

SENECA VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE: SOFTWARE USE

ADOPTED: April 22, 1996

REVISED:

<p>1. Purpose P.L. 94-553 Sec. 107</p> <p>2. Guidelines</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">815.1. SOFTWARE USE</p> <p>It is the intent of the district to adhere to the provisions of copyright laws in the area of microcomputer programs. Though there continues to be controversy regarding interpretation of those copyright laws, the following procedures represent a sincere effort to operate legally. The district recognizes that computer software piracy is a major problem for the industry and the violations of computer copyright laws contribute to higher costs and greater efforts to prevent copies and/or lessen incentives for the development of good educational software. All of these results are detrimental to the development of effective educational uses of microcomputers.</p> <p>Therefore, in an effort to discourage violation of copyright laws and to prevent such illegal activities the following guidelines shall be followed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The ethical and practical problems caused by software piracy shall be taught in all schools in the district. 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 back-up 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 of adaptation of that computer program provided: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. That such a new copy or 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. b. That such a new copy and adaptation is for archival purposes only and that all archival copies are destroyed in the event that continued possession of the computer program should cease to be rightful. 3. When software is not to be used on a network system, the district will have licenses for all users or, when possible, a site license.
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4. Illegal copies of copyrighted programs may not be made or used on school equipment.
5. The legal or insurance protection of the district shall not be extended to employees who violate copyright laws.
6. The Assistant Superintendent is designated as the individual who will maintain the records of software license agreements for schools in the district. Each school using the software also will have its own record of the software agreement for local control.
7. The principal of each school site is responsible for establishing practices which will enforce this policy at the school level.