

1320 West Main Street, Suite 202  
Franklin, Tennessee 37064-3700  
(615) 472-4000  
fax (615) 472-4190



October 28, 2021

Dr. Cindy Rudolph  
[cindyrudolpheducation@gmail.com](mailto:cindyrudolpheducation@gmail.com)

*Re: Public Records Request*

Dear Dr. Rudolph:

This letter is written in response to your public records request. Pursuant to the terms of the Tennessee Public Records Act, WCS is obligated to respond to your request by a) providing the copies requested, b) denying the request, or c) providing an explanation as to how long the production will take and its associated labor and copying costs.

Additionally, the Act does not require a governmental agency to "sort through files to compile information" nor does it require a governmental agency to create a record that does not exist. *See* T.C.A. § 10-7-503 (a)(4) and (a)(5). Additionally, a request must be "sufficiently detailed to enable the records custodian to identify the specific records to be located or copied." T.C.A. § 10-7-503 (a)(7)(B). Regarding costs, the Act allows reasonable charges for copies of documents. The copying charge is \$.15 per page for black and white copies, and \$.50 per page for color copies. There is no cost to view the records.

You also requested a copy of any and all emails from Dave Allen and/or Julie Oyer from October 1, 2019 to the present containing "Wit and Wisdom," "WNW," "WnW," "W&W," "WW," "GM," "Great Minds," or any other deviations that represent the Great Minds published Wit and Wisdom product to any Williamson County Schools principals, content coaches, lead teachers, and teachers. Your request is granted. There are two hundred and fifty-one (251) pages responsive to your request. The cost of printing the records in your request is \$37.65.

Additionally, the records must be screened and confidential information redacted. The employee who performs this task is able to screen approximately 50 records per hour, meaning the employee spent approximately 4 hours performing this task. One hour of labor is provided for free under the Act, so 3 hours is the labor time required to prepare the records. At the employee's hourly rate of \$46.15 per hour, the labor cost is \$138.45.

Your request is ready to be picked up at WCS Central Office. Please bring check or exact change in the amount of \$176.10 for your request.

Thank you.

*Anna Hall*

Anna Hall,  
Paralegal

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 4/1/2020 1:32:49 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Free W&W PD  
**Attachments:** Outlook-WCS BE\_NIC.png, Outlook-WCS BE\_NIC.png

Well, we can go that route too:)

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 1, 2020 1:32 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Free W&W PD

Kind of too late.....💎💎💎 Marianne just shared the link with all the ELA coaches and asked them to pass it along to teachers. I responded to Marianne and Karen and asked them to attend the first available session so they know what the teachers will experience. Marianne and I first learned about this link via an email chain from Chad Walker this morning to all his staff. Something tells me it was shared among the elementary principals. The session is only an hour and seems to just be an overview; so it should be fine.

*Jenny Lopez*  
Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*



**From:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 1, 2020 1:04 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Free W&W PD

Yes, see if Marianne or Karen can look at it first to be sure, but yes, this would be a great place to have teachers start for informal professional learning while they have time right now. Love it.

Laurette Carle

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]  
Office phone: [REDACTED]  
Twitter: @wcsCOLcc

***Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.***

---

**From:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 1, 2020 12:54 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Free W&W PD

Check out the page I linked below. Looks like W&W offers free "PD"; it's more like an overview of the product. This seems like a good place to start for those that want the exposure right now. I will have Marianne and/or Karen sign up for a session so they get a feel for what is covered. Should we send it to principals as an FYI?

<https://gm.greatminds.org/wit-wisdom-resource-overview-sessions>



### Resource Overview Sessions - Wit & Wisdom

Join a Resource Overview Sessions and learn more about the resources available within the Wit & Wisdom ELA curriculum from Great Minds.

***Jenny Lopez***  
Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

***Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.***



**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 4/1/2020 2:36:27 PM  
**To:** Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: some questions  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#), [image002.png](#), [Outlook-sgwuable.png](#), [Outlook-zyemtet4.png](#)

Awesome! Thank you Karen:)

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 1, 2020 1:57 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: some questions

Dave,

Thanks for sharing. I know we have a meeting on Friday to discuss the scope and sequence, but I wanted to share with you what the coaches who have been working with me to proof them have said because I believe this is tied in a small way to the CFA statement.

