From: [redacted]
Sent: 1/21/2022 8:49:41 PM
To: Jason Golden <[redacted]>
Subject: FW: Support for our wonderful librarians!

WARNING: EXTERNAL EMAIL - THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS

From: [redacted] <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, January 21, 2022 8:47 PM
To: [redacted]
Subject: Support for our wonderful librarians!

Hello, Williamson County School Board members,

Especially after that wonderful presentation the librarians shared at the Board work session in January, I wanted to share my faith in WCS teachers, librarians, and curriculum experts in choosing age appropriate materials for students and books for our libraries. I am so grateful that they consider all the children who might wander into the library and become interested in reading instead of just a specific subset of whitewashed, generic materials. Parents can choose what their own children read or where they go to school, but they should not be allowed to dictate what is available to other people's children, interfering with those children's First Amendment rights as explained in court case after court case.

As for the list of "bad" books from MFL, it's very uncomfortable to see how focused that list is on minority populations in our country. On LGBTQ humans, on Black humans, on Asian humans, on Jewish humans, in the case of the book the librarians shared at the work session. Some might find that if they read the works on the dreaded list beyond a few cherry-picked lines, the experience would be similar to the "aha!" moment enjoyed by District 2's Mr. Cash when he agreed the supposedly objectionable book seemed to be well-written, powerful, and appropriate.

And quite frankly, the fact that anyone on our school board thinks OUR highly skilled and underpaid librarians would really bring porn in our public school libraries is preposterous. They are literally trained to seek out age appropriate, timely, and interesting materials on tiny budgets using whatever resources they have at their disposal, which is often other librarians and professionals who are equally trained and who also would not be recommending porn for any public school libraries.

(Side note: Inclusion of sex and sexuality is not porn when it suits the book's plot and theme and does not dominate the wordcount. As with the scene the librarians shared that included threats, religious discrimination, violence and nudity, it may only be one pivotal scene in a book. The realities of human sexuality might not be appropriate for grade school, but it is definitely a topic of interest to many who are high school age.)

There are absolutely a lot of books in this world that would not be suitable for school libraries. Bookstores and internet retailers are full of them, since reading is a popular pastime for many. But WCS has approximately zero of those books available for students or in the curricula.

Sincerely,

Jody Wallace
District 2
Parent of 2 WCS children
Library fan