

# 718 COPYRIGHT POLICY

## I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to set forth the responsibilities of employees and students with respect to the use of copyrighted material.

## II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The school district will operate in full compliance with the provisions of current copyright laws and congressional guidelines. Employees are to adhere to all provisions of Title 17 of the United States Code, entitled "Copyrights," and other relevant federal legislation and guidelines related to the duplication, retention and use of copyrighted materials.

## II. RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Guidelines for the use of copyrighted materials will be readily available from media specialists and/or from the district media and technology services department, as well as on the district website.
- B. All school employees will have access to the policy and be educated about its implementation. The copyright law in its entirety is available for reference through the district media and technology services department.
- C. Unlawful copies of copyrighted materials may not be produced on district-owned equipment.
- D. Unlawful copies of copyrighted materials may not be used with district-owned equipment, within district-owned facilities or at district-sponsored functions.
- E. The legal and insurance protection of the district will not be extended to employees who unlawfully copy and use copyrighted materials.
- F. Employees who make copies and/or use copyrighted materials in their jobs are expected to be familiar with published provisions regarding fair use, public display and computer guidelines. Employees are further expected to be able to provide their supervisor, upon request, the justification based on fair use, public display or computer guidelines, as specified in copyright law.
- G. Employees who use copyrighted materials that do not fall within fair use, public display or computer guidelines, must be able to substantiate that the materials meet one of the following tests:
  - 1. The materials have been purchased from an authorized vendor by the employee or the district and a record of the purchase exists.

2. The materials are copies covered by a licensing agreement between the copyright owner and the employee or the district.
3. The materials are being previewed or demonstrated by the user to reach a decision about future purchase or licensing and a valid agreement exists that allows for such use.

**Legal References:**

Federal Copyright Law, Public Law 94-553

Policy Adopted: 3/16/92

Policy Revised: 7/17/95, 2/26/18, 2/22/21

Alexandria Public Schools - No. 206

Alexandria, Minnesota