- All believe the omitting of I Cans will help keep the focus on the standard. Quite a few have turned religious with comments such as: Thank God!! Hallelujah! and I believe there was one Thank you, Jesus!
- All have made the point of commenting on how the new scopes actually supports our CFA work far better than the previous model. They liked the number of days and the number of lessons being included, the promise of a calendar (which is completed now), and the flexibility that this lends itself to for making those instructional decisions at a site based level. Every single coach has noted that, Dave.
  - By the way, 18 coaches are partnering with me on this work and another 5 helped me with the Epic book collection building process. I'm so proud of them!

I think once people get into Wit & Wisdom and see how high the bar has been set, they'll understand it better. I'm sure you have the log in information somewhere, but I'm giving it to you here again just in case you'd like to check it out or if a principal requests it:

Great Minds

Username: [REDACTED]  
Password: [REDACTED]

It was good seeing you today. You look, and sound like, you are feeling better. Glad to see that. Take care and hope you are able to get outside and enjoy a bit of the sunshine after work tonight. Zoom you tomorrow.

Karen Wight, M. Ed.  
Curriculum Specialist, K-5 ELA and Social Studies  
[REDACTED], ext. [REDACTED]

Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.



From: David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 1, 2020 1:39 PM  
To: Elizabeth Vest <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Re: some questions

Hi Elizabeth. See below...

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

From: Elizabeth Vest <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 1, 2020 1:09 PM  
To: David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: some questions

*Cloncraft Principal*

First of all, I have to admit that I've not done my research on Wit and Wisdom yet, so I can't speak to what all it entails YET. It's on my task list for the coming weeks. I will have a lot to learn before I can properly prepare my teachers for this transition especially with the limitations placed on us during this pandemic.

I just have some initial questions after today's announcements:

1. What does this mean for our CFA work? The reality is our assessment measure isn't changing. We will still have TCAP at the end of the year. How do we follow Wit and Wisdom "with fidelity" and still properly prepare our students for the TCAP which in large part is why we do CFAs the way we do? This is why we supplemented Wonders all of these years.

I can't speak to sequence. Wit and Wisdom may teach things in a different order which will require some pacing guide adjustments, but I'm hopeful that the new materials will only enhance your CFA work. If you have high quality aligned assessments that give your teachers the data they need to make real time intervention decisions then you should not have to change them. However, everything I'm seeing with Wit and Wisdom makes me feel your teams will have additional, high quality assessment items to choose from and therefore your CFA's will be even better.

*we have never seen these assessments. - These assessments are telling.*

My recommendation is to wade into the new resources with an open mind. Your staff may be reluctant. My experience as Principal with high achieving schools has been they're more reluctant to change, because things are going well. Why would they change? My initial take on these new resources is that your school can go to a whole new level. That's what high achieving schools are telling us about this resource. It's a different philosophy on reading. Very systemic phonics instruction and greater exposure to grade level material. The research behind it and the results so far are pretty amazing. Don't fall victim to "we've always done really well" and 2 years down the road find the gap between your ELA scores and those chasing you shrinking:

*However - The scores show ~~that~~ decline from 2019 - explained away b/c of COVID*

1. Has any thought be given to allowing us a transition year in 2020-21 so that we can truly and fully prepare for the shifts that need to take place to implement Wit and Wisdom and the Early Literacy program well? If the state is not offering trainings until 2020-21, it's seems we'll be building the plane while flying it.

I don't think we have this option. We're no longer paying for Wonders so we can't use their resources.

However, I feel strongly the combination of state online PD modules, the training provided by Wit and Wisdom and the training provided by our own specialists (remember, Marianne is on the state committee) will put us in a good place for a successful first year.

