

VIDEO USAGE IN CLASSROOMS

It is the policy of the Agawam Public Schools to provide the following directions for video use in the education of students:

I. VIDEO USAGE

- A. The primary use of videos is for instructional purposes. By law, any video that does not include “public performance rights” (something the Agawam Public Schools purchased exclusively for classroom use) must comply with the “fair use” provision of copyright law as outlined in the attachment to this policy statement. This requires that videos:
1. Be used with students in “face-to-face” instruction with the teacher.
 2. Be correlated to the Agawam Public Schools Curriculum Guides.
 3. Be shown in a normal instructional setting.

II. VIDEO RATINGS

A. Grades PreK – 4:

Elementary schools may only show “G” rated videos to students in Grades PreK – 4.

B. Grades 5 & 6:

Agawam Middle School may only show the following:

1. “G” and “PG” videos to students in Grades 5 & 6.
(PG movies may be shown to fifth and sixth grade students only with prior approval by the building Principal.) Parent/Guardian notification of potential PG video viewing will be included in the student handbook. Any parent/guardian who does not wish his or her child to view PG-rated videos should follow the procedure outlined in the student handbook.

C. Grades 7 & 8:

Agawam Junior High School may show the following:

1. “G” and “PG” rated videos
2. “PG-13” rated videos with approval of the building Principal
Parent/Guardian notification of potential PG-13 video viewing will be included in the student handbook. Any parent/guardian who does not wish his or her child to view PG-13 videos should contact the building Principal as outlined in the student handbook.

D. Grades 9 – 12:

Agawam High School may show the following:

1. “G”, “PG”, and “PG-13” videos

III. VIDEO SOURCES

- A. Any video from a school district catalog media center may be shown to students. (Grade level recommendations shall be observed.)
- B. All videos legally purchased by the school media centers may be shown if approved for purchase by a building Principal.
- C. Commercially rented videos carry individual restrictions and may not be shown.
- D. Privately-owned videos may not be shown unless approved by the building Principal.

IV. EFFECTIVE VIDEO UTILIZATION

- A. All videos must be previewed by the teacher before showing.
- B. Sound instructional principles that maximize instructional time should always be employed (e.g. show only relevant clips, inform student of the instructional purposes, stop & start video to integrate other instructional activities, use pre/post questions, discussions, and assessment, etc.).
- C. Use of close-captioning where applicable and available.

SOURCE: National School Board Association
U.S. Copyright Law, Title 17, U.S. Code– Fair Use, section 107 through 118