

USE OF COMMERCIALY PRODUCED ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Classroom time for teaching and learning is limited. In addition, active rather than passive modes of instruction are more beneficial to students. Therefore, electronic media, including feature length movies and filmstrips, are to be used both appropriately and sparingly.

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

Electronic media, 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.

Electronic media shall not be used for recreation or entertainment, or for other than planned instructional purposes.

The Board establishes the following guidelines to govern the use of electronic media in its schools.

1. Electronic media viewing time, on the average, is not to exceed the following limits:
 - a. **Elementary** - no more than three (3) hours per month.
 - b. **Secondary** - no more than two (2) periods per month per subject.
 - c. **Exception** – courses that focus on programs related to film and videos/DVDs are exempt from the above time limitations.
2. Electronic media should be used to supplement direct skills development with students as called for in the various subject areas.
3. Electronic media content must always be of recognized merit and relate to the curriculum.
4. In the case of a written work, students generally must read the printed version of the material before viewing the electronic media.
5. Students must respond critically to the presentation after viewing.
6. Commercially rated electronic media which directly supports the school curriculum may be used in the classroom in keeping with the following requirements:

- a. **Only G-rated and PG-rated with parental approval** electronic media may be used at the elementary level.
 - b. **Only G, P.G. or P.G.-13 rated** electronic media may be used at the middle-school level.
 - c. **G, P.G. and P.G.-13 rated** electronic media may be used at the high school.
 - d. **R-rated** electronic media may be used at the high school level only if they are of exceptional merit, enhance the curriculum and are **approved by the Principal**. The R-rated electronic media must not contain nudity or explicit sex. If an R-rated movie is being used, parents must be notified of its nature and possible offensive content, and must give permission for their child, if under age 18, to view it. A student can opt not to view the electronic media even if parental approval is given.
7. In general, excerpts rather than an entire full-length electronic media shall be used in the classroom to maximize time for active learning activities. This does not apply to electronic media that is designed solely for educational use (as opposed to commercial use).
 8. Excerpts that contain none of the content that contributes to an R-rating need not be approved by the administration.
 9. Teachers must preview all electronic media before showing it to their students.
 10. Electronic media must be approved by the building principal.

Legal Reference:

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

**LEBANON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
PARENT/GUARDIAN NOTIFICATION FORM**

Use of Commercially Produced Electronic Media

Date: _____

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I am planning to show _____ to my

Title of Electronic Media

_____ class. This electronic media is rated _____.

The rating is due to these factors: _____

The purpose of seeing this electronic media is to: _____

_____ The electronic media will be shown in its entirety.

_____ Only the following portions of the electronic media will be shown:

If you wish to preview the electronic media, it may be borrowed or rented from:

Signature of Teacher

Please sign below and return this form with your child.

Film/video: _____

_____ My child has my approval to view this electronic media.

_____ I do not want my child to view this electronic media. Please substitute a meaningful, related, alternative activity.

Student: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date