

SELECTION OF FILMS AND OTHER VIDEO MEDIA

Policy 361.3 Rule

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The following procedures are meant to provide guidance for the proper selections and use of video media in the classroom. While videos can be used as an adjunct to almost any curriculum area and can be an effective teaching tool, they can also be misused and overused if they supplant instead of supplement instruction or are used to reduce the amount of reading and responding required for class. Therefore, the following procedures outlined below are to assist teachers in the proper use of this media.

- Video media should not supplant literature or reading assignments. In a language arts course, the reading of literature will be the main focus of instruction. On occasion, and for a specific purpose, video segments or excerpts are more appropriate than showing an entire video.
- Commercial films or other video media having obvious educational value may be shown when in compliance with copyright laws and when appropriate to the content level of the subject being studied
- Videos will not be shown without consistent use of study guides, teacher-directed discussion, or written evaluation.
- Teachers should use caution in the use of video media for the purpose of rewarding student behavior, having entertainment as its primary value. Videos shall never be used as “filler”. Staff must get prior approval from the building principal or designee for any use of this type and the building must have the appropriate license for showing video media for these purposes. Staff members requesting a film approval are responsible to give the principal an accurate description of the film’s content.
- Any commercial video used shall have the age appropriate Motion Picture Association of America (MP AA) rating. No “R”, “NC-17”, or X rated video media may be shown unless only an excerpt is shown that has been approved by the teacher and building administrator. In such a situation, parents are to be informed in advance and have a right to excuse their student from this showing.
- Student video media must be made under strict guidelines and must be previewed before being shown in any district classroom. Students are expected to abide by the following specific guidelines when making videos to show in the classroom:
 - No guns or weapons are allowed to be shown in the video. If a student needs to represent a weapon because of a plot, it must be an obvious prop.

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- Students are expected to use appropriate language in their video.
- All content should be consistent with what is appropriate for the classroom. What is permissible on television may not be permissible for the classroom. Teacher/supervisor judgment is required.
- All drug and alcohol references must be done responsibly and with prior permission from the teacher.
- The video must have credits either before or after the film.
- All dialogue must be clear and understood.
- If a student breaks the law when preparing and/or showing the video, the video will be turned over to the police department.
- All copyright laws will be enforced.

Legal References:

Cross References:

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