Thanks,

**Elizabeth Vest, Ed.D**

Principal

Clovercroft Elementary



**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 4/1/2020 1:03:27 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Free W&W PD  
**Attachments:** Outlook-WCS BE NIC.png

I'll defer to Laurette, but I like it. I think we should have Marianne or Karen take a look first, before we recommend to Principals/Coaches/Teachers.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 1, 2020 12:54 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Free W&W PD

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[gm.greatminds.org](https://gm.greatminds.org)

**Jenny Lopez**  
Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*



**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 4/9/2020 4:02:41 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

*in-house discussion  
around paid PD  
PD credit for teachers*

**Attachments:** Outlook-WCS BE NIC.png, Outlook-WCS BE NIC.png

I lost that argument. The counter argument was, there are no normal work hours right now.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 9, 2020, at 3:52 PM, Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]> wrote:

I am confused as to why we would grant PD credit to teachers when they attend during their paid day (job embedded). Let me explain....PD credit if fine; it IS PD. But for the outside their school calendar PD days? We have too much PD we NEED them to have and this might place us in a position where we can't ask that of them. Just my 2 cents.....

**Jenny Lopez**

Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

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<Outlook-WCS BE NIC.png>

**From:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 3:49 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

Yes, we will have to proactively come up with a recommended series for certain teacher assignments. Plus, we need to coordinate with principal plans for PLC work they had expected for this summer. It may be possible that instead of spending stipend money on instructors during the May 27-June 12 window, we could use those funds plus more for teachers attending certain PD sessions that fall in the summer.

**Laurette Carle**

Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]  
Office phone: [REDACTED]  
Twitter: @wcsCOLcc

• BW, LW

**Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.**

---

**From:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 3:41 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

The only worry I have about counting all the PD for 2020-2021 is that teachers may have enough hours to cover their 3 days before the PD we need them to have (ELA textbook, foundational literacy, AimsWeb, etc). Is that a concern?

**Jenny Lopez**  
Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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<Outlook-WCS BE NIC.png>

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**From:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 3:13 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

Awesome! I love it!! We will make that happen. Can't go back and do for the on-demand trainings Kelly already had via Zoom, but we can do this moving forward by scheduling new stuff in Frontline and taking attendance. Very exciting for ELA PD and Schoology PD and some SSS needed PD as well we could knock out before the traditional summer window of May 27-June 12 when we will have more online learning options as well. Wow!

**Laurette Carle**  
*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]  
Office phone: [REDACTED]  
Twitter: @wcsCOLcc

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**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 3:10 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

Yes

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

---

**From:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 3:09 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

PD Credit for 2020-2021 I hope?

**Laurette Carle**  
*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]  
Office phone: [REDACTED]  
Twitter: @wcsCOlcc

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**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 3:09 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

Jason wants to allow teachers to earn PD credit for any PD we do now until the end of the year.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

---

**From:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 3:06 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** ELA PD

My Wit & Wisdom PD call got moved to Monday by Emma. Now, I will speak with Julie from Pearson at 1pm Monday then Emma from Great Minds/W&W at 3:15pm.

It is better this way as I need to digest what comes out of SBE wording and Jason's directions for moving forward as we try to calendar in this PD too.

Sales/support person  
from Great Minds

I also decided not to send out the FAQs from TLA today that we know Jason has a big shift for communication about instruction coming on Monday. I think most teachers are now shifting their focus to the long weekend and religious holidays. I don't want to give them whiplash explaining and clarifying the evolving guidance over the past two weeks knowing they will hear new guidance on Monday.

By the way, just in case we don't talk again today, I want to wish you both a very Happy Easter and hope that you and your families can celebrate as best we can this year while staying at home!

I truly enjoy working with both of you! What a whirlwind this has been! But exciting too for new opportunities and momentum!

Laurette

**Laurette Carle**

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*

Williamson County Schools

1320 West Main St., Suite 202

Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wcsCOlcc

***Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.***

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 4/9/2020 3:48:49 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

**Attachments:** Outlook-WCS BE NIC.png

I told Jason this would be a budget issue.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 9, 2020, at 3:41 PM, Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]> wrote:

The only worry I have about counting all the PD for 2020-2021 is that teachers may have enough hours to cover their 3 days before the PD we need them to have (ELA textbook, foundational literacy, AimsWeb, etc). Is that a concern?

