote speakers leaving with new math tools and tricks to implement. Dr. Jansen, when reflecting on the conference, stated, "I truly appreciated the opportunity to meet and interact with mathematics teachers and teacher leaders in Kentucky during the KCM conference this year. It is apparent that Kentucky educators are invested in creating powerful mathematics learning opportunities for students".

We at KCM were thrilled with the wonderful feedback from our attendees, such as Barren County school teacher, Robert Brown, sharing his feedback by saying, "The 2023 KCM conference allowed me to connect with fellow mathematicians and share our strategies. I could recharge my math batteries by being around fellow math lovers, and I always look forward to attending the math conference and coming home with a plethora of math wisdom to share with my students and their families!". We feel very excited that our participants had a fantastic experience due to the outstanding efforts and work of our keynote and session speakers. We were also honored with a special visit from the Kentucky Education Commissioner, Dr. Jason Glass, who had this to say about KCM: “The Kentucky Center for Mathematics is an incredible and supportive resource for teachers in our Commonwealth. Their efforts to support quality math instruction and meaningful learning experiences for students aligns beautifully with the state’s United We Learn vision around creating vibrant learning experiences for students. Thank you to KCM for all you do for students and staff in our state!”

On behalf of the entire KCM staff, we want to extend a most sincere THANK YOU for joining us at the 2023 KCM Conference this March in Lexington, Kentucky. We so appreciate the generosity of our attendees for their time and for sharing knowledge, ideas, and enthusiasm for mathematics education with us. It was a true honor, and we hope to see you at our 2024 KCM Conference next March!