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Subject: Support of the Fair Use Guidelines for Educational Multimedia
Date: Thu, 15 May 1997 16:52:01 -0500 (EST)
From: ksmith@MAIL.CLARION.EDU (Kathleen Smith)
To: confu@USPTO.GOV
CC: stanz@aect.org

Dear Mr. Fowler: As a Professor of Technology Education at Clarion University of Pennsylvania and the President of the Pennsylvania Association for Educational Communications and Technology (PAECT), I urge you to support the passage of the Fair Use Guidelines for Educational Multimedia. While offering technology courses to many teachers and undergraduate education majors, the question repeatedly arises as to "What do we do if...." That "IF" is usually followed by...students are exploring the "wrong" areas of the Internet; or students can have extremely easy access to lots of "dangerous" information on the Internet; etc.

The Fair Use Policy/Guidelines for Educational Multimedia offer a kind of transparent framework for students, teachers, faculty, administrators and parents to work within. Indeed, it places responsibility on the user, be it a 5 year old or a 50 year old, and assumes that the user take the responsibility seriously. Most importantly, it provides teachers with a sound method of handling inappropriate information garnered from the net by students. The need for acceptance of the Fair Use Guidelines for Educational Multimedia is critical. School Administrators, as well as college personnel who are teaching in this field NEED to endorse the Fair Use Policy as the common ground on which we will all walk someday - regardless of site/gender/age/race/school/grade/system/etc...we will have common knowledge and, hopefully common use of the Fair Use Guidelines for Educational Multimedia.

Please, Mr. Fowler and constituents, consider assisting the efforts of all educators and parents who want the best for their children/students: support the passage of the Fair Use Guidelines for Educational Multimedia. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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