

# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning...

FROM THE DESK OF MRS. T. WUJCIK



VISIT MY WEBSITE

## Defining Differentiation...

Simply put, differentiating instruction involves recognizing and meeting the needs of all learners in the classroom. Educators understand that each student is unique and works best when they are given tasks that are at their own learning level. In a differentiated classroom, the teacher considers the interests of individual students and creates a positive learning environment coupled with a high quality curriculum and flexible classroom management.

## Details about Differentiation...

Since 1999, the Alberta Initiative for School Improvement AISI has been at the forefront of encouraging and promoting creativity and innovation in Alberta schools. AISI supports projects that focus on student engagement, inquiry, critical thinking, 21<sup>st</sup> century learning, assessment, differentiated instruction and much more (taken from the AISI website - [education.alberta.ca](http://education.alberta.ca) search AISI)

Over the last three years AISI has supported our school's growth in regards to Inquiry and Critical thinking. For the next three years we will be supported in the area of differentiated instruction.

## Beliefs about Differentiation...

- Every student is worthy of dignity and respect. Each life is unique, irreplaceable and innately valuable.
- Our similarities make us human. Our differences make us individuals.
- The classroom should mirror the kind of society in which we want to live and lead. We need classrooms in which students not only accept, but expect and value individual differences and uniqueness.
- Any student can learn anything if the student is willing to work hard and if he or she has support in that effort.
- A school should offer the best curriculum and instruction.

(taken from Carol Ann Tomlinson's *Leading and Managing a Differentiated Classroom*)