**Jenny Lopez**

Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

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<Outlook-WCS BE NIC.png>

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**From:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 3:13 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

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**Laurette Carle**

Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
Franklin TN 37064

↓  
What is this?

Email: [REDACTED]  
Office phone: [REDACTED]  
Twitter: @wcsCOlcc

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---

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 3:10 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

Yes

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

*Still conversations  
about PD credit  
for techs.*

---

**From:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 3:09 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

PD Credit for 2020-2021 I hope?

**Laurette Carle**  
*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]  
Office phone: [REDACTED]  
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**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 3:09 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

Jason wants to allow teachers to earn PD credit for any PD we do now until the end of the year.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools

Twitter: @wcsCOda

From: Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, April 9, 2020 3:06 PM  
To: Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: ELA PD

WW asked  
support person

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Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]  
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**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

---

Yes

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

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PD Credit for 2020-2021 I hope?

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*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
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Email: [REDACTED]  
Office phone: [REDACTED]  
Twitter: @wscOlcc

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**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** ELA PD

PD credit  
discussions -  
continued

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Email: [REDACTED]  
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**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
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**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

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**Laurette Carle**  
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Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]  
Office phone: [REDACTED]  
Twitter: @wcsCOlcc

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**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 4/9/2020 4:16:08 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

**Attachments:** Outlook-WCS BE NIC.png

You two have no idea how much I appreciate you.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 9, 2020, at 4:10 PM, Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Agree! I feel much older today than I did 3 weeks ago. The long hours and sitting is killing me! I am going to go on a walk soon. Enjoy your long weekend and Happy Easter to both of you and your families. As always...it's been a pleasure! This is difficult work for sure.....so glad I get to do this with the 2 of you:)

**Jenny Lopez**

Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

<Outlook-WCS BE NIC.png>

---

**From:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 4:05 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

Hey guys...it's 5 o'clock somewhere! Hope you can sign off soon and enjoy the weather out there! We all need a break!

**Laurette Carle**

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

*Pats on the back  
for everyone*

Office phone: [REDACTED]  
Twitter: @wcsCOLcc

*Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.*

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 4:02 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

PP Credit  
discussion  
- continued

I lost that argument. The counter argument was, there are no normal work hours right now.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 9, 2020, at 3:52 PM, Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]> wrote:

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Office phone: [REDACTED]

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***Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.***

**From:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 9, 2020 3:41 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: ELA PD

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***Jenny Lopez***

Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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Yes

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
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PD Credit for 2020-2021 I hope?

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From: David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: 4/9/2020 4:15:22 PM  
To: Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Re: ELA PD

*What does this mean?*

*PD discussions continued*

Struggling in Cabinet again. I'll fill you guys in Monday. Have a great weekend.

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 9, 2020, at 4:05 PM, Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]> wrote:

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(615)472-4068

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Assistant Superintendent  
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Email: [REDACTED]  
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**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 4/23/2020 9:02:08 AM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Preview of draft for tomorrow's communication about PD

Great! Thank you.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 23, 2020 8:53 AM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Preview of draft for tomorrow's communication about PD

They have to commit to one date. There will be a live Zoom for first two hours from 8-10am from Wit & Wisdom/Great Minds. Then, they have flexible time to explore with some look fors and guidance Marianne and Karen will provide through Google Classroom (they used Google Classroom on Feb 17 with all ELA teachers too). This won't be a full two hours of work. There will be time for lunch and perhaps tending to a few other tasks of their own. Then, there is another live two hours at the end of the day (1-3pm) from Great Minds again.

**Laurette Carle**  
*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]  
Office phone: [REDACTED]  
Twitter: @wcsCOlcc

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**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 23, 2020 8:06 AM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Preview of draft for tomorrow's communication about PD

How does the 6 hours work? I think you mentioned they didn't have to do all 6 at one time? But there are 20 different sessions? Help me understand how it works?

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools

*6 hrs of PD  
by WW Great Minds  
- no "in person"  
PP*

Twitter: @wcsCOda

From: Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2020 6:36 AM  
To: David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Fw: Preview of draft for tomorrow's communication about PD

*Continuing  
w/ PD conversations*

Keeping you in the loop on another Q&A from elementary...

