

Instruction

Use of Commercially Produced Video Recordings

Video recordings will be selected and assigned to give support directly to instructional learning objectives contained within the Board approved curriculum.

Video recordings, when used, shall be selected for their direct relevance to the instructional program. General selection criteria should include quality of the overall work and its individual parts, fair and accurate representation of the facts, the reputation and significance of the writer, director, and/or performer.

Video recordings shall not be used for recreation or entertainment, or for other than planned instructional purposes.

Legal Reference: Publication 94-553; The Copyright Act of 1976, 17 U.S.C. 101 et seq. and 1980 amendments

Policy adopted: June 18, 2003

CAPITOL REGION EDUCATION COUNCIL
Hartford, Connecticut

Instruction

Use of Commercially Produced Video Recordings

The use of films and videotapes in school are subject to the following regulations:

1. All films and videotapes must be carefully previewed and evaluated by the teacher and be determined to meet identified learning objectives before they are used with students. Good taste and professional judgment must always be exercised when selecting video recordings for classroom use.
2. In general, copyright guidelines permit in-classroom use of a copyrighted videotape when it is used for instructional purposes in a teaching situation as is a lawfully made copy. *
 - a. The school setting has been defined as a "semi-public performance." Therefore, public performance rights are reserved for the copyright owner or those given permission.
 - b. Videotapes marketed for "home use" do not have the rights granted for public performance.
3. Non profit education institutions generally may use videotapes in the course of "face-to-face" teaching activities, without the need to obtain consent from the copyright owner if the following permissible guidelines are met:
 - a. The video is a legally obtained lawful copy.
 - b. The video must be used in the course of "face-to-face" TEACHING ACTIVITIES.
 - c. The video activity must be carried out by an instructor or student.
 - d. The video activity must be carried out in a classroom or similar place devoted to instruction.
 - e. All video programming obtained from commercial sources outside the school's purchasing procedure through rental, lease or purchase must be approved for classroom use by the principal.

4. Parents/guardians shall receive one weeks advanced written notice when teachers plan to use commercial video recordings in the classroom with elementary students, or PG-13 with middle school students. Such notice shall include an accurate description of the contents of the video recording and where it may be obtained for parent/guardian review.
 5. A video rated NC-17 shall not be shown under any circumstances.
 6. Other media such as CD-ROM, laser disc and audio tapes, while not a part of the video rating system, should be selected and used applying the same criteria as videotapes.
 7. Video tapes may not be used for recreation or entertainment, or for other than planned instructional purposes.
- * e.g. “Grapes of Wrath” may be presented to a high school English class, but “Star-Wars” which if being shown for entertainment, would not be permitted unless copyright clearance has been obtained.

Regulation issued:

June 18, 2003

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