
HORIZON SCHOOL DIVISION**Policy Code:**

HNI

Policy Title:

Use of Visual Media in the Classroom

Cross Reference:

HIB, HG, HNB

Legal References:**POLICY HANDBOOK****Adoption Date:**

December 8, 2005

Amendment or Re-affirmation Date:April 24, 2023

POLICY

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HORIZON SCHOOL DIVISION BELIEVES THAT VISUAL MEDIA SHOWN DURING INSTRUCTIONAL TIME SHOULD DIRECTLY RELATE TO CURRICULUM TOPICS, BE AGE APPROPRIATE, CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE, CONSIDER COMMUNITY CONTEXT, AND HAVE CLEAR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS.

DEFINITIONS:

Visual media is defined as visual productions (e.g. TV shows, movies, commercials, online video content, or other one-time images or video clips).

GUIDELINES:

1. Teachers and counselling staff shall use professional judgment regarding age appropriateness and suitability as it relates to the school and community context.
2. Staff should consult with principal when there may be necessity to inform parents/seeking parent consent.
 - 2.1. When a principal deems it necessary, parents shall be informed of the nature of the visual media to be shown and its content prior to students viewing the visual media.
 - 2.2. Parents may exempt their students from watching visual media. In such cases the school shall provide excused student(s) with an alternative learning activity.
3. Staff should consult Policy HIB: Copyright regarding public performance licenses.

REGULATIONS:

1. The school shall adhere to Horizon Policy HIB Copyright and the Canadian Copyright Act.
2. Schools shall adhere to terms of service. Some providers such as Netflix have terms of service that do not allow for the public display of their streaming services.
3. Full length movies and documentaries shall only be shown in schools with the approval of the principal, unless it is an approved Alberta Education resource and/or available through Alberta Education's video streaming sites.

POLICY HNI – *Use of Visual Media in the Classroom, Cont’d.*

4. Staff shall adhere to the following procedures when using visual media during instructional time:
 - 4.1. movies and documentaries shown shall directly correlate to curriculum outcomes;
 - 4.2. all visual media shown should have obvious educational value; and
 - 4.3. all visual media should be previewed prior to showing it.
5. Age-appropriate visual media may be shown to students in school for entertainment purposes during non-instructional time with the approval of the school principal as per policy HIB.