

Use of Copyrighted Materials

All district staff shall adhere to the provisions of the federal copyright law and maintain the highest ethical standards in using copyrighted materials. The district shall provide no legal support to any employee who violates the copyright law. Willful infringement of this law by students or staff may result in disciplinary action.

The Governing Board recognizes that district staff and students may use a variety of copyrighted materials in the educational program and other district operations. When such materials have not been purchased by the district for the intended use, the Board expects staff and students to respect the protections afforded by federal law to the copyright owners of those materials and respect any limitations by the copyright holder to the license of such materials.

(cf. 1113 - District and School Web Sites)
(cf. 1114 - District-Sponsored Social Media)
(cf. 4040 - Employee Use of Technology)
(cf. 4119.21/4219.21/4319.21 - Professional Standards)
(cf. 4132/4232/4332 - Publication or Creation of Materials)
(cf. 5131.9 - Academic Honesty)
(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)
(cf. 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)
(cf. 6161.11 - Supplementary Instructional Materials)
(cf. 6163.1 - Library Media Centers)

Any literary, musical, dramatic, choreographic, pictorial, graphic, sculptural, audiovisual or motion picture, sound, architectural, or other original work shall be assumed to be a copyrighted work, regardless of whether the work appears in print, audio, video, electronic, or other fixed and tangible form.

Before reproducing a copyrighted material for instructional or other district purposes, a staff member shall determine if the material is in the public domain or if the intended use of the material meets the criteria for fair use or another exception pursuant to 17 USC 107-122 which includes usage of copyrighted material for nonprofit educational use. Including such use by reproduction for purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research, is not an infringement of copyright. In determining whether the use made of a work in any particular case is a fair use the factors to be considered shall include:

- (1) the purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes;
- (2) the nature of the copyrighted work;
- (3) the amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole; and
- (4) the effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work. (17 USC 107-122)

If the material is not in the public domain or no recognized exception applies, the staff member shall seek permission of the copyright holder before using the material.

Students shall not copy or distribute copyrighted works to others. Staff members shall take reasonable precautions to prevent copying or the use of unauthorized copies on school equipment.

(cf. 3300 - Expenditures and Purchases)
(cf. 3312 - Contracts)
(cf. 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology)

The Superintendent or designee shall be the only individual who may sign license agreements for software for district schools. Each school using licensed software shall have a signed copy of the software agreement.

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain associated administrative regulation(s) and guidelines in order to encourage compliance with all copyright laws by employees and students.

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that staff and students receive information and training about copyright laws and the penalties for violating such laws.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

Fresno Unified School District does not harass, intimidate, or discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, age, creed, religion, political affiliation, gender, gender identity or expression or genetic information, mental or physical disability, sex, sexual orientation, parental or marital status, military veteran status, or any other basis protected by law or regulation, in its educational program(s) or employment.

Legal Reference:
EDUCATION CODE
35182 Computer Software
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 17

Policy FRESNO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
adopted: March 26, 1992 Fresno, California
reviewed: August 15, 2000
revised: September 21, 2015