Join us for a provocative and practical, 90-minute session in which we identify the fundamental elements of formative assessment and contrast them with elements of summative judgment. Critical to students' success, descriptive feedback from formative assessment will be emphasized as well. We will look at what works when helping students monitor their own learning, how to live up to the promise of assessment as an instrument of growth and student agency rather than a measure of compliance, being evidentiary, using formative assessment to inform next steps in instruction, and the teacher disposition to make it all work. Seriously, students can learn without summative judgement, but they can’t learn without formative assessment and their constructive response to it. Use these principles and watch the dramatic, positive change in students’ performance within days!

Responsive Teaching (Differentiated Instruction): Myth-Busting, Principles, and Practicalities
Tuesday, October 11, 2022

"Let me see what it looks like!" is the most common plea from those just beginning to differentiate practice or those looking to teach smarter, not harder. In this full day session, we reveal the essential elements of instructional design for responsive lessons (differentiation), and then we present the “flesh” of content, tiering/scaffolding strategies, and more that we apply to that ready armature to create robust learning experiences for diverse learners. We'll look, “behind the scenes,” to see the thinking on when and how to add or remove certain elements in response to what we know about our students in a clear-eyed effort to maximize student learning over a canned, once-size-fits-all approach. We’ll also examine those elements that are critical to differentiation, including ideas on how to get to know your students so you can respond effectively, practical cognitive science ideas, classroom management tips that save our teacher sanity, and a laser focus on two different types of students to get a good sense of differentiation mindset and implementation. Provocative and applicable, join us for a powerful day of PD on teaching in the modern classroom!

Register for all of these seminars today at furman.edu/upstate-schools-consortium