



# COLORADO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Seated January 2005

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## A RESOLUTION:

### CONCERNING ARTS EDUCATION

- Whereas,** the arts are one of the basic expressions of humanity, and;
- Whereas,** the arts represent a unique way of expressing human intelligence and fostering aesthetic experiences, and;
- Whereas,** the arts contribute to the creative, collaborative and critical thinking skills necessary for a global workforce, and;
- Whereas,** a design component of education is to meet the needs of all students, and;
- Whereas,** the arts are inherently valuable as core disciplines themselves, and are a valuable and useful component of effective instruction in other core disciplines, and;
- Whereas,** arts education is one of the academic indicators used to determine the accreditation status of school districts, and;
- Whereas,** arts education has a demonstrated ability to increase attendance rates, graduation rates, student achievement, and facilitate higher scholastic achievement, especially for at-risk students, and;
- Whereas,** arts education has a demonstrated ability to remediate delinquent behavior, and;
- Whereas,** there is a widespread concern that high-stakes testing, accountability, and the new Colorado college admission requirements are leading to reductions in access to arts education for Colorado students, and;
- Whereas,** the experience of many schools across Colorado, as well as much research, show that a strong arts education program, integrated throughout the curriculum, leads to higher academic achievement, higher graduation rates, and greater success in post-secondary education, therefore;
- Be It Resolved,** that the Colorado State Board of Education reaffirms the importance of the arts as an essential part of a classic, well-rounded, strong academic education, and;
- Be It Further Resolved,** that the Colorado State Board of Education encourages local school districts to ensure equal opportunity and access to the study of and participation in the arts as part of a core curriculum within the school day for all Colorado students.

Adopted: May 12, 2005