*School Name: Bashaw School*

*School District:* Battle River School Division #31

# Permission to View Film/Video

Dear Families,

Occasionally, film/videos are used in the classroom in order to illustrate a particular curricular-related concept.

I am notifying you that we will be watching a film/video in class with a rating above the G rating, in this case unrated, that features strong profanity and references to sexuality.

I will be showing a film/video in the classroom on December 18, 2019. This form must be returned before then.

**Film/Video Title:** Government Surveillance: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver

**Canadian Rating**: Unrated – HBO “late night” comedian

**Topic under discussion to which movie is relevant**: Liberty vs freedom, USA Patriot Act (securities legislation), the imposition of government on/against citizen rights. Will accompany a discussion on Cambridge Analytica, Edward Snowden and the NSA, the Five Eyes Spy Program, and British surveillance of its citizens.

**Instructional objectives:** Students will utilize media thinking skills and connect their learning to “real world” cases. Ultimately, students will be responsible for **evaluating** the impact of sacrificing freedom (in this case, privacy) in favour of security. It will also implement current events—data breaches by corporations—to continue its relevancy.

*Additional information provided on back of form*.

Teacher: Kyle McIntosh Class: Social 30

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Child’s Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I give my son/daughter permission to view curriculum and school appropriate film/videos related to classroom content and subjects.

\_\_\_\_ No, I do not give my son/daughter permission to view curriculum and school appropriate film/videos mentioned in this letter. I understand alternate learning experiences will be provided for my child while the movie is being watched.

Signature of Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

REASONS FOR FORM:

Mr. Oliver’s show is aired on HBO which does not have the same rules as other late night comedians such as Stephen Colbert or Jimmy Fallon. As such, there are frequent swears as he tries to make his point, though “f---“ is censored.

The specific discussion, including an interview with Edward Snowden, incorporates an idea of sexting. Mr. Oliver asserts that Americans “don’t give a s---“about securities or privacy legislation…until they find out private images of themselves are accessible by government. Indeed, Mr. Snowden confirms that as an NSA analyst, he is used to sifting through naked images of people.

No nudity is shown.

The discussion is valid and framed similarly to other essential questions in our course. To what extent should we sacrifice our individual liberties to feel safe?