

Copyright Information for Librarians to Share

Disclaimer: This was written by a librarian, not a lawyer, and is not an official legal opinion. Each situation is different, and this email does not cover every scenario. With copyright questions, the answer is often unclear, so it's always a good idea to ask if you aren't sure what is and isn't allowable. You can ask your librarian about specific issues. Although your librarian may not know all the answers, they can help you with research and share your question with district Library Services.

Revised Copyright and Video Procedural Directives Information

Both the [Copyright Compliance](#) and [Use of Videos and Films](#) procedural directives have been recently revised. While it's a good idea to read the full text of both, here are a few key points:

[Use of Videos and Films](#)

- **Movies and films:** Using Netflix, Amazon, or other personal streaming subscription services to show videos to students is forbidden by the individual terms of service agreements subscribers make, APS procedural directives, and is not covered by the provisions of Fair Use.
- **Public performances vs classroom instruction:** If you want to show a movie at recess, lunchtime, or after school (including for any PTA events), you do need a public performance license. Fair Use only covers classroom instruction, not everything that happens in a school.
 - If you show movies at recess, lunch-time, after school, during bad weather, or for other such non-instructional uses (such as watching movies in the classroom when not tied to instruction), your school will need to acquire a public performance license. Talk to your librarian if you think you might need a public performance license.
- **Video content from district-provided sources:** these resources, like Britannica Online, Discovery Education, or Culturegrams, can be legally shown to groups of students, because the district has paid subscriptions to these resources which allow this usage.

[Copyright Compliance](#)

- **The revised procedural directive** clarifies that employees are responsible for their own legal fees if they violate copyright law.
- **APS Policies and Procedural directives require that all employees obey copyright laws.** While Fair Use does provide some protection for educational use, it doesn't cover everything. For example, Fair Use does not cover showing movies at recess or making copies of entire workbooks. Each situation is different, so if you have any questions, ask your librarian. Your librarian may not know the answer, but will be able to direct your question to Library Services.
- **In general, to be protected by Fair Use provisions, you have to think about what you're doing, who's there, why you're doing it, and how much of a particular work you're using.** In general, you need to be at school, with only students and normally present adults, have a clear tie to what students are learning, not be using the whole

thing, and to be using a legally acquired item. Also, Fair Use protections may be stronger for factual works than for creative works.