**Laurette Carle**  
Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]  
Office phone: [REDACTED]  
Twitter: @wcsCOlcc

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From: Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2020 6:34 AM  
To: Kathryn Donnelly <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Re: Preview of draft for tomorrow's communication about PD

Hi Kate,

Thanks for the questions.

If a teacher earns a day of PD Credit on May 1, she will only need to earn two more days to reach the three required for the window of May 1, 2020 - April 30, 2021. Jason asked for us to offer PD Credit in all of May instead of waiting until after the last calendar work day. There are no normal work hours in this time, so he wants to give them credit for attending the ELA PD or the Schoology PD we will offer prior to May 26.

*Great Minds - not that cooperative*

You can only imagine the struggle of finding dates with the vendor that would also work with our curriculum team. We can't change the dates. We need your help in supporting the fact that teachers must clear one date to engage in this learning. The earlier they learn about how to use the new high-quality resources, the more time they will have to think about it all and explore on their own for effective collaborative planning later.

At this point in time, there will be no in-person PD scheduled for this summer. Teachers may collaborate via Zoom as we are doing with all our work right now. If that changes for later in the summer, we will absolutely announce it. We are about to begin planning for July virtual admin kickoff and virtual new teacher induction. If we find out we can meet, we will go back to plan A. Flexibility and uncertainty are the new normal now, aren't they?!

**Laurette Carle**  
Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

*No in-person PD around WW  
in summer of 2020 - before the kick-off;  
so far they get 6 hrs. of Zoom & Google Classroom  
learning*

Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wcsCOLcc

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---

**From:** Kathryn Donnelly <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 23, 2020 6:24 AM

**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Re: Preview of draft for tomorrow's communication about PD

Good Morning,

I hope this finds you well. I can't imagine what a heavy lift this was for you to move from face-to-face to virtual in just under a month! Wow!

As requested, here are some questions/comments that may help clarify or may just help me understand!

*The PD Credit window for 2020-2021 will run from May 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021. Teacher contracts for next year will still include the three days (18 hours) for earning PD Credit outside the calendar contract dates and hours for 2020-2021.*

Can you clarify this further? If a teacher takes PD on 5/1 are they still expected to complete three additional days after May 23, 2020?

Just a thought- request-- lots of teachers will be involved in end-of-year activities 5/18-20. These activities could include student-belonging pick up; reverse parades, closure with families, etc. Hopefully, all those folks busy on 5/18 can still get into later sessions. Or looking at the elementary pick-up schedule it would almost be better to have training 5/14-15 and then reopen it up on 5/20.

Grade Level Planning- I am not sure if you can answer this but many of our teams have face-to-face team planning during the summer. I am not sure you have an answer as to whether or not this can occur or occur in person. However, I know the minute it is released these questions will be asked.

Thanks!

Kate Donnelly, Ed.D.

Principal

Walnut Grove Elementary, Franklin, Tennessee

***The Walnut Grove Community is dedicated to growing well-rounded and productive students by promoting advanced learning through a collaborative, engaging environment.***

---

**From:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Thursday, April 23, 2020 5:08 AM

**To:** Principal Group <[REDACTED]>; Assistant Principal Group <[REDACTED]>

**Cc:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Maria Griego <[REDACTED]>; Kelly Wade <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; Renee Palakovic <[REDACTED]>; Melissa Menendez <[REDACTED]>; Leigh Webb <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Heather Hayes <[REDACTED]>; Denise Goodwin <[REDACTED]>; Laura LaChance <[REDACTED]>; Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Preview of draft for tomorrow's communication about PD

Dear Principals,

Please see below the information I plan to share with all WCS tomorrow/Friday. Please read carefully and let me know if you have questions or concerns that might help me edit and improve it for clarity tomorrow.

Please don't forward this to teachers today. We are trying to streamline the communication, and this is an early draft and may be edited by tomorrow. Plus, the Frontline district catalog won't have new edited

activities published until tomorrow.

