

Procedures for Presentation of Feature Films to Students

Elementary Schools - Grades K-6

All feature films shown at the K-6 level in the district will be rated G by the Motion Picture Association unless a waiver has been granted. This regulation is to be adhered to for the following reasons:

1. Respect for families.
2. The concern for valuable instructional time being used for the showing of movies.
3. The need to focus on student achievement and primary academic areas and for character education issues related to the content of some movies.

Waivers may be granted for PG films at the K-6 level according to the following procedures. The staff member making the request will:

1. Preview the entire film.
2. Fill out the PG waiver request form.
3. Turn the form into the school principal for denial or approval.
4. The principal may submit the form to the director of curriculum for the approval/disapproval decision if he/she chooses.

When a feature film rated PG has been approved, the staff member using the film must secure signed permission slips from the parents of the students involved in order for them to see the film. Parent permission slips should include the name of the class and the film, when the film will be shown, the film's rating, a brief explanation of why the film has that rating, a description of the film and an explanation of how the use of the film relates to the class or lesson objectives. Notification shall provide at least five days for parent response before the use of the film. The parent permission slip shall include a place for the parent to designate their permission.

No PG-13, R or NC-17 films will be shown in grades K-6.

Middle School - Grades 7-8

Films shown in grades 7-8 will be rated G by the Motion Picture Association unless a waiver has been granted. Waivers may be granted for PG or PG-13 films at this level by following the following procedures. The staff member making the request will:

1. Preview the entire film.
2. Fill out the PG waiver request form.
3. Turn the form into the school principal for denial or approval. The principal will respond promptly to staff members with approval or denial of the request.
4. The principal may submit the form to the director of curriculum for the approval/disapproval decision if he/she chooses.

When a PG or PG-13 feature film has been approved, the staff member using the film must secure signed permission slips from the parents of the students in order for the students to see the film. Parent permission slips should include the name of the course and the film, when the film will be shown, the film's rating, a brief explanation of why the film has that rating, a description of the film and an explanation of how the use of the film relates to the course or lesson objectives. Notification shall provide at least five days for parent response before the use of the film. The parent permission slip shall include a place for the parent to designate their permission.

No R or NC-17 films will be shown in the middle schools.

High School

All feature films shown in the high schools of the district will be rated G or PG by the Motion Picture Association unless a waiver has been granted. Waivers may be granted for PG-13 or R films at this level by following the procedure stated in this rule. The staff member making the request will:

1. Preview the entire film.
2. Fill out the PG waiver request form.
3. Turn the form into the school principal for denial or approval. The principal will respond promptly to staff members with approval or denial of the request.
4. The principal may submit the form to the director of curriculum for the approval/disapproval decision if he/she chooses.

When PG-13 or R feature film has been approved, the staff member using the film must notify parents. Parent notification should include the name of the course and the film, when the film will be shown, the film's rating, a brief explanation of why the film has that rating, a description of the film and an explanation of how the use of the film relates to the course or lesson objectives. Notification shall provide at least five days for parent response before the use of the film.

No NC-17 films will be shown in the high school.

Parents at all grade levels will, to the extent practicable, be provided an opportunity to preview a film rated PG, PG-13 or R.

Students whose parents either deny permission (grades 9-12) or who do not send a signed permission slip to the teacher (grades K-8) will be provided a meaningful educational alternative to viewing the film.

**FEATURE FILM PRESENTATIONS TO STUDENTS
WAIVER REQUEST FORM**

Date of Request for Waiver: _____

Name of Film: _____

Rating of Film: _____

School: _____

Signature of Teacher: _____

(This waiver request verifies that I have previewed the entire film and make a commitment to its educational value and its appropriateness for my students)

Signature of Principal: _____

Grade Level/Class Subject: _____ / _____ / _____

This waiver request is **approved/not approved** for showing to students in the above instructional context. See attached memo describing this decision. Referral to the director of curriculum by the principal for approval/disapproval is optional.

Director of Curriculum

Please respond to the following questions:

1. Describe the core knowledge and skill addressed in this film in relation to the curriculum and assessment framework of the district.

2. How will this film be used in support of the academic goals of the school and of your classroom?

3. What aspects of the film might be considered controversial in the eyes of parents? How will these issues be addressed in classroom instruction?