



Shonto Governing Board of Education, Inc. Policy Statement

SUBJECT: MOVIES IN THE SCHOOLS
POLICY NUMBER: IML
DATE OF ORIGINAL POLICY: 1/8/03

EFFECTIVE DATE: 12/28/2016
DATE OF NEXT REVIEW: 12/2019
DATED: 12/28/16

I. PHILOSOPHY:

Periodically, classroom teachers wish to use appropriate videos to reinforce classroom instruction or to reward students for hard work and good behavior. It is important that the district establish reasonable regulations regarding what type of videos, the frequency of their use, and the process for obtaining approval prior to showing a video. There have been numerous problems across the country because some staff have displayed videos that were offensive to parents and students. Therefore, the Governing Board establishes the following policy.

II. POLICY STATEMENT:

It is the policy of the Governing Board that staff may show videos in their classrooms or in the dormitory providing that such videos correlate with the curriculum, or serve as an appropriate reward, and have prior administrator approval as outlined below.

III. EXCEPTIONS TO POLICY:

- A. On a case by case basis, the administrator may authorize the showing of videos or movies for other purposes.
- B. Educational videos that are related to the curriculum are exempt from this policy.

IV. AMPLIFYING INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDELINES:

A. Approval Process

1. Staff who wish to show a video or movie must complete the form attached to this policy and must have their direct supervisor's approval prior to showing the film or video to students. If prior approval has been granted in previous years and the same administrator and staff member are involved, a verbal approval is all that is necessary.
2. Since the staff member must detail any questionable aspects of the movie on the form required for approval, it is expected that the staff member preview the movie or video in its entirety prior to completing the form.

B. Relevance To The Curriculum

1. For classroom teachers, any movie or video must have relevance to the curriculum. It should enable the teacher to reinforce what students have already learned or will learn in the next teaching unit.



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2. Movies or videos that are authorized for special occasions need not have direct relevance to the curriculum.

C. Assessment Of Progress In The Regular Curriculum

1. Movies or non-educational videos should not be shown if the principal determines that the class is not making satisfactory progress with the regular curriculum.
2. In order to ensure that satisfactory progress is being made in the regular curriculum, movies or non-educational videos may not be shown more than once in any given month.

D. Movie Or Rating And Content

1. It is preferred that no movie or video be shown that has a rating of higher than "G" at the Elementary School. Movies or videos that have a rating of PG-13 may be shown if the Principal believes that is a meaningful, cultural, or educational purpose which is served and if parental approval is obtained for each student who will view the movie.
2. A movie or video that has a PG-13 rating may be shown at the Middle School or High School if there is a direct correlation with the curriculum, a note is sent home by the teacher explaining precisely what the objectionable elements may be, and if the parent returns a sign written authorization.
3. "R" rated movies or videos may be shown at the Middle or High School only if the principal believes that there is a meaningful cultural or educational purpose to be served and if parental approval is obtained for each student who will view the movie.
4. If the movie or video does not have a rating, then it is the Governing Board preference that the content not contain excessive violence, sexual innuendo, or obscene language.
5. Educators are expected to carefully assess whether a movie or video is culturally appropriate to Navajo students. A movie or video that would be considered offensive to cultural traditions should not be shown.

V. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY:

- A. The Superintendent of Schools is directly responsible for communicating this policy to all appropriate parties and enforcing its provisions.
- B. Each school principal and the Director of Residential Services is responsible for communicating this policy to all staff under his/her jurisdiction.



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VI. FORMS:


Request for showing a movie or video (Attachment 1)

VII. EXPIRATION DATE:

This policy will not expire, but will be up for review three (3) years after its acceptance.

Submitted by: Lemual B. Adson Date: 12/28/16
Superintendent

Approved: December 28, 2016

Established: 
Martha Tate, President,
Shonto Governing Board of Education, Inc.

Shonto Preparatory School
Shonto, AZ. 86054



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Request Form to Show a Movie or Video

Any staff member desiring to show a movie or video to students must submit this completed form to the building principal/supervisor and must receive approval prior to showing it to students.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Assignment: _____ Location of Assignment: _____

Name of movie or video: _____

Rating of movie or video: _____

Have you previewed the movie or video in its entirety? _____ Yes _____ No

Please specify any language or scenes that would be considered offensive, violent, or inappropriate for the age level of the students:

How is this video or movie appropriate to the curriculum, and which skills would this movie or video reinforce?

How many minutes will it take to show the movie or video? _____

Proposed date and time to show the movie or video: Date: _____ Time: _____

Principal/Supervisor approves: _____ Yes _____ No

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Stipulations for approval - if any: _____
