

INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA - AR

The Talbot County Board of Education recognizes that instructional media, (such as video tapes, cable television, interactive video programs, and commercial television) have the potential to greatly enrich the instructional program for Talbot County students.

- I.** Instructional media and software (including audio CD) used in the classroom as support materials must meet the following criteria.
 - A. All rated videos and software must be appropriate for the age level of the student who will view them. Elementary and middle school students may view any video or software with a “G” for “General Audiences”. Middle school students may view any video or software with a “PG” rating (not “PG-13”) with prior approval of the principal. High school students should not view videos and software with a rating of “R” for “restricted” or “X”. Videos and software with a rating of “PG or PG-13” should be carefully screened for explicit language, violence or sexual situations.
 - B. Instructional media must contain material that is directly connected and explicitly supports the instructional objectives for that class.

- II.** Instructional media should be used as an integral part of the Talbot County Instructional Process. Therefore, teachers should use the following procedures.
 - A. All programs and videos should be previewed before they are used in a lesson. Teachers should pay particular notice of which scenes or sections are most appropriate for the lesson of the day and plan to use those sections in instruction. Class time should not be spent viewing an entire movie or video when only a few scenes will address the point.
 - B. Students should know the objective of watching the program or video and should have guiding/purpose setting questions that they answer while viewing the program/video or after viewing the program/video. The program/video may be paused during viewing to allow time to answer questions or discuss concepts.

- III.** Teachers who use instructional videos and/or live media programs which may be considered controversial.
 - A. Ask building principal for permission.
 - B. Notify parents ahead of time so they may inform the school that their child should not see the program, video, or software. In such cases an alternative assignment that meets the same performance objectives should be provided.

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