This talk will discuss how at California State University-Monterey Bay (CSUMB) a system called Early Alert System is used to improve the student success for the developmental mathematics courses. For last five years CSUMB has been running a very successful developmental mathematics program. One of the core factors of the success of this program is an Early Alert System that is used to alert the students several times during the semester to keep them on track if they are struggling. The early alerts are sent in a very friendly way to encourage the students to stay focus. An alert is an encouraging constructive feedback that is sent either by email or in person or in class to each individual student who needs extra support. The system was first started to improve retention of students in this courses since this was the main reason for failure in developmental courses. But, the system ended up doing way more than what was expected. It helped student to form habits of mind, taught them to be more engage in class, to be persistent and to be responsible for their own learning. The talk will discuss how the system work and how fostering the habits of mind helped students to be successful in the developmental mathematics courses. (Received September 26, 2012)