Best practices on Using DVDs/Videos in Classrooms

- First, please remember that all videos shown in classrooms must be evaluated and approved for use in MCPS schools.
- Second, the video must follow the MPAA rating procedures for getting parental permission if needed. The flowcharts are on the SLMP Google Site as well as a sample parent permission template. Best practice – the principal and teacher should sign off on the form, not you.
- Third, it needs to tie into instruction. A guiding question to think about is: how will the teacher assess student learning gained from watching the video?
- Fourth, this does not apply to Netflix, Amazon Prime, Hulu, and other web streaming services. These do NOT fall under the exception rule and they are governed by the usage rules in their terms of use. I have a separate document on the use of these services that I will post.

From the ALA Video and Copyright Library Fact Sheet 7: <http://www.ala.org/tools/libfactsheets/alalibraryfactsheet07> (a great resource – you might want to Bookmark/ScoopIt/Pinterest/Evernote this!!)

Classroom Use of Videos
Public performances of a video/DVD in the face-to-face classroom is an exception to the public performance right §110 (1) and therefore lawful. The following conditions apply:

* The teaching activities are conducted by a non-profit education institution
* The performance is in connection with face-to-face teaching activities.
* The performance takes place in a classroom or similar place devoted to instruction.
* The person responsible for the performance has no reason to believe that the videotape was unlawfully made.

School and academic libraries do not require public performance rights if the titles will be shown only for non-profit, educational purposes.
FAQ

Are libraries required to purchase videos or DVDs at the higher institutional price?
No. Vendors or publishers often use tiered pricing, but the library does not have to pay the higher fee unless it is getting something in return (discounted replacement copies, etc.) Many libraries by their own choice pay the institutional price for ethical reasons, recognizing that many people will use the video and a higher fee may be warranted.

Can libraries buy videos or DVDs at retail outlets, such as Wal-Mart or Sam’s Club?
Yes, these videos can be added to the collection, loaned and shown for non-profit, educational purposes.

Why are some videos/ DVDs labeled "Home Use Only?"
Vendors or publishers want to remind consumers that videos and DVDs should not be shown to the public as this is an exclusive right of the rights holder. There is an exception to the public performance rights that allows non-profit, educational institutions the right to publicly perform videos/DVDs for non-profit, educational purposes.