

Board Policy 3720

"The District explicitly prohibits individuals from using its computer systems and networks to violate intellectual property and copyright laws."

Fair Use of Copyrighted Materials

Copyright applies as soon as the material is produced; a copyright notice isn't required. Copyright protection does include an exception for "fair use," but it is limited. There are no clearcut legal requirements for fair use, but the law does include four factors (see full text below) that need to be considered. The first is the purpose of the use; this favors nonprofit or educational use, or use that transforms the work in some way. Second is the nature of the work. This factor favors use of factual or scientific items; use of creative works such as images is less likely to be considered fair. Next is the percentage of the work to be considered fair. Last is the percentage of the work.

