



**FOREST LAKE AREA SCHOOLS  
FOREST LAKE, MN 55025**

**January 7, 2016**

**AGENDA ITEM: 12.7**

**TOPIC: Computer Software Copyright Policy 611**

**BACKGROUND:** The intent of this policy is to adhere to the provisions of copyright laws in the area of microcomputer programs.

**PROCESS:** The Policy Committee has reviewed this policy, and they are presenting it to the School Board with the changes noted.

**RECOMMENDATION:** First reading of this policy.

## COMPUTER SOFTWARE COPYRIGHT

611

It is the intent of Independent School District 831 to adhere to the provisions of copyright laws in the area of microcomputer programs. Though there continues to be controversy regarding interpretation of these copyright laws, the following procedures represent a sincere effort to operate legally:

- ~~1. The ethical and practical problems caused by software piracy will be taught in the School District.~~
1. ~~2.~~ District employees will be expected to adhere to the provisions of Public Law 96-517, Section 7(b) which amends Section 117 of Title 17 of the United States Code to allow for the making of a backup copy of computer programs. This states that "... it is not an infringement for the owner of a copy of a computer program to make or authorize the making of another copy or adaptation of that computer program provided:
  - a. that such a new copy of adaptation is created as an essential step in the utilization of the computer program in conjunction with a machine and that it is used in no other manner, or
  - b. that such a new copy and adaptation is for archival purposes only and that all archival copies are destroyed in the event continued possession of the computer program should cease to be rightful.
- ~~3. Individuals shall not be permitted to copy from a disk sharing system.~~
2. ~~4.~~ Illegal copies of copyrighted programs may not be made or used on school equipment.
3. ~~5.~~ The Superintendent or his/her designee is the only individual who may sign license agreements for software for schools in the District. ~~(Each school using the software also should have a signature on a copy of the software agreement for local control.)~~
4. ~~6.~~ The principal of each school site is responsible for establishing practices which will enforce this policy at the school level.

ADOPTED: 5/5/86