

**From:** Laura Holder <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** 11/17/2021 10:15:53 AM

**To:** angela durham <[REDACTED]>; Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>; Eliot Mitchell <[REDACTED]>; Jennifer Aprea <[REDACTED]>; Jay Galbreath <[REDACTED]>; Sheila Cleveland <[REDACTED]>; Candace Emerson <[REDACTED]>; Rick Wimberly <[REDACTED]>; Eric Welch <[REDACTED]>; KC Haugh <[REDACTED]>; Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>; Josh Brown <[REDACTED]>; Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Gary Anderson <[REDACTED]>;

**Subject:** Thank you very much for voting to end the mask mandate - now it's time to evaluate the curriculum and library materials

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

Dear Superintendent Golden and Williamson County Board Members,

First, thank you for voting to end the mask mandate in favor of parental choice for mask-wearing (for those of you that voted in favor). I sincerely appreciate the careful consideration that went into this decision, particularly in light of our district and county's very low case numbers, availability of vaccines for those that make that choice, and no current cases in Williamson Medical Center. This issue has caused a tremendous amount of confusion, frustration and disruption, and it's time to move on to other things.

Now it's time for the district administration and board to turn their attention to the issues related to the Wit and Wisdom curriculum as well as an in-depth review of the many age- and material-inappropriate materials in WCS. I hope that each and every one of you took the time to review the materials circulated at Monday's board meeting. This type of reading matter has no place in our schools, and I think you all know that.

Superintendent Golden, your disingenuous attempt to compare "To Kill a Mockingbird" and similar classics that contain occasional profanity with the types of graphic pornographic depictions contained in the book excerpts that were shared to the board is uninformed and foolish. It is your responsibility and that of the board to stop approving curriculum and library materials without actually reviewing them yourselves, instead of relying on the endorsements of other organizations and school districts. Librarians must not purchase books relying on the recommendations of the American Library Association, but should reach each new book that enters our school's library system. I am grateful for the parents that actually did this evaluation, spending significant time and effort to review the Wit and Wisdom curriculum as well as many library offerings in great depth and detail to provide all of us with information that you should have already been aware of. As I am sure you have heard many, many times by now, reading materials that Carol feels need to be censored during board meetings shouldn't be readily available to young students.

Please do not minimize this issue as just another irritation from parents that you are tired of hearing from and tired of challenging your decisions. We as parents have every right to participate in the education of our children. You would be better served by viewing us as partners, rather than sources of frustration - particularly in light of the fact that many parents have done your jobs for you in evaluating the current curriculum and bringing these critically important issues to light.

Thank you for your time and attention to these matters! I sincerely appreciate the time and effort that goes into running an exemplary school district like WCS, and realize that you are in difficult positions trying to navigate a variety of differing viewpoints. Your efforts to listen to constituents is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Laura Holder