

Before I started the Ed.M Program...

- I was unaware that dance was offered in K-12 schools but was eager to experience that setting.
- I had only taught a minimal amount of dance classes in a private studio.
- I enjoyed teaching but did not know what effective teaching entailed.
- I figured that all students in a K-12 classroom would have some level of experience dancing.
- I was unaware of state (NJCCS) and national standards (NCAS) for dance education.
- I did not know how to plan a formal lesson, unit, or curriculum using professional standards.
- I was unaware of how to effectively teach a diverse group of learners.
- I did not know how to assess dance for measuring student growth.
- I was only beginning to develop my teaching philosophy.
- I was not aware of the resources dance teachers use in a K-12 classroom.
- I was not aware of how strong and vast the community of dance educators was across the country.

After I completed the Ed.M Program...

- I am confident in my teaching ability and have the means of demonstrating my competence to others.
- I have the skills needed for entering the dance education profession and have the desire to provide all students with the opportunity to succeed as dancers and artists.
- I have found many resources that I can reference to supplement my teaching throughout my career.
- I can create state and national dance standards based lessons through backwards planning.
- I understand the importance of incorporating multiple teaching styles and to include students' interest in my lessons.
- I understand that having a plan for classroom management is extremely important for an organized and safe environment.
- I have solidified a teaching philosophy that has developed and will continue to develop with my experiences as an educator.
- I can strongly advocate for dance and dance education to share the benefits and importance of dance in schools.
- I understand that teaching is a life-long learning process and my pedagogical approaches can be improved through reflection.