Standard III

Element A

Teachers demonstrate knowledge about the ways in which learning takes place, including the levels of intellectual, physical, social, and emotional development of their students.

Not all students are alike. We must not differentiate who will learn what but rather how we will teach so that all students have access to, and support and guidance in, mastering the content. —Paula Rutherford

Professional practices referenced under each element of the Rubric for Evaluating Colorado Teachers are cumulative. Therefore, for teachers to meet the state standard for the application of current developmental science to address student needs, they must effectively differentiate instruction and modify content based on the relationship of the students' intellectual, physical, social, and emotional development. Teachers who meet the state standard for this element expand their knowledge through collaboration with colleagues and apply this knowledge to improve the quality of lessons.

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