Copyright and Fair Use for Teachers

Copyright Law provides legal protection for original creative works, including, but not limited to, poetry, movies, video games, videos, plays, paintings, sheet music, recorded music performances, novels, software code, sculptures, photographs, choreography and architectural design. Copyright holders, and those they authorize, have several rights afforded to them, including:

- Public display or performance of work.
- Reproduce the entire work or parts of it.
- Distribute copies of the work.
- Derive works, such as translations or dramatizations.

Fair Use allows copyrighted material to be used under certain guidelines, without the copyright holder's permission, for purposes such as news reporting, teaching, research, criticism, and parody. Fair use consideration includes four factors:

- Purpose and character of use.
- Amount of work to be used.
- Nature of the work.
- Effect of any use on the market for the work.

Keep in mind that education purposes do not guarantee permission to copy or distribute work. Many cases may be permissible, but it is important to evaluate each use individually. There are several resources that you can consider, including asking your librarian or media specialist.

Copyright & Fair Use Resources

- ALA's interactive online, *Fair Use Evaluator* for determining copyright exceptions (http://librarycopyright.net/resources/fairuse/)
- Printable two-page PDF chart, *Copyright and Fair Use Guidelines for Teachers*. (http://www.halldavidson.net/copyright_chart.pdf).
- University of Chicago's Copyright Center *Fair Use and Other Educational Uses* (https://www.lib.uchicago.edu/copyrightinfo/fairuse.html)

Creative Commons

Since Copyright protection limits free use of many works, it can sometimes be difficult to find sources for teacher or student projects and multimedia presentations. Fortunately, Creative Commons allows users to share images, music, video and other creations freely. Established in 2001, Creative Commons is a nonprofit corporation, whose purpose is to make it easier for people to share, mix and build upon the works of others. Utilizing six main licenses, creators freely share their work under certain conditions and uses, or dedicate them to the public domain. Depending upon the license, users can use works in collaborative ways and then, publish and license their final product.

● **Search CC content:** CCSearch

● Images: Pics4Learning, a site that has donated images; Unsplash, freely usable high resolution images and photographs, Pixabay, free images and royalty-free stock.

● Video: Flickr Creative Commons, an excellent source for images and video, with a specific search for those with CC licenses; Pexels, free stock video and images.

● Sounds: The Freesound Project, an extensive database for sounds either generated or field recorded, that have CC Sampling Plus Licenses

● Music and spoken word: Bensound, CC Mixter, a community website for music and spoken word audio clips.

● Audio, video, text: Internet Archive, founded in 1996 and widely known for the Wayback Machine, the Internet's archived web page history, is a non-profit Internet Library that continues to add resources. Full text is available for public domain books through Project Gutenberg and other collections.

Open Educational Resources (OER)

OER are "teaching, learning, and research resources that reside in the public domain or have been released under an intellectual property license that permits their free use and re-purposing by others." (From The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation). OER materials are released under an open license granting permission for everyone to do the 5Rs (Retain, Reuse, Revise, Remix, Redistribute). OER include digital learning materials such as:

- open textbooks
- full courses
- modules
- syllabi

- lectures
- homework assignments
- quizzes
- lab activities
- games
- Simulations

Resources for Locating OERs

#GoOpenVA provides an extensive, searchable library of OER from the VDOE.

University of Pittsburgh's *Big List of Open Educational Resources* (https://pitt.libguides.com/openeducation/biglist)

OER Commons is a public digital library of open educational resources. Explore, create, and collaborate with educators around the world to improve curriculum.

RCPS Licensed Resources

Each RCPS library media center subscribes to databases, e-books, and digital learning tools licensed for teachers to use with students. Contact your school's media specialist or librarian for assistance locating and using these tools.

For Maury River Middle School, please contact the school's librarian, Ms. Sarah Edwards (sarah_edwards@rockbridge.k12.va.us) and visit Faculty Resources on the MRMS Library's website.