

IJK – MOVIES & AUDIOVISUAL MATERIALS

Purpose

The Board believes that movies, videos, and other audiovisual materials are important tools in the educational process. At the same time, the Board believes that the use of movies should be limited so that they are used legally and appropriately in achieving legitimate educational objectives. It is the Board's intent to promote the appropriate educational use of movies in schools by maximizing classroom instructional time, encouraging parental participation in the education process, and fostering community values.

Educational Relevance

The showing of movies must be limited to a specific educational purpose aligned to the District, school, and classroom curriculum. General selection criteria should include quality of the overall work; fair and accurate representation of the facts; the reputation and significance of the writer, director and/or performer; and critical acclaim of the work itself.

Administrator's Authorization

At least five (5) days before showing a movie, the teacher must receive approval from the School Principal to insure educational relevance and appropriateness. The School Principal shall put in place a school-wide procedure that includes the following information prior to approval.

1. Title and brief description
2. Purpose for showing the movie
3. Match with course objectives
4. Proposed date(s) of viewing
5. When and how parents will be notified, or if necessary, grant consent
6. Audience rating (G, PG, PG-13).

Parent Notification and Permission

Elementary School: Only G rated movies may be shown without parental permission. However, parents must be notified that the movie will be shown in class. Any PG rated movie or segments require parental notification and a signed, written consent from a parent that must be kept on file before the student may view the movie.

Middle School: Only G rated movies may be shown without parental permission. Any movie or segments with a PG rating requires parental notification and a signed, written consent from a parent that must be kept on file before the student may view the movie.

High School: Only G, PG, and PG-13 rated movies may be shown without parental permission. Only certain segments having a valid educational purpose of any R rated movie may be shown. Any segment of an R rated movie to be shown requires parent notification and a signed, written consent from a parent that must be kept on file before the student may view the movie.

The Board discourages the showing of any R rated movie in school. However, the Board also recognizes that some segments of certain R rated movies may have a valid educational purpose.

Therefore, R rated movies are not to be shown in their entirety, and segments may be shown only if no other means of instruction can present the information.

Copyright

All District employees must comply with federal copyright laws, as well as publisher licensing agreements. A rented or privately owned movie or video may only be shown in the classroom provided "fair use" exceptions are satisfied as follows:

1. The movie or video is shown in the course of face-to-face teaching activities
2. The showing of the movie or video is directly related and of material assistance to the curriculum and lesson objectives.

Statutory/Regulatory/Policy/Handbook Cross References

Handbook (Staff)

APPROVED/REVISED: November 3, 2011, May 7, 2015

PREVIOUS POLICY: None