

## POSITION STATEMENT

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### ELEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH PROGRAMS

National PTA believes that health is based on the quality of life of the whole child—emotional, environmental, intellectual, physical, social and spiritual. All elements must be considered before optimum health can exist.

National PTA recognizes that:

...

- ◆ **Early diagnosis and treatment of children’s vision problems is a necessary component to school readiness and academic learning; and that vision screening is *not a substitute* for a complete eye and vision evaluation by an eye doctor. Comprehensive eye and vision examinations by an optometrist or ophthalmologist are important for all children first entering school and regularly throughout their school-aged years to ensure healthy eyes and adequate vision skills essential for successful academic achievement.**

...

Health Curriculum that is comprehensive for all students preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, sequentially developed, age and culturally appropriate, reflects current health issues of the community, and is taught by educators qualified to present health instruction. The curriculum and instruction program should include the following content areas: ... **eye and vision health**...

**Adopted: December 2002**

**Amended: June 2005**