

The Story of Your Learning

A Creative Classroom is not something you have. It is something you develop, nurture, and support. That development is not about instituting a set of practices, applying a prescribed set of strategies, or putting a particular curriculum in place. It is about enacting a story of learning collaboratively with our students.

Our story begins before the first student arrives in our classroom and continues to be written day-by-day, week-by-week, and month-by-month throughout the school year, continually deepening until the story ceases to be a story at all, and it becomes the reality of our shared experience.

Ron Ritchhart

The Post Study Group is a time where we will reconvene as a collaborative group to reflect and share progress around embedding aspects learned from the Creative Classroom Institute into our classrooms and practices. It is a time to ask questions, utilize the thinking of colleagues, and consider new ideas. We will meet monthly at the MHS Library. Please mark your calendars for the following meeting days:

October 6	3-5pm
November 12	12:15-5pm
January 7	12:15-5pm
February 2	3-5pm

The ultimate goal of the Post SG is for you to document the story of your learning.

The requirements are purposely being kept broad and open-ended so as to meet your individual, creative, and interpretative ways in telling your unique story of learning but here are a few requirements to help provide shape to the documentation:

Content:

- Identify a focus and question that will shape your learning (We will discuss this in October.)
- Consider telling the story through images, digital photos, and text
- Consider how you will tell your story by capturing big ideas or chapters
- Remember, this is your story describing your journey through reflection/evidence. A piece of student work or two could be incorporated but it should not be *the story*.
- What Cultural Forces will be visible?
- What “shift” in thinking about teaching and learning will be present? (Engagement, big ideas worth understanding, depth, and thinking)

Expectations:

- 1.) Use a 3-sided panel board to tell the story
- 2.) Provide a “headline”
- 3.) Include information on how you will realize a creative classroom
- 4.) We will use our last meeting time to share our stories with others in the Post SG.
- 5.) Your storyboard will be due on February 2, 2010.

Please keep in mind that the districts’ PD day is March 11, 2010 and at the very least, your storyboards will be on display. As plans for the day get firmed up, there is a good chance that you will be asked to share details of your storyboard similar to what we will do in February, but to colleagues who have yet to take the Creative Classroom Institute. What a great way for others to be enticed for year two of the institute.