

Figure 4.5: Professional Development Differentiating Instruction in a Realistic and Effective Manner

Objectives:

- Activate conceptual underpinnings and instructional practices to differentiate instruction for all students.
- Engage in communication with colleagues regarding instructional strategies and services that challenge students with advanced capabilities and emergent talents.
- Explore how to enable all students to experience the confidence and self-esteem that result from succeeding with work that challenges them.
- Access a practical set of low-preparation, high-impact strategies and learning experiences that differentiate content, process, and products in the curriculum to ensure continuous learning for all students.

Content:

Differentiation: The Heart of the KOI System

- ✓ Application: Place participants in seven groups and assign each group one of the KOI categories. Each team skims learning experiences in Chapters 6 and 8 for their category and selects two or three options. Jigsaw teams to briefly present those learning tasks to one another and challenge others to implement that learning experience in their classrooms. Identify possible curriculum connections.

Objectives:

- Increase skill sets for purposefully differentiating instruction to elicit and support relevant advanced behaviors.
- Commit to conscientiously jotting down

responses indicative of high aptitude.

- Explore and select specific differentiation strategies and learning experiences that personalize differentiation.
- ✓ Application: In pairs or in small groups, participants select an interesting learning experience from Chapters 6 or 8 and plan relevant content applications for their classrooms. Duplicate copies of the resulting topical applications for all of the participants. The copies ensure a professional audience for the groups' work, hence increasing relevance and the participants' motivation to excel. The copies also serve to expand materials and examples for everyone's instructional repertoire.

Objective:

- Integrate the KOI process and applications into daily routine to positively impact classroom practices and differentiation opportunities.
- ✓ Application: After modeling the process, provide copies of the *KOI Questions and Statements to Stimulate Complexity and Depth*. In small groups, participants determine examples from some or all of the KOI categories to create questions for a current topic of study. Consider providing copies of the resulting topical applications to share with all of the participants.
- ✓ Application: Participants select a current topic of study and use the Developing Lesson Plans that Integrate the KOI to create one or more lessons for their classes.
- ✓ Application: Q&A—Elicit questions from the participants. Share applicable questions and possible solutions offered in Chapter 3.