Notes specifically for elementary principals:

- You will see that the chart is missing the detailed June dates for the elementary foundational skills training. We will have those dates set later today and they will be part of tomorrow's email.
- Attached is info on aimswebPlus training to help you direct certain staff to those sessions. I will not include that attachment when I communicate with all teachers tomorrow. We are providing it to you to think about who should attend from your school and then ask them to register. Sheena can guide you on that if you need advice.

Thank you!!

Dear WCS Educators,

The Teaching, Learning and Assessment Division is excited to announce new information regarding professional development opportunities to prepare you for success in the upcoming school year 2020-2021. **Here are the big ideas:**

- All summer PD delivered from WCS will be virtual/online/distance learning. There will be no face-to-face activities this summer due to COVID-19.
- There will be no CPI training this summer. All certifications earned last year will be valid for TWO years instead of one. You will need to attend a refresher in summer 2021. We will begin initial CPI training for new employees in the fall once restrictions are lifted to allow it.
- ELA teachers need to participate in the learning for the newly adopted high-quality textbook resources (see table below).
- High school teachers who have not yet used Schoology for instruction need to attend the course on using Schoology (see table below).
- The PD Credit window for 2020-2021 will run from May 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021. Teacher contracts for next year will still include the three days (18 hours) for earning PD Credit outside the calendar contract dates and hours for 2020-2021.
- The Frontline District Catalog has been edited to reflect the changes we have had to make with the restrictions faced this spring. There may be more edits and adjustments made in the coming week or two.

**And below are answers to frequently asked questions:**

What PD must I attend this summer? See this table and the ELA Addendum attached to email on April 24.

Role	Activity Title	Hours	Date Options	Notes
K-5 ELA Teacher	Launching Wit & Wisdom	6	May 18-21, 27-28	There will be 20 different sessions to choose from. Please register for ONE asap.
K-2 ELA Teacher	Foundational Skills Curriculum Introduction	6	June dates tbd	There will be three date options for each grade level K-2
6-12 ELA Teacher	Exploring My Perspectives	6	May 5,13, or 21	For teachers of grades 6-8 ELA plus high school English I-IV (not AP or IB or special courses)
HS Teacher not already trained in Schoology LMS	Getting Started with Schoology	6	May 4-20 OR May 27-June 12	Asynchronous online to do at own pace within window of time

*See email from Jessica Sheehan on Tuesday, June 16, 2020*

**I had registered for a summer activity, but it was canceled. What do I do now?**

Please understand that our original instructors were not able to convert all planned activities into virtual ones. Take time to browse the District Catalog using the key word search to help you filter to topics related to your professional learning needs to see if there are alternative learning opportunities for you. Ask for advice from your principal or assistant principal.

**I had registered for an activity that has been converted to virtual and now I am not able to attend. What do I do now?**

If you are unable to attend for any reason, please click the [blue Manage button](#) next to the activity on your main page in Frontline and DROP the activity. You cannot drop the day before an activity – please do as soon as you



know you can't attend. This will open the seat to someone else who needs it and it will give the instructor a more accurate roster of participants which will help them in planning.

**I had registered for an activity that has been converted to virtual and it is now a shorter activity. What if I want more hours for it?**

Please understand that in converting from in person to virtual, there was perhaps some content that could not be converted, and the entire length had to be shortened. You will need to find other activities for more hours. You should browse the district catalog for learning opportunities. You should also seek out advice from your principal or assistant principal. You have until April 2021 to earn all 18 hours of PD Credit.

**I plan to attend some out of district PD this summer. How do I get credit for that?**

From the left side menu in Frontline, choose Forms and then [Out of District PD Request Form](#). Fill it out and submit it for prior approval from your principal/supervisor BEFORE you attend to ensure that he/she will allow it for PD Credit. Then, when you do attend, be sure to obtain a certificate of completion. Not documentation of registration – documentation of attendance or completion. You will need that to manage your request in Frontline as you will mark it complete, attach your certificate, and submit again to your principal/supervisor for final approval.

**My principal is planning some PD at our school for later this summer. How do I get credit for that?**

Your school's Frontline activity owner will be getting those activities into Frontline. Watch for communication from your school about that. You will register for it in Frontline, attend, and take the online evaluation just as you do for district delivered PD activities.

