

Adopted: August 17, 2020

***Sartell-St. Stephen School District 748
Policy 698***

*Revised: April 17, 2023
August 17, 2026*

698 VIDEO MEDIA USE

I. PURPOSE

The use of video media can have educational value and support, enhance, and/or supplement the curriculum and instructional lessons in the classroom. Materials must be selected in a responsible manner, taking into consideration the content and nature of the materials, the age and developmental level of the students, and in some cases parent or guardian approval of such materials.

II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF POLICY

The use of video media must take into account the appropriateness of the content, the connection of the content to the curriculum and lesson, the length of the video media, the appropriate use of instructional time, and when parent/legal guardian notification is required. The following are general tenets which guide this policy:

- A. Full-length films or programs may only be utilized in lessons if the films/programs are approved by the Superintendent or designee and listed in the specific curriculum. Teachers will submit a request for approval of such media.
- B. Appropriate excerpts from films or programs can be used to target the specific instructional objectives of the lesson, rather than having students watch the entire piece.
- C. Appropriate instructional activities and techniques must accompany lessons in which video media is utilized. These shall be included in the lesson plans and reviewed by supervisors.
- D. If a film or program carries a certain rating per the MPAA or per <http://tvguidelines.org/> as addressed in the policy, parent/legal guardian permission shall be required on a designated form, and parent/legal guardian may opt children out of viewing the content, and children will be given an alternate activity.
- E. Teachers may utilize at their discretion any video media of less than 20 minutes in length from various sources (of the appropriate rating); however, if the content is reasonably questionable in any way, the teacher should seek approval from the principal or designee.
- F. Video media of 20 minutes or more (of the appropriate rating), not specifically

approved and or listed in the curriculum must be approved by the principal and Superintendent at least 1 week in advance.

G. Showing television programs, movies or other content for entertainment purposes, or for general "down time" for students not directly connected to a curricular-based class lesson, is strictly prohibited. The exception would be celebrations as approved by the building principal.

H. All copyright laws must be explicitly followed.

III. DEFINITIONS

A. Video Media means all forms of digital and/or analog video media, including but not limited to movies, clips from movies, television broadcasts, clips from television broadcasts, the aforementioned downloaded or streamed from the Internet or stored by other means.

B. MPAA Rating System means the rating system established by the *Motion Picture Association of America*.

1. The following is the MPAA Rating System:

- a) G - General Audiences. All Ages Admitted.
- b) PG - Parental Guidance Suggested. Some Material May Not Be Suitable For Children.
- c) PG-13 - Parents Strongly Cautioned. Some Material May Be Inappropriate For Children Under 13.
- d) R - Restricted. Children Under 17 Require Accompanying Parent or Adult Guardian. .
- e) NC-17 – No One 17 and Under Admitted. An NC-17 rated motion picture is one that, in the view of the Rating Board, most parents would consider patently too adult for their children 17 and under. No children will be admitted..

2. Television Parental Guidelines Rating means the rating of programs provided by television broadcasters and can be found at <http://tvguidelines.org/>. These ratings include:

- a) All Children (TV-Y)
- b) Directed to Older Children (TV-Y7)

- c) Directed to Older Children - Fantasy Violence (TY-Y7-FV)
- d) General Audience (TV-G)
- e) Parental Guidance Suggested (TV-PG)
- f) Parents Strongly Cautioned (TV-14)
- g) Mature Audience Only (TV-MA)

Legal References: 17 U.S.C. § Code Title 17 (Copyrights)

Cross References: