



Movies, Music, and Media Guidelines

The use of movies to supplement the curriculum can enhance the educational experience for students. Movies should be of the highest quality/content and appropriate for age and/or grade level. Teachers have the responsibility to preview and evaluate any video, film, or movie prior to requesting its use in our district.

Teachers/Librarian are strongly encouraged to use good sound judgement, extreme caution and appropriate decision making regarding the usage of any movie, film and/or online films in any classroom or library.

The age, maturity and grade level of the students should always be considered when making decisions.

The motion picture rating system will serve as a minimum guide for age appropriateness of commercial videos/films [Film Ratings - Motion Picture Association \(motionpictures.org\)](http://www.filmratings.com). Video clips will be judged on the same basis as the video from which the clip came. If the video in entirety is not age appropriate, then a clip from the video is not appropriate either.

The chart below shall guide the selection of movies and the requirement for prior written permission.

The Film Rating System of the Motion Picture Association of America establishes the following ratings:

- G All Ages admitted. General Audiences.
- PG Parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.
- PG-13 Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.
- R Restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.
- NC – 17 Adults only. No one under 17 admitted.

Grade Level	G	PG	PG-13	R
Pre – K – 5	May be shown with Video Use Approval Form	May be shown with Video Use Approval Form	May not be shown at these grade levels	May not be shown at these grade levels
6 – 8	May be shown with Video Use Approval Form	May be shown with Video Use Approval Form	May be shown with Video Use Approval Form	May not be shown at these grade levels
9 – 12	May be shown with Video Use Approval Form	May be shown with Video Use Approval Form	May be shown with Video Use Approval Form	May not be shown at these grade levels

No X-rated, OR NC –17 movies shall be shown at any grade level.

Unrated Films and Digital Media: staff members shall only use unrated media, such as documentaries, or digital media, such as podcasts or multimedia presentations, that support instruction of grade-level standards. In determining whether an unrated film or digital media may or may not be appropriate, staff

members shall use their professional judgement, consider community standards, and the language, message, and images of the film or media.

Music, at school-sponsored activities: staff members shall allow only music to be broadcast that is appropriate for the age and grade level of the students present. In determining whether a song may or may not be appropriate, staff members shall use their professional judgment, consider community standards, and the language, message, and themes of the music.

When showing a movie, staff shall notify parents/legal guardians in writing at least five (5) days in advance. In courses which focus on film study or before and after school programs, teachers/sponsors may utilize a blank permission form which indicates a group of movies. Such notification shall include:

- the name of movie(s) and ratings;
- the date and or time at which the movie will be shown;
- rationale for showing the movie;
- the description of an alternative activity if permission is not granted by the parent/legal guardian; and,
- a permission form which requires the signature of a parent/legal guardian and which is to be returned to the teacher.

When showing commercial videos, instructional videos, and full-length movies, or clips from the same, the school would be responsible for meeting the legal requirements of applicable copyright laws and paying the required fees.

These protocols apply to all Pre-K –12 curriculum, and to all before and after school programs and clubs sponsored by the district.



La Joya ISD
Department of Library Services Video Use Approval Form

1. Attach this form to a copy of your lesson plan and turn it in to campus administration at least **two weeks** prior to the showing of the video.
2. The form will be reviewed with the lesson plan and returned.

Campus: _____ Requested by: _____

Video Title: _____ Rating: _____

Source: ☐ DVD ☐ VHS ☐ Streaming Platform: _____

☐ Online (provide link): _____

Date to be used: _____ Length of the video: _____

Purpose of Video: ☐ Instructional ☐ Enrichment ☐ Fundraiser

If the purpose is instructional, please identify the subject the video will be supplementing:

☐ Reading ☐ Math ☐ Science ☐ Social Studies ☐ Other: _____

TEKS Objective(s): _____

Principal: _____ Date: _____

Content Coordinator: _____ Date: _____

Executive Director: _____ Date: _____

Asst. Superintendent: _____ Date: _____



Movie Permission Form

Dear Parent / Legal Guardian,

On _____, 20____, I will be showing the movie entitled _____
to the class. This movie is rated _____.

This movie enriches and supports the curriculum and/or student's needs, interests, or abilities by:

In accordance with the district's Movie Protocols, I am requesting your permission to allow your child to watch this movie. If you wish to exclude your child from viewing this movie, your child will participate in the following alternative activity during this time:

If you have any questions, please contact _____ at _____

Teacher/sponsor name

Phone number/email

Or at the following email address _____

The best time to call is _____

Please sign and return it to teacher/sponsor.

Name of student _____

Please initial next to your choice:

_____ has my permission to see the movie.

_____ does not have my permission to see the movie.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____