

Mesa County Valley School District 51

IMBA

DIGITAL MEDIA AND VIDEO USE

Related: IMBA-R

Adopted: November 2, 1998

Policy Manual Review: November 19, 2002

Readopted: September 20, 2011

Adopted: December 13, 2011

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It is the policy of the Board that teachers shall exercise good judgment in the selection of all materials used in the classroom. This is particularly important when supplemental materials such as videos, images, web-based simulations and games, and web quests are used. The following are prescribed guidelines for the use of all types of digital media including educationally produced videos, student-created videos, web-based videos, commercial movies, and televised materials that have been recorded from television broadcasts.

1. Video Preview

All digital media, videos or clips of videos to be shown will be previewed by the classroom teacher and evaluated for alignment to standards and curriculum, age-appropriateness, and community / cultural sensitivity by considering the impact on diverse populations. Teachers will consult published reviews from reputable sources, including library and other professional journals, for all unrated digital media/videos.

2. Relevance to Curriculum

All digital media and videos must be relevant to content standards and grade-level course curriculum objectives.

3. Meaningful Use of Instructional Time

Teachers will use professional judgment to carefully weigh the appropriate use of instructional time required for using digital media and showing videos in part or whole.

4. Age Level Appropriateness

The following minimum age level requirements for video shown in part or whole are based on the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) rating system:

- "G" and "PG" rated movies may or may not be age appropriate at all levels; if appropriate they may be shown from elementary through grade twelve.
- "PG-13" rated movies may or may not be age appropriate for students ages 13 and above and may not be shown to students under age 13.
- "R" rated movies may or may not be age appropriate for students age 17 and if appropriate they may only be shown for ages 17 and above.
- "X" or "NC-17" rated movies shall NOT be shown at any grade level.

The Board adopts these standards as limitations on the showing of rated videos. Although the rating system serves as a limitation on the showing of rated videos to students in certain grades, the classroom teacher shall use his/her professional judgment as to whether any given video is appropriate for the students in his/her class, regardless of whether such video is a rated video which would otherwise be permitted to be shown under the above rating system.

5. Principal Permission and Parent Notification

The showing of certain rated videos at some grade levels requires approval of the building principal and parental permission. These are identified in Table 1 IMBA-R. For those videos requiring principal and parental approval:

- a. Teachers will request that their principal signs the "Digital Media/Video Approval Form".
- b. If principal approval is granted, teachers will send the "Parental Permission for Digital Media/Video Viewing Form" to parents a minimum of one week in advance of showing approved digital media/videos.

With regard to the use of documentary web-based or other unrated videos, teachers shall follow a decision protocol outlined in Table 2 IMBA-R, and use principal approval and parental permission forms if applicable.

6. Options for Students Not Viewing Videos

If a student or his/her parent requests that he/she not watch a video or a signed Parental Permission Form has not been returned, the teacher will assign an appropriate, relevant, and comparable activity which addresses the same curriculum objectives as the video. Reasonable precautions will be taken to ensure that the student is not ridiculed or ostracized.

7. Good Instructional Use of Videos

When using videos, the teacher will employ sound instructional practices.

8. Copyright/License Compliance

All persons using any type of video shall comply with Federal copyright law as well as all applicable licensing agreements. Using videos for entertainment or rewards is a violation of Federal Copyright Law. Therefore, videos may not be shown for entertainment or rewards unless public performance rights have been secured from the producer of the video.

9. School-Sponsored Events

The use of videos for any and all school-sponsored events shall meet the guidelines of this policy.

10. Compliance with Policy

Teachers and principals will comply with the requirements of this policy. The Superintendent will implement this policy by promulgating appropriate administrative procedures and guidelines.

11. Use of Forms

Teachers will use the appropriate forms that are included with this policy.

Cross References:

IMB, Teaching About Controversial Issues

KE, Public Complaints

EGAD, Reproduction and Use of Copyrighted Materials