Breedlove - New Gatton Director

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There’s a new person in charge of the Gatton Academy, a high school geared toward gifted and talented students.

Amy Bingham introduces us to Lynette Breedlove in this week’s View from the Hill.

The Gatton Academy of Math and Science located at WKU has only been around since 2007 and has already been named the number one high school in the country for the past three years. Lynette Breedlove took over as the school’s director this past summer and calls it her dream job.

 “Everyday I think is this really my job? It’s really remarkable.”

Lynette Breedlove is relishing her role as director of the Gatton Academy.

 “In gifted education there are few opportunities to work exclusively with gifted children or be in a position to make such a difference for gifted kids.”

Breedlove started her career as a special education teacher before transitioning across the hall to a gifted and talented class.

 “When I went to my first gifted and talented professional development on a Saturday, I was hooked. I knew that was really where I needed to be. “

Breedlove helped start a school for gifted students in Texas. She saw the opening at the number one high school in the country just as she was ready to expand her role in gifted education.

 “I had decided what I wanted to do. It felt very serendipitous.”

Breedlove was among three finalists to come to campus for an intense interview that included meeting with Gatton students.

 “She talked about community she talked about ways of advancing Gatton and making it a better place and that’s really what we were looking for.”

The students say it’s been a seamless transition from the Academy’s first director Tim Gott.

 “It’s been kind of hard to fill Tim’s shoes because he was such a great director but I think Lynette was the best candidate that could have been chosen.”

She loves the chance to help guide students through this unbelievable academic opportunity.

 “They’re excited about learning and they’re excited about what they’re future could hold. They don’t take the Gatton Academy for granted.”

The Gatton Academy currently has 128 high school juniors and seniors from across Kentucky. Breedlove says an expansion will allow the school to accept 200 students by 2016.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

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