The Kentucky Center for Mathematics Coaching Program has provided intensive training for 125 mathematics coaches in the past four years. Ten of these coaches were among the presenters at this year’s KCTM Conference, which was held at Bourbon County High School in Paris, Kentucky. The conference draws hundreds of mathematics teachers who are eager to learn what is happening across the Commonwealth in mathematics education. Eight of the ten coaches who presented are coaches in Kentucky high schools. We would like to express our appreciation to these coaches (Erin Kenney, Beth Roberts, Kim Estes, and Heather Levinson who are currently participating in the program as well as Jeani Gollihue, Susan Gordon, Denise Justice, Silvia Lister, Jim Moore, and Sally Walker who are all former KCM coaches) for the great work they are doing in their schools and for their willingness to share with others.

Erin Kenney, senior coach from Doss High School in Jefferson County, in her presentation entitled “Doss High School MATH LAB: It adds up for students!” she described her school’s efforts to design extra support for math students as they prepare for state testing. Students are able to participate in five separate lab activities. School data indicates that 70% of students who attend at least four labs score above the Novice level on state testing. When asked what she hoped teachers would gain from her session, Kenney said, “I know that as a conference participant, I always hope to take away something that I can use right away. I know that teachers could immediately take away activities and knowledge from my session and hope that other teachers and schools can experience similar successes.”

Kim Estes, senior coach from Warren East High School in Warren County, offered a session based upon activities from the Everyone Passes Algebra workshop offered by PIMSER. This training focuses on the importance of teaching students to understand the connection between a real-world situation and numerical data as well as the many ways to represent data numerically, algebraically, and graphically. As an experienced presenter, she demonstrates her passion for student growth and teacher growth by sharing her mathematical expertise and classroom experiences. In her two years as a mathematics coach, the percentage of students who scored Proficient or Distinguished on the state assessment has increased by 20.23%.

Beth Roberts, freshman coach from Henderson County High School in Henderson County, offered a session entitled “Construction Geometry: Geometry in the Real World”, which showcased her school’s efforts to team the geometry teachers with the career and technical teachers (automotive, machine tool, agriculture, welding, and carpentry). Through this collaboration, students can experience first-hand how mathematics may be used outside of the school building. Response to this class has been very positive, in fact, 48% of students who participated in the class raised their “MAP” score while being able to avoid the question, “When are we ever going to use this?”