



II. Serves as a national voice and advocate for dance education

- a. The NDA promotes working in a variety of partnerships with not-for-profit organizations, foundations, businesses, and federal agencies to improve dance education, health promotion, and education reform initiatives from birth throughout life. The Association believes that groups should work cooperatively in promoting, planning, implementing, and evaluating programs and projects that support comprehensive education for all students.
- b. The NDA recognizes dance education as a critical piece of Whole Child Education reform initiatives. The Association believes it is vital to work with ASCD and other educational organizations to promote the development of children who are healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged. The Association understands its role in helping all students graduate from high school prepared for the demands of postsecondary education, meaningful careers, and effective citizenship. The Whole Child initiative rests on five tenets:
 - Each student enters school healthy and learns about and practices a healthy lifestyle.
 - Each student learns in an intellectually challenging environment that is physically and emotionally safe for students and adults.
 - Each student is actively engaged in learning and is connected to the school and broader community.
 - Each student has access to personalized learning and is supported by qualified, caring adults.
 - Each graduate is challenged academically and prepared for success in college or further study and for employment in a global environment.
- c. The NDA promotes dance education within education reform initiatives at the pre-k through higher education levels. The Association believes if the United States wants to strengthen its world standing in education, governmental programs should support dance and arts education programs. Scientific data describe potential benefits of dance and other arts programs in increasing educational achievements.
- d. The NDA recognizes the important role of dance and the arts in the economy of local communities, state level programs, national initiatives, and specific industries (i.e., entertainment, restaurants, and travel). The Association supports advancing dance for promoting economic development and jobs creation across the nation.

- e. The NDA promotes funding to support dance and dance education programs in institutions of higher education (including community colleges). Programs can offer opportunities for students who want to pursue jobs or careers in the dance field and options for students who wish to participate in dance as a lifelong physical activity.
- f. The NDA encourages public and private funding for research and study grants that focus on health (including health-risk reduction), academic (intellectual), and cultural benefits of participation in a variety of dance activities.

Approved by the NDA Board of Directors, March 28, 2011

Approved by the NDA Membership, June 1, 2011