

DEI Committee NEWSLETTER



November is Native American Heritage Month!

Here are some ideas of what you could do in your classroom or at your school:

- Choose a new book by an Indigenous author from [this list](#) or [this one](#) to read with your class.
- Read [this list of teaching tips](#) for developing lessons about Native Peoples all year long.
- Print and display this [Native American Heritage Month poster](#).
- Try out a free [student-centered digital activity](#).
- Explore this [collection of resources](#) from PBS.
- Check out [The Thankful Room](#), an interactive virtual room with links to learning about Native Americans and the Wampanoag Tribe - and more!
- Reach out to Stephanie Couillard at KOG for access to more teaching resources and ideas.
- Participate in the 21-Day [Racial Equity Indigenous Challenge](#).

Calendar - November

(Source: Seramount)

November is:

- [National Native American Heritage Month](#)
- National Family Caregivers Month

For more information about the following events and holidays, [click here](#):

November 1-November 2: All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day, Christian holidays which are celebrated worldwide. In Mexico specifically, they are celebrated as Dia de los Muertos, a time of remembrance for dead ancestors.

November 11: Veterans Day, a U.S. federal holiday honoring military veterans.

November 13–19: [Transgender Awareness Week](#), the week before Transgender Day of Remembrance, established to help raise the visibility of transgender people and address issues members of the community face.

November 19: International Men's Day.

November 20: Transgender Day of Remembrance, memorializing those who have been killed as a result of transphobia.

November 21: Feast of Christ the King, a Catholic holiday.

November 26: Native American Heritage Day, held annually on the Friday after Thanksgiving, encourages Americans of all backgrounds to observe and honor Native Americans through appropriate ceremonies and activities.

November 28-January 6: Nativity Fast, a period of abstinence and penance practiced by some sects of Christianity

November 27- December 24: Advent, a Christian season of celebration

November 30: St. Andrew's Day, celebrated within various Christian denominations.

NEC Diversity events

DEI Committee Meeting: Join us for our next monthly meeting Tuesday, December 13, from 3-4 pm at the NSAU cafeteria.

Can't make the meeting? We will send out meeting notes to the mailing list.

Outside PD Opportunities: Did you enjoy the Nov. 1 keynote? Join Dr. Henry Turner's [email newsletter](#) and [check out his website](#).

Mailing List Link: tinyurl.com/nsecdiversity
Join our mailing list to get regular updates on DEI-themed PD, articles, videos and more!

DEI Keyword of the Month: Ableism

We are on month 3 of our series on “-isms”, and this month, let's learn about ableism. [This video](#) defines ableism as “a form of discrimination based on a value system that considers certain body and mind characteristics essential to living a fulfilling life, and assumes that the quality of life of people with disabilities must be very low.” We think and talk about disabilities all the time in our schools, but how much do we consider the ableism our students are experiencing? Watch [this short video](#) for 11 examples of everyday ableism that people with disabilities experience on a regular basis, and consider how and when your students may come in contact with ableism.

Land Acknowledgement: Whose land are we on?

This year, for Native American Heritage month, take some time researching with your students or your team to learn about the Indigenous nations of your town or community. Go to native-land.ca/ to see an interactive map. Beverly and Topsfield are located in the land of the [Agawam, Massachusetts](#), and [Pawtucket](#) tribes. Salem and Peabody are on land of the [Naumkeag, Massachusetts](#), and [Pawtucket](#) tribes. [Last December's newsletter](#) has more about Land Acknowledgements.

DEI Event of the Month: Transgender Day of Remembrance

November 20 is Transgender Day of Remembrance. [Learn more about it here](#), and see the shocking [statistics of transgender violence here](#). One small way you can support the transgender and nonbinary members of our community is by educating yourself about [gender-affirming care](#) and [myths about transgender athletes](#). You can also learn more about pronouns. [Read this handy guide](#) to learn more about why people choose to list their pronouns, as well as the importance of using the right pronouns to refer to members of our community.

NEC Community Spotlight: Ally Day for LGBTQ+ youth

Thursday October 20th - Wear Purple Day! At the Topsfield Vocational Academy, multiple staff and students participated in [Spirit Day](#). It was exciting to see so many people wearing purple and showing their support for LGBTQ+ teens, who face high levels of bullying, harassment, and microaggressions in schools, online, and in their home communities.



We are accepting submissions: [Contact us](#) to contribute to this newsletter in the future.