



## Differentiation and Engagement

January 14, 2021

The purpose of this document is to provide information requested by a Board member at the December 10th meeting regarding differentiation of instruction. The following focuses on professional development teachers have completed to support ways for them to differentiate their instruction and to engage students in learning. In addition to the Division training and encouraging teachers to use the strategies and resources listed below, the Gifted Specialists and Instructional Technology Resource Teachers (ITRT) provide daily support to all teachers. They share resources, as well as extend their expertise with collaborative support and planning. It has always been our practice as a Division that our Gifted Specialists provide instructional support to all our students and not solely to those identified as gifted.

### **Teacher Professional Development**

<u>Outreach with Virtual Virginia</u> (Module 5: Blended Lesson Planning with Differentiation ) Answering the question "How will your strategies, materials, and grouping meet the needs of all learners?"	June/August	Virtual Virginia Instructors
<u>Instruction &amp; Planning</u> (Tiering utilizing the curriculum maps for instruction)	August	Hutchinson, Guill, & Wheeler
<u>Instructional Delivery for Meaningful Connections</u> (Content, pace, exit tickets, choice/voice for students)	August	Dr. Lyle & Smith

### **Strategies and Resources (Adapted for In-Person and Remote Instructional Delivery)**

- Provide students with an agenda and a list of discussion questions.
- Communicate expectations for participation and behavior online.
- Invite students to generate their own discussion questions.
- Start every virtual conferencing session with an icebreaker.
- Use the chat window strategically.
- Implement shorter sessions with fewer students.(Strategic Grouping)
  - Ask students to assess their participation online.
  - Pretesting/Compacting to determine tiering
    - Tiered Assignments
    - Tiered Centers
    - Flexible Skills Grouping
    - Individualized Programs
    - Literature/Socratic Circles
    - Independent Study Projects
    - Honors/Advanced Classes
    - Advanced Placement Classes
    - Dual Enrollment Programs