

**East Lansing Public Schools Board of Education**  
**Board Approved Policy 7463-R**  
**June 26, 2006**

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Section 7000: Instructional Program

7463            Use of Commercially Produced Video Recordings (Tapes, DVD's, and other Formats) and Television Programs

The intent of this policy is to address the use of videos for entertainment purposes, and to provide appropriate guidance for complying with copyright laws. It is essential that all videos shown in classrooms and during district-sponsored activities, including field trips, recreational and sporting events, and fundraisers, comply with copyright laws outlined in this policy.

Video recordings and television programs will be selected and assigned to give support directly to instructional learning objectives contained within the Board approved curriculum, with the exceptions noted below. All videos and television programs shown for curriculum purposes must be aligned to state elementary standards/benchmarks and Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCEs) at K-6, or secondary curriculum standards/benchmarks and High School Content Expectations (HSCEs).

Video recordings, when used, shall be selected for their direct relevance to the instructional program. General selection criteria should include quality of the overall work and its individual parts, fair and accurate representation of the facts, the reputation and significance of the writer, Director and/or performer.

Video recordings shall not be used for recreation or entertainment, or for other than planned instructional purposes unless obtained through licensed sources such as REMC (ISD Regional Educational Media Center) or the school media center. Video recordings used for recreation or entertainment purposes will be limited to indoor recesses and planned parties two times per year.

This policy and regulations shall be given to the parents of each student at the beginning of the year. The school administrator shall make known to the parents how to express concerns about videos not fitting into this policy.

Approved: MASB Rec.

LEGAL REF: 20 USCA 86811 (The Technology for Education Act of 1994)

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All videos shown in classrooms and during district-sponsored activities, including field trips, recreational and sporting events, and fundraisers, must comply with copyright laws outlined in this policy. The use of films and video recordings in school are subject to the following regulations:

1. All films and video recordings must be carefully previewed and evaluated by the teacher and be determined to meet identified learning objectives and exit outcomes before they are used with students.
2. In general, copyright guidelines permit in-classroom use of copyrighted video recordings when it is used for instructional purposes in a teaching situation as is a lawfully made copy.
  - a. The school setting has been defined as a “semi-public performance.” Therefore, public performance rights are reserved for the copyright owner or those given permission.
  - b. Video recordings marketed for “home use” do not have the rights granted for public performance. Rented films that include a notice that the film is intended for “home use only” shall not be shown to a class for entertainment purposes.
3. Non-profit education institutions generally may use videotapes in the course of “face-to-face” teaching activities, without the need to obtain consent from the copyright owner if the following permissible guidelines are met:
  - a. The video is a legally obtained lawful copy.
  - b. The video must be used in the course of “face-to-face” teaching activities.
  - c. The video activity must be carried out by an instructor or student.
  - d. The video activity must be carried out in a classroom or similar place devoted to instruction.
  - e. All video programming obtained from commercial sources outside the school’s purchasing procedure through rental, lease or purchase must be approved for classroom use by the Principal.

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4. Any commercial video recording teachers propose to show that is rated for children older than the students in the given course is to be previously approved by the principal. In addition, parents must be given adequate written notice, at least one week in advance of the viewing, and return written notice granting permission for their children to watch the video. Teachers must receive and document parent permission before allowing students to view the proposed video.

Such notice shall include an accurate description of the contents of the video recording and where it may be obtained for parent(s)/guardian(s) review. Parents will be told of an alternative educational activity, designed to address the same curricular benchmarks, if they do not elect to allow their student to watch the video recording. Students whose parents opt them out of viewing a movie will not be penalized by losing points earned from video viewing and completion of assignments directly related to the video.

5. Video recordings shall not be used for recreation or entertainment, or for other than planned instructional purposes unless obtained through licensed sources such as REMC (ISD Regional Educational Media Center) or the school media center. Video recordings used for recreation or entertainment purposes will be limited to indoor recesses and planned parties two times per year.
6. Principals and the Director of Educational Services shall establish guidelines for implementing this policy in cooperation with the Superintendent.