

3.1 USE OF MEDIA TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

The purpose of this policy is to establish a clear statement regarding the use of videos, movies, and television in the classroom at Scholars Academy.

Scholars Academy believes that media technology such as videos, movies, television and “YouTube” clips can have significant educational value and can enhance instructional delivery and learning, but limits must be set to maintain appropriate usage. The use of media technology must take into account the appropriateness of the content, the connection of the content to the curriculum and lesson, the length of the video media, and the appropriate use of instructional time.

The following are general policy guidelines:

1. Videos, movies, television programs and “YouTube” clips shown in the classroom setting at Scholars Academy will be age appropriate, using the Motion Picture Association of America (“MPAA”) ratings or the TV Parental Guidelines, if applicable. Staff is encouraged to avoid showing video, movie, television programs or “YouTube” clips that would be unacceptable by Scholars Academy standards.
2. The staff member presenting the video, movie, television program or “YouTube” clip must preview it prior to its presentation to students. If the staff member has any concerns about the content of the video, movie, television program or “YouTube” clip, it is recommended he/she not show it or seek specific advice from the Executive Director or other colleagues about appropriateness.
3. Instructional time is precious and limited. Thus, showing videos, movies, television programs or “YouTube” clips when the content is not directly connected to a lesson plan is discouraged. The exception would be school-wide or grade-level activities or seasonal celebrations, in which case the content should be tied to the activity or celebration.

In attempting to resolve disputes around appropriate usage of media technology and this policy, a parent should first go to the relevant staff member, and, if not resolved with the staff member, then to the administration.

Adopted: March 23, 2015