**Is there training on AimswebPlus for elementary teachers?**

Yes! There are three different virtual activities for AimsWebPlus in the district catalog. Read the descriptions and details (including audience) carefully before registering. See your elementary principal for more information about which one(s) you should attend.

**I can't find what I am looking for in Frontline. Who can help me?**

Please reach out to Melissa Menendez, PD Department Assistant, at [REDACTED] for help navigating and using Frontline and the district catalog. She is working from her laptop at home.

**Is there any PD for Special Education Paraprofessionals this summer?**

Yes! There are online courses available for those who did not take them during this past school year. Search for [Direct Step](#) to find out more in the District Catalog.

**I read the title of an activity I am interested in, but I need to know more about it. Who should I contact?**

Be sure to click the title of the activity to read the course description. In the details, you can see the intended audience and the names of the instructor(s). [Email the instructor](#) if you have unanswered questions about the content or purpose of the activity.

**Laurette Carle**

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*

Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
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Email: [REDACTED]

Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wcsCOLcc

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**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 2/25/2020 2:42:50 PM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Carol Birdsong <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Progress on Language Arts textbook review information - HB 2229

Carol, here is the information to Kerri's questions...

- Public Review tomorrow at the PD Center, 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.; all committee members were invited, including parents on the committee. This was also publicized via InFocus.
- Teachers are making recommendations on the resource of preference using a Google form through Friday, February 28.
- The textbook committee will meet Monday, March 2nd to vote on the recommendation they will make to the board.
- Recommendation for textbook adoption will be made to the WCS school board at the March meeting.
- District representatives will attend a TDOE provided session for implementation planning on March 5.
- Begin negotiating contracts for resources we purchase.
- Begin planning implementation (summer PD, ongoing PD, coaches' training, reading block, foundational literacy plans, etc.).
- Our board approved adoption list will be submitted to TDOE by May 15.

**Elementary ELA Textbook adoption options**

Core Knowledge Language Arts - Amplify  
 EL Education - Open Up  
 Wit and Wisdom - Great Minds  
 Wonders - McGraw-Hill

**Secondary ELA Textbook adoption options**

Into Literature - Houghton Mifflin Harcourt  
 myPerspectives - Pearson  
 SpringBoard - College Board  
 StudySync - McGraw-Hill

Dave Allen Ed.D  
 Assistant Superintendent  
 Williamson County Schools  
 Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Bartlett, Kerri <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 25, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** Carol Birdsong <[REDACTED]>; Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Rebecca Hagan <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Progress on Language Arts textbook review information - HB 2229

**WARNING: EXTERNAL EMAIL** - Do not click on links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear all,

*Timeline re  
 WW adoption  
 process -  
 but we know it was  
 added @ the last  
 minute + did not contain  
 the actual books to  
 be read*

I was wondering the next steps of the textbook review process for the Language Arts textbooks. What are the next steps?

Would you please be able to send today a list of the textbooks being considered? Or a link to the info?

I understand the House Curriculum, Testing, & Innovation Subcommittee's decision today and House's future decisions could affect literacy education. I am wondering how this will affect the textbook review process in WCS. Would David or Jason be able to give me a reaction to the meeting today if possible, say by 3 p.m.?

I also plan to stop by the district tomorrow to view the books as well.

Thank you!  
Kerri

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/16/2020 9:12:25 AM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: InSync  
**Attachments:** image002.jpg, image001.png

Agree

*Dave Allen agrees to only do The WW PO for one year*

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

---

**From:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 8:23 AM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: InSync

I think we should do the PO for one year only this week. Too many unknowns! But I do know we need it this year and should take the \$3/student price. I hate that it won't even launch until Aug 1.

**Laurette Carle**  
*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]  
Office phone: [REDACTED]  
Twitter: @wcsCOLcc

*appears WW is  
not exactly a dream  
to work with*

*Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.*

**From:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 16, 2020 8:19 AM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: InSync

See the email below from W&W. They will not guarantee that in Sync will cost \$3 per student for the life of the adoption; they'll sell it for that this year and maybe the second year. The price is not set past that point. Our sales rep is on vacation and I think she could nail down the future pricing for us. But I need to get a PO by this Friday if we want to spend this year's money on this purchase.

