

Resolution Proposal – Submitted June 27, 2019

Resolution on Standards for Speaking, Listening, and Media Literacy in Elementary and Secondary Education

Whereas, the National Communication Association (NCA), believes that “communication constructs the social world and is relational, collaborative, strategic, symbolic, and adaptive.” (Learning Outcomes in Communication Project, 2015)

Whereas, the *College Board’s English Language Arts Framework*, that NCA endorsed, in 2005, in place of the previously NCA created document, *K-12 Speaking, Listening, and Media Literacy Standards and Competency Statements*, was abandoned upon introduction of the Common Core initiative.

Whereas, while the Common Core addresses “speaking” and “listening” competencies, they do not address the “relational, collaborative, strategic, symbolic, and adaptive” standards set forth by NCA.

Whereas, NCA supports the inclusion of communication education as a graduation requirement from the nation’s secondary schools and stresses the importance of using appropriately trained teachers to teach communication education. (NCA Academic/Professional Statements, rev 2017)

Whereas, the number of teacher education programs leading to communication certification, and consequently, the number of communication-certified teachers that exist in K-12 schools are diminishing. (NCA Academic/Professional Statements, rev 2017)

Whereas, the gap between requirement and licensure or certification presents the perfect opportunity for NCA to take positive action to offer services to states and school districts whose teachers are not properly trained in our discipline. (NCA Academic/Professional Statements, rev 2017).

Whereas, the original 1996 NCA document *K-12 Speaking, Listening, and Media Literacy Standards and Competency Statements* was “not designed to be used as a curriculum; rather, ... designed to enhance and support curriculum.”

Whereas, the “competency statements [were] intended to provide direction for those teaching communication in K-12 education,” they also provide guidance to those teaching communication skills within other disciplines.

Resolved, that National Communication Association (NCA) endorses the teaching of speaking, listening, and media literacy in elementary and secondary grades as defined by a revised NCA document, *Speaking, Listening, and Media Literacy Standards for Elementary and Secondary Education*.