

From: Eric Welch <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 7/26/2021 10:39:14 AM
To: Theresa Pesafri <[REDACTED]>; Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>; KC Haugh <[REDACTED]>; Rick Wimberly <[REDACTED]>; Sheila Cleveland <[REDACTED]>; Jennifer Aprea <[REDACTED]>; Eliot Mitchell <[REDACTED]>; angela durham <[REDACTED]>; Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>; Brad Fiscus <[REDACTED]>; Jay Galbreath <[REDACTED]>; Candace Emerson <[REDACTED]>;
Subject: Re: Are you misleading parents?

Ms. Pesafri,

I am all for parents having more access to the texts we are using to allow them to reach in in full and not just snippets taken out of context. Costs and copyright constraints don't always allow this, but when a text is freely available online, I think that's a great thing to share.

As for sharing Robin Steenman's own posts that she wrote publicly for the world to see, if you're more offended that I shared those than you are her referring to teachers as "little brainwashing assholes," I don't know that we'll be able to find common ground on this one.

- Eric Welch

Eric Welch
Williamson County Schools
Board of Education - District 10

Please note that this is a public email account. Communications sent to/from this address are subject to potential review by third parties under the Tennessee Open Records Act.

From: Theresa Pesafri <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, July 25, 2021 6:12 AM
To: Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>; KC Haugh <[REDACTED]>; Rick Wimberly <[REDACTED]>; Sheila Cleveland <[REDACTED]>; Jennifer Aprea <[REDACTED]>; Eliot Mitchell <[REDACTED]>; Angela Durham <[REDACTED]>; Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>; Brad Fiscus <[REDACTED]>; Jay Galbreath <[REDACTED]>; Candace Emerson <[REDACTED]>; Eric Welch <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Are you misleading parents?

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

WCS Board of Education Members,

It is a shameful embarrassment that a member of the Board of Ed has now resorted to deception about Wit & Wisdom--misleading the public, WCS parents, and tax-payers of this county. I do not say that lightly.

Posting an erroneous and misleading video at least twice on Twitter about which *Ruby Bridges Goes to School* book is read by 2nd graders is not only unethical, but also propagating more distrust in the Board. If a Board Member is lying about our K-5 ELA curriculum, what else could the Board be hiding from us?!

I assure you these lies on Twitter written by @EricWelchWCS will be circulated.

Because of the growing distrust, I'm convinced that every student needs to have their own copy of every book used in Wit & Wisdom, and needs to be able to bring it home to show their parents.

If you do not remove Grade 2 Module 3 from Wit & Wisdom, the parents of every second grader need to be informed that their child will be looking at pictures of:

"NIGGER"

and

"We won't go to school with Negroes"

Do you really think this is appropriate reading material for 7 and 8 year olds?! These are racist remarks, and there are many others fed to them for 2.5 months!

If you think that this is totally appropriate, then please explain why to parents on your social media accounts, and be sure to type out the full N-word in your explanation!

And if you think it's inappropriate to type out the full N-word on Twitter or FB, then maybe you'll understand the parents' objection to 7-year-olds looking at the Norman Rockwell painting of Ruby Bridges!

Sincerely,
Theresa

P.S.

Eric Welch:
Please stop embarrassing the residents of Williamson County with your sick obsessive behavior on Twitter. You've been harassing a mom of 3 for weeks on social media. How can an elected official treat another woman this way? She's a Williamson County resident and veteran, and she's allowed to have a different opinion from you. Instead of harassing and shaming women behind your computer, perhaps you should spend that time looking up the ISBN number of the actual Ruby Bridges book used in the curriculum.

Daniel Cash:
Thank you for caring about our children by speaking up against the dark and inappropriate content in the Wit and Wisdom books. I am grateful that you are fighting for our kids.