

Activities**COMPLIANCE WITH COPYRIGHT LAWS AND “FAIR USE” GUIDELINES**

In accordance with the Copyright Laws of the United States as codified under Title 17, U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.*, The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, hereby advises its employees and students that they are expected to comply with all pertinent copyright laws and “fair use” guidelines, whenever school district employees and students are using copyrighted materials.

This rule applies to all types of materials or media that may be covered by the Copyright Act, including, but not limited to, original works of authorship fixed in any tangible medium of expression, now known or later developed, from which they can be perceived, reproduced, or otherwise communicated. This rule also applies to copyrighted computer software (17 U.S.C. § 117) and to materials that are copied, recorded, or transmitted via electronic means, such as the Internet or by e-mail.

When working with or using copyrighted materials, school district employees and students are expected to adhere to the following guidelines:

- I. Employees of Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) may reproduce and utilize copyrighted materials in accordance with the provisions of the Copyright Act, Title 17, U.S.C. § 101, *et seq.*
- II. Any reproduction or use of copyrighted materials by school district employees and students will be done, either with the written permission of the copyright holder or in conformity with the “fair use” guidelines under Title 17, U.S.C. § 107. Employees that reproduce or use copyrighted materials and who fail to obtain prior written permission for said reproduction or use from the copyright holder or who fail to abide by the “fair use” guidelines, may be liable for copyright infringement.
- III. The School Board, in recognizing the importance of complying with all of the provisions of the Copyright Act of the United States, hereby notifies all of its employees that a willful or intentional copyright infringement may result in disciplinary action pursuant to School Board Rules and applicable labor contracts.
- IV. Students who disregard copyright laws or who willfully and intentionally violate the copyright laws, will be subject to discipline pursuant to the Elementary, Secondary, and Adult Code of Student Conduct.

Specific Authority: 230.22(2); 230.23(22)

Law Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: 230.22(1); 230.23(5) and (6); 230.23005 (6); 231.001 F.S.

History:

New: 8-22-01

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA