

Movie Usage Policy and Procedure

Philosophy

Renaissance Academy is dedicated to furthering the educational experiences of their student body. Different multimedia products may be employed in the classrooms, including DVDs and videos.

Standards

Renaissance Academy is actively pursuing new materials for the libraries, including educational DVDs and videos. Such material will be previewed by the librarian or library committee and deemed whether appropriate or not for different grade levels.

Renaissance Academy will provide a current list of movies and their ratings contained in the library. If parents are interested, they may request to see the list of movies during regular school hours

Occasionally a teacher or instructor may fall ill. As a final resort, an educational movie may be viewed by the students. Movies should not be used as a 'babysitter' when teachers are not available, or when extra time is left in class, unless the movie can specifically enhance the students' learning experience.

Parents/volunteers are highly encouraged to fill their parent co-op hours in the classroom, thus helping the faculty continue to teach the prescribed material, even if they cannot be present. Having a continuous group of parents in the classroom will help the flow of instruction be uninterrupted, regardless of emergency situations that may arise.

To ensure the mental and emotional safety of the students, Renaissance Academy will allow the viewing of movies without parental consent to those holding a 'G' (General) rating by the Motion Picture Association of America. At times it may be appropriate and enhance the educational experience of a student to view a movie(s) or portions of a movie (s) receiving a 'PG' (Parental Guidance) or stronger rating (i.e. material used in the upper level grades may have more mature content). Teachers must adhere to the following procedure in order to show such material:

1. Teachers are to inform parents of any "PG" or stronger rated material that may be used at the beginning of each unit.
2. A written explanation to the parent should include:
 - a. How this will positively impact the educational experience of the class.
 - b. Which portion(s) of the movie will be viewed.
 - c. The basic content of the movie which is being viewed.
 - d. The date the movie will be viewed.
 - e. Alternate educational options for students opting to not view the movie. and
 - f. Parental or guardian consent

3. If a parent is not comfortable with the movie selection, the parent must take responsibility to alert the teacher of their concern(s). A discussion can then occur where an agreement can be reached.
4. Once parental consent is received, the teacher will document the approved movie selection and continue with the lesson plan.