



Record Number of Educators Respond to “Call to Action!” The 2016 KCM Conference

The KCM (Kentucky Center for Mathematics) hosted its eighth annual conference on March 7 & 8, 2016, in Lexington, Kentucky. The theme of the conference, “Call to Action!”, emboldened attendees to passionately engage with the mathematics education community in an effort to work together in ensuring the success of all students.

Conference participants explored the “high-leverage” teaching practices as described by the NCTM (National Council of Teachers of Mathematics) in their landmark publication, *Principles to*



Students from Murray State University pose with their professor following their conference presentation.

Actions: Ensuring Success for All.

Session speakers incorporated themes that addressed the NCTM Mathematics Teaching Practices into their presentations, and all attendees were provided with informational handouts about the practices.

A record number of 587 educators attended the conference, representing preschool through post-secondary education, from 93 Kentucky school districts and 9 Kentucky post-secondary institutions. In addition,

98 breakout sessions were offered throughout the two day event - the most in KCM conference history!

In celebration of KCM’s 10 years of service, the KCM conference provided two luncheons for attendees, which featured a multitude of special guests from across the state.

During the luncheon on Monday, March 7, Senator Jimmy Higdon, Majority Whip of the Kentucky Legislature, welcomed attendees and praised them for their work with Kentucky’s children. Afterward, conference keynote



Commissioner Stephen Pruitt greets Kentucky educators during the conference luncheon on March 8, 2016.

speaker, Steve Leinwand of the American Institutes for Research and co-author of *Principles to Actions*, sent the KCM Twitter feed aflutter as attendees echoed Leinwand’s sentiments and message about the importance of mathematics education to student success.

On Tuesday, March 8, conference attendees excitedly welcomed Commissioner Stephen Pruitt to the conference luncheon. Commissioner Pruitt shared his clear passion for education and his unbridled

appreciation of Kentucky teachers. He also encouraged attendees to participate in efforts to improve Kentucky’s accountability system and requested that they attend his forthcoming series of town halls.

Attendees were eager to share feedback about their two-day conference experience. One participant stated, “I learned...valuable things from this conference that I was immediately able to [use]. I was able to bring three other teachers from my school, and we shared information from this conference with our PLCs. It was a



Conference attendees collaborate during a hands-on activity at one of the 98 conference sessions offered.

great experience!”

Another attendee wrote, “The conference, just as my participation in many of the KCM professional offerings, has helped grow my confidence, has given me a place to learn, ask questions, network, and collaborate with peers from other districts.”

The 2017 conference is currently in the planning process. We hope to see you for another record-breaking event!

Connect With KCM



March 2016