

# POWER *of* PLACE

LEARNING COMMUNITIES



Dear Colleagues,

This has been a week to remember. Regardless of our beliefs, we are still unpacking the impact of the Presidential election, but what we can all agree on is that this moment represents a pivot point for our country.

How that will play out in education remains to be seen, but right now we need to learn to talk with one another across our differences, rather than let them divide us. That's why this week's ECLC Fall Gathering felt uniquely on point:

“Conversations We Need to Have (but often avoid)” was a day filled with learning, reflection, connection,

and listening to one another. We leaned into what it means to engage in “good conflict” as opposed to “high conflict” – and that avoiding conflict is simply not an option when so much is at stake.

## What 3 words would you use to describe the 2024 ECLC Fall Gathering?

“Helpful, uplifting, connected”

“Collaborative, fun, insightful”

“Inspirational, valuable, inclusive”



#ECLC2024



We thank the more than 300 educators from across our 20 communities who joined us for the day and invested in their own learning and development. We also thank our guest faculty for sharing their extraordinary talents, insights and perspectives with our members, and to our sponsors for making the day possible, especially the Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation.

A special shout out to Heidi Riccio and her amazing team at the Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School (ENSATS) for hosting this year’s ECLC Fall Gathering. Your space is beautiful, and it was a joy to partner with you.

## Thank you to our Guest Faculty!



#ECLC2024

Educators have a critical role in shaping the education landscape from today forward - at the classroom, school, district, state, and national levels. Let us commit to creating more spaces like this week’s Fall Gathering for adults and students to move beyond the noise of the moment, find common ground, talk through where they disagree, and create cultures where everyone feels welcome and belongs.

In community,

Jane

# Upcoming EVENTS

**11/18/24**

ECLC Book Club  
"Normal Sucks"  
*on Zoom*

**2/6/25**

Winter Gathering  
*Wylie Inn and  
Conference Center*

VIEW OUR  
COMPLETE  
2024-25  
LEARNING  
AGENDA  
HERE

**Join the ECLC Book Club!**

Looking for your next  
great read?

JOIN THE  
ECLC BOOK  
CLUB!



OUR FIRST BOOK IS...

Normal Sucks  
by Jonathan Mooney

Nov. 18 & Dec. 9  
3:30-5 pm on Zoom



Register  
today!

**Congratulations to the new recipients of the  
2024-25 ECLC Exploratory Mini-Grants!**

# Announcing the 2024-2025 ECLC Exploratory Mini-Grants

Culturally-Responsive Family Engagement for  
Students and Families Receiving Tier 3  
Social-Emotional Support  
*submitted by Caroline Beasley (North Andover)*

SEED (Seeking Educational Equity & Diversity) Seminar  
*submitted by Tiffany Goddard (North Andover)*

Piloting Place-based and Service-based  
STEAM Learning Experiences  
*submitted by Michele March (Beverly)*

“Don't Ask Me Where I'm From” Book Study  
*submitted by Lindsey McKeen Polizzotti (Swampscott)*

Democracy in Dialogue  
*submitted by Brian Sheehy (North Andover)*

The recipients were selected in a blind review process by the  
Power of Place Learning Community Advisory Cabinet.  
We want to commend all the applicants for their creative and  
compelling submissions—we wish we could support them all!

## About the ECLC Exploratory Mini-Grants

*Originally launched in Fall 2023, the ECLC Exploratory Mini-Grants are designed to inspire and uplift opportunities for innovation, exploration, and inquiry across our community. All staff members in ECLC partner districts are eligible for grants of up to \$2000 to fund the study of new ideas and design of learning experiences that complement and build on ECLC's 2024-25 Learning Agenda.*



**#ECLC 2024**



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### **Food for Thought**



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