

COPYRIGHT COMPLIANCE

The School Committee recognizes that copyright legislation has been written to protect the property rights of the rightful owner. It is further the Committee's responsibility to uphold and promote ethical behavior.

The School System will take reasonable steps to ensure that copyright material is protected. The material, whether graphic, audio, visual, or computer software, need not indicate that it is under copyright protection to fall under this policy.

Copyrighted materials may be duplicated only when such reproduction meets "fair use" standards or when written permission for duplication has been obtained from the copyright holder or is included in the (customarily enclosed) Licensing Agreement.

Any employee or student who willfully disregards this policy and the law assumes all liability and responsibility for such action.

The Superintendent shall publish regulations, procedures and/or exhibits to implement this policy.

Notes

Under the law "Fair Use" standard for computer programs is as follows:

"...it is not an infringement for the owner of a copy of a computer program to make or authorize the making of the copy or adaptation of that computer program provided:

- That such a new copy or adaptation is created as an essential step in the utilization of the computer program in conjunction with a machine and that it is used in no other manner or
- That such a new copy and adaptation is for archival purposes only and that all archival copies are destroyed in the event that the continued possession of the computer program should cease to be rightful."

LEGAL REFS.: Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17 of the United States Code, Public Law 94-533, 90 Stat.2541);
Copyright Basic, Circular 1 (Copyright Office, Library of Congress, 1991)
"Fair Use" standards (Section 107, P.L. 94-553 and p 517)