

MOVIES, MUSIC and MEDIA

- 1.0 The use of movies to supplement the curriculum can enhance the educational experience for students. Movies should be of the highest quality/content and appropriate for age and/or grade level.
- 2.0 The chart below shall guide the selection of movies and the requirement for prior written permission:

<p>The Film Rating System of the Motion Picture Association of America establishes the following ratings:</p> <p>G All ages admitted. General audiences.</p> <p>PG Parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.</p> <p>PG-13 Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.</p> <p>R Restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.</p> <p>NC-17 Adults only. No one under 17 admitted.</p>				
Grade Level	G	PG	PG-13	R
Pre-K - 5	No prior permission is required.	Prior permission is required.	May not be shown at these grade levels.	May not be shown at these grade levels.
6-8	No prior permission is required.	Prior permission is required.	Prior permission is required.	May not be shown at these grade levels.
9-12	No prior permission is required.	No prior permission is required.	No PRIOR permission is required.	May not be shown at these grade levels without waiver (See 4.0).

- 2.1 No X-rated, OR NC-17 movies shall be shown at any grade level. R-rated movies shall not be shown unless a waiver is granted (see 4.0 of this policy).
- 3.0 When showing a movie which requires parental permission, staff shall notify parents/legal guardians in writing at least five (5) days in advance. In courses which focus on film study or before and after school programs, teachers/sponsors may utilize a blanket permission form which indicates a group of movies. Such notification shall include:
 - 3.1 the name of movie and its rating;
 - 3.2 the date on which the movie will be shown;
 - 3.3 rationale for showing the movie;
 - 3.4 the description of an alternative activity if permission is not granted by the parent/legal guardian; and,
 - 3.5 a permission form which requires the signature of a parent/legal guardian and which is to be returned to the teacher.

- 4.0 Staff members at the senior high level may request a waiver to show an R-Rated movie otherwise prohibited by this policy by following the procedure in Exhibit A and completing the form in Exhibit B.
 - 4.1 Waivers, if granted, apply only to the site, course, and grade level(s) requested in Exhibit B. Additional waivers are not necessary unless changes occur in the course of grade level(s) requested.
 - 4.2 Teachers showing movies for which waivers have been granted must follow the procedures for parent/guardian permission forms outlined in Exhibit A.
- 5.0 This policy shall apply to all pre-K-12 curriculum, and to all before-and-after school programs and clubs sponsored by the District.
- 6.0 **Unrated Films and Digital Media.** Staff members shall only use unrated films, such as documentaries, or digital media, such as podcasts or multimedia presentations, that support instruction of grade-level standards. In determining whether an unrated film or digital media may or may not be appropriate, staff members shall use their professional judgment, consider community standards, and the language, message, and images of the film or media.
- 7.0 **Music.** At school-sponsored activities, staff members shall allow only music to be broadcast that is appropriate for the age and grade level of the students present. In determining whether a song may or may not be appropriate, staff members shall use their professional judgment, consider community standards, and the language, message and themes of the music.

CROSS REFERENCES:

Code: 6220

Code: 6230

**REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF DISTRICT POLICY 6240 MOVIES
PROCEDURES**

1. The principal of the school is responsible for informing staff of the waiver procedure and form.
2. All requests for waivers must be submitted to the Learning Services Department.
3. The requestor(s) is (are) responsible for completing and submitting the waiver request at least four (4) weeks prior to the date proposed for showing the movie. The requestor(s) shall consult with the principal prior to submitting the waiver. The principal is responsible for assuring that the requestor(s) has (have) investigated other options and that the movie(s) in question is (are) the most appropriate vehicle for the learning.
4. All requests for waivers will be acted upon within three (3) weeks of receipt by the Learning Services Department.
5. The requestor(s) is (are) responsible for assuring that all movies align to the content standards and are appropriate for the maturity of the students.
6. After completing the request for waiver, the requestor(s) should seek the principal's signature. Principals are responsible for ensuring that the waiver request procedures have been followed.
7. The learning services department is responsible for reviewing the waiver request(s) and making a recommendation to the Superintendent, or his/her designee(s), regarding the appropriateness of the waiver.
8. If the waiver is granted and the movie is permitted to be shown, the requestor(s) shall:
 - A. Notify parent/guardians of the intent to show the movie using the permission form in Exhibit C;
 - B. Provide opportunities for the movie to be previewed in the school upon request;
 - C. Explain the content and rationale of the movie;
 - D. Obtain written permission from the parent/guardian of each unemancipated student to view the movie;
 - E. Maintain a file of the permission slips as well as a record of those who refused to allow their student to view the movie. These permission slips are to be kept on file at the school for the remainder of the school year.
 - F. Provide alternate activity for students whose parents opt-out of viewing (see 3.4 of this Policy).
9. The principal is to submit the number of students whose parents refuse to give permission to see a specific movie title to the Learning Services Department within two weeks following the showing of the movie.
10. The Learning Services Department is responsible for maintaining a database of approved R-Rated movie waivers and will submit a written report detailing the number of parental refusals to the Superintendent at the conclusion of each school year.

**REQUEST FOR WAIVER TO DISTRICT POLICY 6240
MOVIES**

A waiver to Policy Code 6240 (Movies) must be obtained from the Superintendent, or his/her designees, prior to the showing of the movie.

School _____ Requestor(s) _____
Grade Level(s) of Students _____ Content Area _____
Name of Class/Course/Club _____
Movie for Which Waiver is Requested _____
Year of Release _____ Genre of Movie (comedy, etc.) _____
Rating _____ Reason for Rating _____
Date Approval Needed _____

Rationale for Request:

- A. How does this movie align to the Adams 12 curriculum/content standards?
 - B. How does this movie address students' needs relative to instruction in the content area?
 - C. How does this movie enrich and support the curriculum taking into consideration the varied needs, interests, abilities, and maturity level of pupils served?
 - D. Describe the alternative activity students would engage in if permission is not granted by the parent/legal guardian.
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Must be signed by the principal:

I, the Principal, support the submission of this waiver request. After consultation with the requestor(s), I know that other options have been considered, but believe that this request represents appropriate instructional material.

Principal Signature _____ Date _____

Exhibit C
Code: 6240

MOVIE PERMISSION FORM

Dear Parent/Legal Guardian,

On _____, 20____, I will be showing the movie entitled _____
to the class. This movie is rated _____

Because of the following content: _____

This movie enriches and supports the curriculum and/or students' needs, interests, or abilities by:

In accordance with District Policy/ 6240, I am required to secure your permission for your child to watch this movie. If you wish to exclude your child from viewing this movie, you can anticipate that the following alternative activity will be available to him/her during this time:

If you have any questions, please contact _____ at _____
(Teacher/sponsor name) (Phone Number)

Or at the following email address _____

The best times to call are _____



(Please sign and return to teacher/sponsor.)

_____ (NAME OF STUDENT)

has my permission to see the movie.

does not have my permission to see the movie.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature