

POWER *of* PLACE

LEARNING COMMUNITIES



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

We were deeply inspired by the more than 300 of you who joined us last week for the **ECLC Fall Gathering: Windows and Mirrors: Teaching, Learning, and Leading Across Difference**. Last year ECLC Superintendents asked us to host a day of learning on Election Day for all district staff. We eagerly embraced the request and accepted the very generous offer of Amesbury Public Schools to host the November 7 event. The auditorium and classrooms were filled with paraprofessionals, specialists, guidance counselors, nurses, classroom educators, principals and superintendents from almost every ECLC districts. It was awe-inspiring to listen to the meaningful, engaged conversation, to watch as connections were made, and to see new ideas begin to take root.

This is the purpose of Power of Place: To create a third space for educators—and that means all school personnel—to connect, reflect, experiment, celebrate, and learn together.

We are delighted that so many of you could join us last week to do just that.

We offer our deepest gratitude to:

- Amesbury Superintendent Elizabeth McAndrews and Amesbury High School Principal Danielle Marie Ricci for hosting our day of learning, and to their incredible technology and facilities specialists who made the day seamless on our behalf;
- Our extraordinary guest faculty, who brought such expertise and passion to our sessions: **Gabrielle Rappolt-Schlichtmann, Edward Walker, Luis Ortega, Gil Noam, and Carrie Conaway**. Special thanks to our four Teacher Action Research Fellows who also joined us as the inaugural cohort of ECLC educator guest faculty: Peggy Brown, Kelly Dorfman, Amy Mitchell, and Annmarie Rad;
- Amesbury High School students Natalia, Jamie, and Dominick, who served as ambassadors and guides for the day;
- All of you who were able to join us. We hope you left with tools and resources you can put into action as soon as next week; and
- **The Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation** for providing the resources necessary to host this day of learning, and for its long-term moral and financial commitment to meeting both the needs of young people who have been historically marginalized and the educators who commit to helping them thrive.

For those of you who could not be there, don't worry, we've got you covered. Materials from each of our sessions are posted on our [LinkTree](#), along with a few other resources.



It is truly an honor to support you in your learning and development. We appreciate all that you do every day to serve young people, their families, and their communities.

With warmth and appreciation,

Jane






ECLC Winter Gathering

*The Project Habit:
Designing for Rigor with
Project Based Learning*

*featuring Michael McDowell,
The Core Collaborative*

Wylie Inn & Conference Center

February 8, 2024
8 am to 3 pm



Save the Date!
ECLC Winter Gathering:
***"The Project Habit: Designing
with for Rigor with PBL"***

Life is full of authentic challenges that can only be met with clarity, creative problem-solving, collaboration, and feedback. School should be the same. Looking to close opportunity gaps while providing students with real world, authentic learning experiences? Join us for a day with Project Based Learning (PBL) thought leader **Michael McDowell** to discuss his framework to eliminate systemic opportunity gaps by developing critical 21st century learning skills that will serve our students for life. Register **here**.

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