

Use of Media in the Classroom**

Feature films/videos are defined as commercially/professionally produced video presentations created for public showing at a theater and/or on television. While an audience rating is usually associated with most feature films and videos, unrated films, videos and other media are also subject to this policy, administrative regulations and copyright laws.

1. General Guidelines for Viewing Media, K-12

Commercial films/videos and other media may be shown to students in kindergarten through twelfth grade if the materials are rated G.

Within the following guidelines, visual materials with ratings for more mature content may be viewed by students after receiving consent from the principal and if written consent is obtained from the parent or guardian.

Films rated by the Motion Picture Producers Association of America (MPPAA) shall be shown in district schools according to the following expectations:

- a. Elementary - G, PG (PG with written parent/guardian permission only);
- b. Middle - G and PG, PG-13 (PG-13 with written parent/guardian permission only);
- c. High - G, PG, PG-13, R (R with written parent/guardian permission only).

2. Approval Process to Use R-Rated and Unrated Media, High School Only

Motion pictures with an R rating shall not, as a general rule, be shown in district classrooms; however, in some circumstances, the instructional and content values of an R-rated movie may allow such movies to be shown to high school students only. Any teacher wishing to show an R-rated movie in a high school class must submit a request to the principal at least four weeks in advance of such a showing. The request must be approved in writing by the principal or designee.

Some motion pictures and other media from online sources have never been submitted to the MPPAA and are therefore unrated. Staff members must obtain permission from their principal or designee before showing unrated films/videos or other media to students.

Films or videos rated X or C-17 by the MPPAA shall not be shown in district school under any circumstances.

3. Parent/Guardian Preview and Exclusion Procedures

When practicably possible, a parent/guardian may preview a film/video or other media that is to be shown in school.

If a parent or guardian objects to his/her child viewing a film/video or other media, the teacher will provide an educationally related alternative for the student.