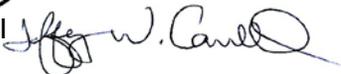


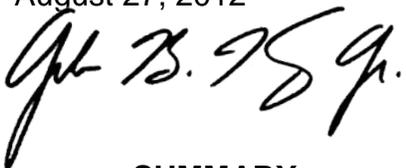


**TO:** P-12 Education Committee  
Cultural Education Committee

**FROM:** Ken Slentz   
Jeffrey W. Cannell 

**SUBJECT:** National Arts Standards Revision Update

**DATE:** August 27, 2012

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** 

**SUMMARY**

Issue for Discussion

The National Coalition for Core Arts Standards (NCCAS) is a partnership of organizations and states that is leading the revision of the 1994 National Standards for Arts Education in order to help guide curriculum designers, teacher training programs, funders, and federal and state policy makers in their arts education decision-making.

Background Information

The standards will describe what students should know and be able to do as a result of a quality curricular arts education program. NCCAS is committed to developing a next generation of arts education standards that will build on the foundation created by the 1994 document, support the 21st-century needs of students and teachers, help ensure that all students are college and career ready, and affirm the place of arts education in a balanced core curriculum.

Highlights of this work include:

- National Arts Standards will extend from pre-kindergarten through the sophomore year of college. This will allow and encourage standards writers to work with higher education and technical/community college representatives to determine the alignment between college-level general education arts expectations and P-12 expectations and experiences. Such expectations could provide the basis for new AP and other exams/courses in the arts designed to

enable students to master and demonstrate their mastery of college- and career-level work.

- National Arts Standards will be grade-by-grade from P-8 in each arts discipline.
- The creation of the new arts standards is an inclusive process, with input from a broad range of arts teachers, other educators, and decision-makers, including representation from several state and national professional organizations. Each arts discipline's writing team includes a balance of members across specific areas of expertise, geography, diversity, and experience. New York State has representatives on the Dance, Music and Media Arts writing teams. New York State teachers will have the opportunity to comment on the draft standards when they are released this fall.
- The new standards will include:
  - New experiences in media arts including cinema, animation, sound imaging design, virtual design, interactive design, as well as multimedia and intermedia.
  - “Cornerstone Assessment” models, which are authentic performance assessments organized to include all aspects of the learning and instructional process. Student work will illustrate how expectations outlined in the new standards are real and attainable. Teachers can adapt Cornerstone Assessments to their local situations in order to demonstrate growth in the Arts.

### Timeline

The first draft of the new arts standards will be released this fall with time for educator and public review, followed by additional revision in late 2012. A paper version will be issued in early 2013, with the expectation that an interactive online version will follow in the near future.

### Next Steps

Once the new standards are released in early 2013, the Regents may wish to consider adopting the new standards and determining the ways in which courses and assessments aligned to these standards should be considered during the ongoing review of New York's college- and career- ready graduation requirements.

Department staff will provide periodic updates as this work progresses.