

INSTRUCTION

2170P

Use of Commercially Produced Video Recordings

Educational Relevance

The showing of feature, non-educational movies and videos must be limited to a specific educational purpose. 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 performer(s); and critical acclaim of the work itself.

Age Appropriate Feature Movies

Elementary Level: 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 to be shown at the elementary level requires a signed, written consent from a parent/guardian that must be kept on file before the student may view the video. (See 2170F1)

Middle School Level: Only G and PG rated movies may be shown without parental permission. Any movie with a PG-13 rating to be shown at the middle school requires a signed, written consent from a parent/guardian that must be kept on file before the student may view the video. (See 2170F2)

High School: Only G, PG, and PG-13 rated movies may be shown without parental permission. It is the position of the administration and Board of Trustees, that at no time shall unedited R rated movies and/or video tapes be used in any classroom or student activity. R rated movies/videos which have been commercially edited and revised for educational purposes, may be viewed with signed, written permission granted by a parent/guardian and kept on file by the teacher. (See 2170F3) Appropriate teacher-selected video clips of R-rated movies and unrated feature movies shall be subject to "Administrator's Authorization," as outlined below.

These actions will assure that parents are accurately informed about the materials being presented in District classrooms, and are given options regarding instructional materials. Students who do not return parental consent forms where one is required shall be provided an appropriate alternate activity and, when possible, related to the stated learning objective.

Administrator's Authorization

At least five (5) days prior to the showing of any feature movie or edited clips from R-rated movies, the instructor/teacher shall submit to the principal, in writing, the following information on the particular film:

1. Title and brief description;
2. Purpose for showing the movie/video;

3. Course objectives the movie/video will help meet;
4. Proposed date(s) of viewing;
5. When and how parents will be notified and how, if necessary, consent will be obtained; and
6. Audience rating (G, PG, PG-13, R – edited, unrated).

Copyright

All District employees must comply with federal copyright laws as well as publisher licensing agreements. The legal requirements apply:

1. Regardless of whether an admission fee is charged;
2. Whether the institute or organization is commercial or non-profit; and
3. Whether a federal, state, or local agency is involved.

An “Educational Exemption” also called the “face-to-face teaching exemption” is a precise activity which allows the legal use of movies in certain types of teaching. In order for a movie to be considered an Educational Exemption, all of the following criteria must be met:

1. A teacher or instructor is present, and the movie/video is shown in the course of face-to-face teaching activities;
2. The showing takes place in a classroom setting with only the enrolled students attending;
3. The movie is used as an essential part of the core, current curriculum being taught;
4. The showing of the movie or video is directly related and of material assistance to the curriculum and lesson objectives;
5. The movie being used is a legitimate copy, not taped from a legitimate copy or taped from television;
6. Recorded Programs from Network and Cable Television: Teachers may only show programs recorded off-air from network and cable television channels, according to the following guidelines:
 - A. Educators desiring to show television programs for instructional purposes should request the school library/media specialist record the program at school with school recording facilities;
 - B. A television program that is recorded off-air may be retained for forty-five (45) consecutive calendar days after the date of the recording. At the conclusion of this forty-five (45) day retention period, the recording must be destroyed or erased;

- C. During the first ten (10) consecutive school days of the forty-five (45) day period the recording may be used once by individual teachers in classrooms or similar places devoted to instruction, in the course of relevant teaching activities. The teacher may show the program again only once within this ten (10) school day period when instructional reinforcement is necessary;
- D. Teachers and other school officials who show television programs for entertainment purposes violate this policy as well as federal copyright law;
- E. After the first ten (10) consecutive days, off-air recordings may be used up to the end of the forty-five (45) calendar day retention period only for teacher evaluation purposes, such as to determine whether or not to include a broadcast program in the teaching curriculum, and may not be shown in the schools to students or for other non-evaluation purposes;
- F. Copies may be made from an off-air recording as necessary to meet the legitimate needs of teachers. However, all copies are subject to the provisions of this policy and must include the copyright notice on the broadcast program as recorded; and
- G. Off-air recordings need not be used in their entirety, but recorded programs may not be altered from their original content nor may they be physically or electronically merged to constitute teaching anthologies.

Procedure History:

Promulgated on: 6/1/15

Revised on: 2/1/16