



III. Promote the health and welfare of children and youth through dance education

- a. The NDA asserts that participation in dance activities supports and promotes healthy living (e.g., cardiovascular health, bone and muscle development, flexibility, stress reduction, positive body mass index, and reduction in certain chronic diseases), stimulates brain development, supports social development, and advances student academic achievement.
- b. The NDA recognizes that participation in dance activities requires proper nutrition to ensure essential social, physical, and emotional development, motor skill development, weight management, and educational success.
- c. The NDA recognizes that all dance educational facilities must be well-constructed, functional, and safe; have suitable flooring; and have appropriate sound, ventilation, and lighting systems. Facilities should be accessible for students of all abilities. The organization supports dance education facilities that are energy efficient and designed to support meaningful dance instruction.
- d. The NDA recognizes that an effective learning climate is necessary for promoting excellence in educational settings, including the dance classes. A positive environment exists when educators, other employees, students, parents, and other family members are committed to respecting, caring for, protecting, and communicating constructively on behalf of all students.
- e. The NDA recognizes that all individuals, regardless of sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity, should be offered equal opportunities within any educational structure.
- f. The NDA encourages educational institutions to adopt fair and reasonable eligibility requirements for student participation in extracurricular dance/arts activities. The programs should be developed and maintained to promote educational excellence. Participants' progress should be routinely monitored. Students participating in extracurricular dance programs should receive funding and transportation support proportional to other after-school or out-of-school programs.

Approved by the NDA Board of Directors, March 28, 2011
Approved by the NDA Membership, June 1, 2011

