

From: Carol Birdsong <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 9/22/2021 1:42:15 PM
To: McMorris-Santoro, Evan <[REDACTED]>; Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>; angela durham <[REDACTED]>; Brad Fiscus <[REDACTED]>; Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>; Eliot Mitchell <[REDACTED]>; Jennifer Aprea <[REDACTED]>; Jay Galbreath <[REDACTED]>; Candace Emerson <[REDACTED]>; Rick Wimberly <[REDACTED]>; KC Haugh <[REDACTED]>; Eric Welch <[REDACTED]>; Sheila Cleveland <[REDACTED]>;
Cc: Edwards, Meridith <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Media inquiry from CNN

Hi Evan,

Thanks for reaching out. Our district has formed a Reconsideration Committee that is in the process of reviewing approximately 30 texts that are being taught as part of the Wit and Wisdom English Language Arts curriculum in grades K-5. These specific titles have been included in the request for reconsideration submitted by representatives of a group called Moms for Liberty, Williamson County chapter. Some of whom are WCS parents and some of whom are not.

Since the committee is actively working, it would not be appropriate for the district to comment at this time.

You should also know that the district has heard from many other parents and community members who have shared that they are satisfied with the curriculum being taught. As always, according to Board policy, 4.403, "The Board of Education does, however, recognize the right of an individual parent to request that his child not have to use a given instructional material, provided a written request is made to the Principal."

In an effort to keep our families informed, we do have a webpage with additional information. <https://www.wcs.edu/domain/1416> I believe you will find the information there helpful as you prepare your story. Please use any information posted in your story, and please reach out if you need me to clarify any information for you.

Carol Birdsong
Executive Director of Communications

From: McMorris-Santoro, Evan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 11:56 AM
To: Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>; Angela Durham <[REDACTED]>; Brad Fiscus <[REDACTED]>; Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>; Eliot Mitchell <[REDACTED]>; Jennifer Aprea <[REDACTED]>; Jay Galbreath <[REDACTED]>; Candace Emerson <[REDACTED]>; Rick Wimberly <[REDACTED]>; KC Haugh <[REDACTED]>; Eric Welch <[REDACTED]>; Sheila Cleveland <[REDACTED]>; Carol Birdsong <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Edwards, Meridith <[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Media inquiry from CNN

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

Thanks! I clicked the handy "email all the board members" link on your website. Happy to speak with anyone; we're just eager to get all the voices in for the full picture.

--
Evan McMorris-Santoro [REDACTED]

From: Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 12:54 PM

To: McMorris-Santoro, Evan <[REDACTED]>; Angela Durham <[REDACTED]>; Brad Fiscus <[REDACTED]>; Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>; Eliot Mitchell <[REDACTED]>; Jennifer Aprea <[REDACTED]>; Jay Galbreath <[REDACTED]>; Candace Emerson <[REDACTED]>; Rick Wimberly <[REDACTED]>; KC Haugh <[REDACTED]>; Eric Welch <[REDACTED]>; Sheila Cleveland <[REDACTED]>; Carol Birdsong <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Edwards, Meridith <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Re: Media inquiry from CNN

Evan, Carol Birdsong, copied above, handles media requests for our district.

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From: McMorris-Santoro, Evan <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Wednesday, September 22, 2021 11:17:28 AM

To: Angela Durham <[REDACTED]>; Brad Fiscus <[REDACTED]>; Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>; Eliot Mitchell <[REDACTED]>; Jennifer Aprea <[REDACTED]>; Jay Galbreath <[REDACTED]>; Candace Emerson <[REDACTED]>; Rick Wimberly <[REDACTED]>; Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>; KC Haugh <[REDACTED]>; Eric Welch <[REDACTED]>; Sheila Cleveland <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Edwards, Meridith <[REDACTED]>

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Hi, I'm a correspondent with CNN in New York.

I'm heading down to Williamson County, TN tomorrow for an interview with parents on all sides of the curriculum debate in the county, specifically about some suggested books to be used with students aged K-2.

I'd really like to speak to someone on-camera with some elected board members about the conversation and what kind of context a national audience should have when looking at it. Is anyone available tomorrow?

My number if you have questions: [REDACTED].

Thanks! CC'd on this email is Meridith Edwards, who is producing this story.

--

Evan McMorris-Santoro

CNN

[REDACTED]

From: Edwards, Meridith <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 9/22/2021 3:01:37 PM
To: Carol Birdsong <[REDACTED]>
Cc: McMorris-Santoro, Evan <[REDACTED]>; Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>; angela durham <[REDACTED]>; Brad Fiscus <[REDACTED]>; Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>; Eliot Mitchell <[REDACTED]>; Jennifer Aprea <[REDACTED]>; Jay Galbreath <[REDACTED]>; Candace Emerson <[REDACTED]>; Rick Wimberly <[REDACTED]>; KC Haugh <[REDACTED]>; Eric Welch <[REDACTED]>; Sheila Cleveland <[REDACTED]>;
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Hey Carol! Is there anyway we can arrange an interview for tomorrow as we will be in town and I would love to just get somebody on camera for our story?

Meridith Edwards
CNN Senior Producer
[REDACTED]

On Sep 22, 2021, at 2:42 PM, Carol Birdsong <[REDACTED]> wrote:

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Evan McMorris-Santoro

CNN

