

Policy 6161.11: Supplementary Instructional Materials

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 03/02/1999 | Last Revised Date: 12/17/2019 | Last Reviewed Date: 12/17/2019

The Board of Trustees encourages teachers to use supplementary instructional materials which are relevant to curriculum objectives and compatible with district goals and objectives. By using such materials, teachers can introduce content and instructional strategies that enrich the curriculum, enhance learning, help students make critical judgements, and stimulate their intellectual growth.

Teachers shall carefully preview all supplementary instructional materials in order to ensure that in their professional judgement, the materials are:

1. Directly related to the course of study in which they are being used
2. Appropriate for students' age and maturity levels

Supplementary instructional materials must also be consistent with the criteria developed for the selection and evaluation of other instructional materials. If the teacher believes that the materials may be in conflict with district criteria, the teacher shall confer with the principal or designee before using them.

When using supplementary materials, teachers shall provide appropriate introductory and follow-up activities. In addition, teachers shall ensure that supplementary materials do not supplant the use of basic texts or teaching activities.

All materials must be used within legal copyright limits.

Films

Teachers may use videos, DVD's, motion pictures or films (these terms are used interchangeably) which are relevant to curriculum objectives and appropriate for students' ages and abilities. Any of these types of materials which are adopted, purchased, leased, or supplied by the district or County may be used in the classroom without prior approval. Films which are not obtained from the above sources may be used provided that they enrich the curriculum, enhance learning, help students make critical judgments and stimulate intellectual growth, subject to the conditions below.

Teachers must seek prior approval from a school administrator for films which include sexual situations, strong language, reference to substance abuse, and violence and horror. "G" rated motion pictures may be used in grades K-8 without prior approval. "PG" motion pictures may be used in grades 4-8 with prior written permission of a parent or guardian. "PG-13" motion pictures may be used in grades 6-8 with prior written permission of a parent or guardian. When obtaining parental permission for a "PG-13" motion picture, the teacher shall include the specific reasons for the "PG-13" rating and a link to more information. If a parent chooses not to allow their student to view a film then that student must be placed in another room and given an alternate assignment. "R" and rated motion pictures may not be shown. If the film is unrated then it must be submitted to administration for approval prior to use in the classroom.

Teachers are encouraged to show portions of films to illustrate the learning they wish to accomplish rather than entire movies.

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