



Digging Deep to Develop Student Learning
A Professional Development Bulletin designed to
communicate growth in instructional practice and learning.

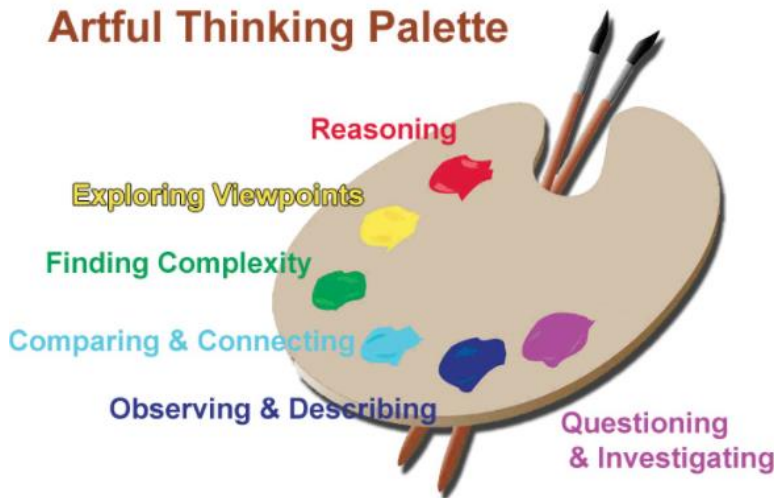
Throughout the 2017-2018 school year, Oilfields staff's Professional Development days will primarily focus on: [assessment](#), [mastery learning](#), and creating a [welcoming, caring, respectful and safe](#) learning environment for all. Oilfields staff have started this school year with a lot of

learning!

Harvard Fever!

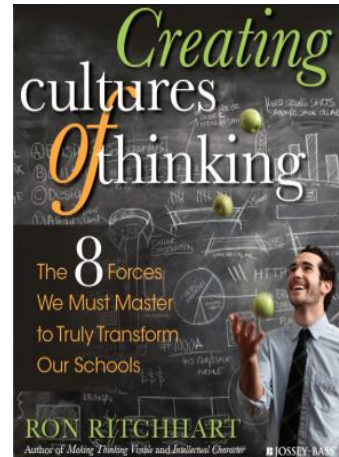
This fall six more OHS teachers completed Harvard's Visible Thinking Routine course. "Thinking Routines" loosely guide learners' thought processes and encourage active processing. They are short, easy-to-learn mini-strategies that extend and deepen students' thinking and become part of the fabric of everyday classroom life." In February, even more OHS teachers will be enrolled in the course. Be

Artful Thinking Palette

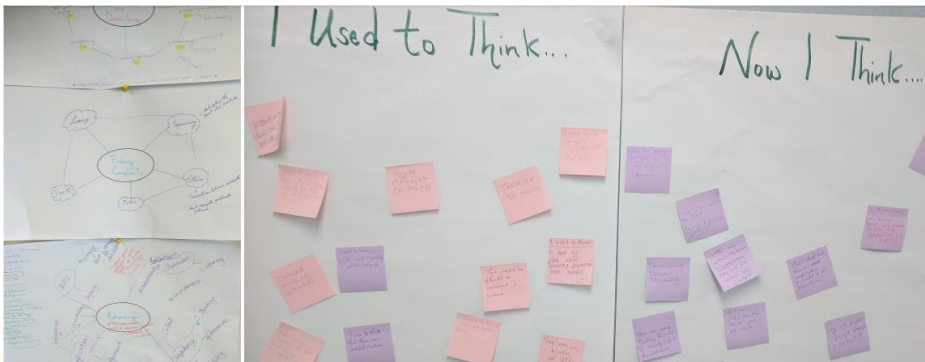


sure to ask your child about how they're using Visible Thinking Routines to deepen their learning. They may mention: See Think Wonder, Headlines, Chalk Talk, 3-2-1 Bridge, etc. Learning is the goal for all assignments; therefore, a great question to ask your child is "what do you think the teacher wants you to learn by using that routine/thinking process?"

Oilfields' administration and four teachers will be taking another Harvard course, **Cultures of Thinking**, which builds upon the learning from **Visible Thinking Routines**. This course focuses on “building dynamic learning communities that engage students, promote deep understanding, and sustain a lifetime of inquiry. Culture matters not only to realize curricular goals, but also as a shaper of students' development powerful thinkers and learners.” In this course, staff will study and learn to implement the eight forces to build a strong, group, learning culture.



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On December 8th, OHS staff spent time in the morning with Barb Eagles where she shared learning resources available through FSD's IMC. Then OHS staff shared their Visible Thinking learning with staff who will be taking the course this spring.

Professional Learning Communities

Once a week and on most professional development days, our staff meets in teams to share expertise, and work collaboratively to improve teaching skills and the academic performance of students. This year all teams are focused on answering, ***“To what extent does the use of data-informed strategies related to assessment and mastery learning improve student learning and performance?”***



It's another year of exciting learning and growth at Oilfields--for both students and staff!