

**Rhode Island ASCD  
Whole Child Recognition  
Program**

RIASCD, an affiliate of ASCD international, is an educational leadership organization dedicated to advancing best practices and policies for the success of each learner. ASCD has 140,000 members in 134 countries representing professional educators from all levels and subject areas. RIASCD serves over 400 members.

**MISSION** -Rhode Island ASCD's mission is to improve the quality of learning, teaching and leading for the success of all learners. We are a diverse community of educators acting as a dynamic force for educational excellence.

**VISION** We envision Rhode Island ASCD as the leading source for professional learning in Rhode Island. Its exemplary programs, services, and partnerships influence policies and practices for the benefit of the Rhode Island educational community and the subsequent success of students.



REQUESTS FOR APPLICATIONS:  
On-line: [rwww.riascd.org](http://rwww.riascd.org)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS  
June 30, 2014**

**WHOLE CHILD  
RECOGNITION  
PROGRAM**

**2014-2015**

***A Framework for  
Transforming  
Education in  
Rhode Island***



## Overview of ASCD's Whole Child Initiative

ASCD introduced the Whole Child Compact to the nation, recasting the definition of a successful learner from one whose achievement is measured solely by academic tests to one who is knowledgeable, emotionally and physically active, civically inspired, engaged in the arts, prepared for work and economic self-sufficiency, and ready for the world beyond formal schooling

The Whole Child Initiative revolves around five tenets:

- Each student enters school healthy and learns about and practices a healthy lifestyle
- Each student learns in an intellectually challenging environment that is physically and emotionally safe for students and adults
- Each student is actively engaged in learning and is connected to the school and the broader community
- Each student has access to personalized learning and is supported by qualified, caring adults
- Each graduate is challenged academically, and is prepared for success in college or further study and for employment in a global environment.



## RIASCD Whole Child Recognition Program Description and Criteria

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the program is to identify schools in Rhode Island who have changed the focus from purely academic success to one that promotes successful children who are healthy, safe, engaged, supported and challenged. This recognition seeks to showcase schools who demonstrate a commitment to action for the whole child.

**ELIGIBILITY:** All Public and private schools in RI are eligible to apply.

### CRITERIA:

Evidence of Action and Commitment to a Whole Child Approach

- Clearly articulated goals for all five tenets of the Whole Child Approach
- Relationship of the whole child framework to the school's mission and vision
- Anecdotal evidence of what each tenet looks like in practice. In essence, we will be asking you to tell your story.
- In general, schools will be assessed relative to the intentionality, integration, and sustainability of their Whole Child work

Provision of Information:

- School Profile Data including student demographics, student achievement, attendance, and graduation rates
- School/Community Assessment to include articulation of the school vision in the community and work with community partners



**BENEFITS:** The schools who receive RIASCD Whole Child Recognition will be nominated by the RI affiliate for ASCD's Vision in Action Award. The benefits of this prestigious national award include complimentary national conference attendance for a school team and recognition throughout the worldwide educational community as a model of a Whole Child approach.

## RIASCD and the Whole Child

In 2009, RIASCD received a grant to begin Whole Child work in our state. The work involved a systematic plan for educating our membership and potential partner organizations about the tenets of the Whole Child Initiative. From 2009 on, RIASCD studied the regulations and policies currently in place in Rhode Island and cross-walked them with the five tenets of the Whole Child Initiative. A policy paper entitled *How a Whole Child Approach Can Transform Education in Rhode Island* is the culmination of the initial phase of our work. The report can be accessed at [ww.riascd.org](http://ww.riascd.org)

Research studies have shown that accountability for education outcomes has increased within an environment of complex social problems. Children who come to school ready to learn become children who leave school ready to lead productive lives. Overall achievement in education is a predictor of lifelong health. Although testing is an important strategy for measuring student success, a Whole Child approach challenges education leaders to consider the broader implications of education reform agendas. A Whole Child approach encourages school leaders to address issues such as access to health care and nutritional practices at home. While issues such as these directly impact education, they are not typically considered a role of schools.

The power of the Whole Child approach is in the knowledge that school success includes educational interventions in combination with contextual and environmental supports including the identification of partners who can help schools meet their educational missions.

The RIASCD recognition program is an opportunity for local schools to share their efforts and receive the recognition they deserve.