



Granite School District

Policy & Practice

TEACHING & LEARNING SERVICES

Use of Videos and DVDs in Educational Settings

Use of Commercially Obtained Video Programs:

Videos/DVDs obtained from video rental stores CANNOT be shown in schools. This is because the written contract that accompanies each rental specifically states that videos rented will NOT be used for public performance, nor for any use, other than home viewing. Therefore, **the use of rented videos in schools is strictly prohibited.** Commercial videos brought by students or provided by their parents CANNOT be shown.

Purchased videos can be used for “face-to-face” instruction IF a direct connection can be established between the content of the video/DVD and the instructional objectives found in the Utah State Core Curriculum. Teachers must fill out a “Request to Show” form if the video is not from the district or school media center. (*See attachment #1 - Request to Show Commercially Purchased Video / DVD.)

Guidelines for Purchasing Videos/DVDs with School Monies:

When purchasing videos for use in educational settings make certain that: 1) the content of the video directly correlates with the Utah State Core Curriculum, 2) the teacher requesting the video provides evidence of a direct link to state/district educational objectives, 3) you indicate on the requisition or purchase order that “This video/DVD is being purchased for public display in an educational setting”, and 4) ***videos/DVDs purchased by schools can NEVER be shown for entertainment, motivation or reward purposes UNLESS public performance rights have been obtained.***

Selection and Viewing of Videos/DVDs:

Granite School District does not allow for the showing of “R” or “X” rated materials. Use of materials with “PG” or “PG-13” ratings are left up to the approval of the principal and require a signed parental permission slip. (*See attachment #2 - Parental Permission to View PG or PG-13 Video/DVD.)

Permission Slips:

Ratings of videos/DVDs in the “PG” or “PG-13” categories contain at least one of the following: violence, profanity, sexual innuendo, partial nudity. Before showing such a video/DVD, send home a note stating the rating and cause for the rating. Explain the educational purpose of the video’s viewing and its related curriculum. Parents not wishing their children to view the video should indicate their objection on the return slip. An alternative activity should be provided.

Selection and Viewing of Unrated Videos and Audiovisual Clips:

Much of the audiovisual content available to teachers, including content accessed via the Internet or hosted on district servers, is unrated. Before showing any video clip in class, regardless of the source, a teacher must preview the clip and determine that: 1) the material has a direct link to state/district educational objectives and supports Utah State Core Curriculum, and 2) the material does not contain any content that would warrant an MPAA rating other than “G.” Unrated videos or clips that contain content that would warrant a “PG” or “PG-13” rating—such as violence, profanity, sexual innuendo, or partial nudity—are subject to the same procedures provided for videos that are rated “PG” or “PG-13.” Use of an unrated clip with “PG” or “PG-13” type content is left to the approval of the principal, and requires a signed parental permission slip before the clip may be used in class. (*See attachment #2 - Parental Permission to View PG or PG-13 Video/DVD.) Unrated videos or clips with content that would warrant an “R” rating should not be used in the classroom. For a resource to aid in evaluating the content of unrated videos, (*See attachment #4 – RATING RUBRIC FOR AUDIOVISUAL CONTENT) or visit the Motion Picture Association of America’s “What Each Rating Means” page at <http://www.mpa.org/ratings/what-each-rating-means>.

Teachers must read and sign - (*See attachment #3 - I have read the: “GOOD PRACTICE: USE OF VIDEOS AND DVDS IN EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS”)

Request to Show Commercially Purchased Video / DVD

Name _____ Date _____

Video Title _____

(Please refer to: “**Policy and Practice: USE OF VIDEOS AND DVDS IN EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS**”)

Date to be shown _____ Class _____

_____ All of video to be shown _____ Part of video to be shown

Subject Area _____

Briefly explain how the video supports your curriculum:

Administrator

Date

Media Specialist (Secondary Schools)

Date

Parental Permission to View PG or PG-13 Video/DVD

Teacher _____

The following video/DVD will be used in class on _____

Title _____

Rating _____

Explanation of rating:

Relation to curriculum:

Alternative activity for those not viewing the video / DVD

I give permission for _____ to view the video.

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

Rather than watching the video, I would like _____
to participate in the alternative activity.

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

GRANITE DISTRICT VIDEO GUIDELINES AGREEMENT

I have read the:

Policy & Practice: USE OF VIDEOS AND DVDS IN EDUCATIONAL SETTINGS

Teacher's Name	Date	Signature

Rating Rubric for Audiovisual Content

This rubric, based on the rating definitions provided by the Motion Picture Association of America, can be used to assist teachers in determining the appropriateness of unrated video clips for classroom use. Teachers must obtain administrative approval and parental permission for video clips that include content listed in the "PG" or "PG-13" columns. Video clips including content listed in the "R" column should not be used in the classroom.

	G	PG	PG-13	R
Theme	Themes appropriate for younger children.	May include more mature themes that may call for parental guidance. "Thematic elements" cover content in a film that does not necessarily fit into the traditional categories such as violence, sex, drug use and language, but may be of particular concern to parents. Thematic elements may include death, coming-of-age issues, verbal abuse, illness, abortion, and other serious subjects or mature discussions that may concern parents.	Goes beyond PG in theme, violence, nudity, sensuality, language, adult activities.	Contains adult material, adult activities, adult themes.
Language	Some snippets of language may go beyond polite conversation but they are common everyday expressions. No stronger words are present in G-rated motion pictures.	May include some profanity.	Harsher expletives allowed, but not if in a sexual context.	Hard language.
Violence	Depictions of violence are minimal.	May include some depictions of violence.	Depictions of violence, but not both realistic and extreme or persistent violence.	Intense or persistent violence.
Nudity	Not present.	May include some depictions of brief nudity (not sexually oriented.)	More than brief nudity, but generally not sexually oriented.	Sexually-oriented nudity.
Drug Use	Not present.	Not present.	Any depiction of drug use requires at least a PG-13 rating.	Drug abuse.

Sources

[Classification and Ratings Administration. "Ratings F.A.Q." Filmratings.com. Motion Picture Association of America, Inc., n.d. Web. 19 Feb. 2013.](http://filmratings.com/filmRatings_Cara/#/ratings/faq/)

[Motion Picture Association of America, Inc. "What Each Rating Means." Mpa.org. Motion Picture Association of America, Inc., n.d. Web. 19 Feb. 2013.](http://mpaa.org/ratings/what-each-rating-means/)