**Jenny Lopez**  
Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]

Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.

From: Jessica Trahan <[redacted]>  
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 8:06 AM  
To: Jenny Lopez <[redacted]>; Wendy Zuber <[redacted]>  
Subject: Re: InSync

WARNING: EXTERNAL EMAIL - Do not click on links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Jenny,  
Happy to support. See inline below.  
Have a great week!



**JESSICA TRAHAN**  
Mid Atlantic Regional Sales Director  
[redacted] | [redacted] | [GreatMinds.org](http://GreatMinds.org)

*Every child is capable of greatness.*

*Sales director  
Great Minds*

*WW is increasing pricing  
over time*

From: Jenny Lopez <[redacted]>  
Date: Monday, June 15, 2020 at 11:16 PM  
To: Jessica Trahan <[redacted]>, Wendy Zuber <[redacted]>  
Subject: RE: InSync

Hi Jess!  
I know that Wendy is on vacation this week. I wonder if you can answer a couple of questions for me.

1. Is the \$3 per student price the same for the life of the adoption (\$3/student/year)? We are offering \$3 for Year 1, we haven't discussed the price in future years. MRSP is \$10 per license but I would imagine we would never go that high for TN accounts. We can look into a 2 Year contract if you'd like but I imagine the price would be between \$3-\$5 per student in TN for Years 2+.
2. Can we get an invoice by Wednesday or Thursday of this week? The last day for me to request a PO is this Thursday. We would need licenses for 19,000 students. See attached.
3. Can we set up a demo for the specialists the week of June 29<sup>th</sup>? I will be out of town all of next week. We actually will not have a demo log created at this time. The product is ready to go live Aug 1. I can certainly get some screenshots for you but as everything is under production they are on a tight timeline. When Wendy returns her and I can brainstorm on what we can show you, I am sure we can get on and screenshare something -- at a minimum.

Thanks for any help you can provide while Wendy is out.

*Jenny Lopez*  
Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools  
[redacted]

*→ so as of June 29, 2020 There was no demo created  
for WW product*

Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.

From: Jessica Trahan <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 4:41 PM  
To: Wendy Zuber <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Re: InSync

**WARNING: EXTERNAL EMAIL** - Do not click on links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Jenny,  
I am also out Friday and part of Monday but happy to schedule a call with you next week Tuesday through Friday if you have any questions.  
I really hope we can work this out as I believe these digital offerings will be a great benefit to your school district during their Year 1 implementation.

Jess  
Get Outlook for iOS

From: Wendy Zuber <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 4:50:35 PM  
To: Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Jessica Trahan <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Re: InSync

*Interesting info  
↓  
about cost \$*

Hi Jenny,  
Thanks for reaching out. I am happy to provide a presentation overview of the resource to your ELA specialists. Unfortunately, at this time, I am unable to give a live demo just yet. I am able to present screen shots of the product during the overview. The discounted price of \$3/student is 70% discount from the list price of \$10 and we are unable to go any lower. This product will contain many tools that can be used during both in person and out of class learning environments. While the bundled product as a whole is a new offering, many components have been constructed and were to be released in full for the 20-21 school year as individual components. Wit & Wisdom Affirm was made available earlier this year at a price of \$7/student, but was recently made available as part of the bundled package within the in Sync tool and we were able to secure the add-on price of \$3/student for all TN users. Many of our districts are considering using CARES funds to purchase in Sync, while others are looking to utilize Title 1 funds in the fall and / or building level funds and allowing each school to purchase as they are able.  
Let me know when you would like to schedule an overview for the ELA specialists and I am happy to do so. I will be on vacation next week, but could provide an overview tomorrow afternoon or Friday morning, or potentially when I return the week of June 22. If you would like something over next week I can have one of my colleagues set that up as well.

**Wit & Wisdom in Sync (per student license)**

- Digital access to the student edition files
- Daily W&W video lessons to support teachers with whole-class instruction tied to continuous learning track
- Wit & Wisdom Affirm, which includes: Includes End of Module Writing Assessments, Focus Question Tasks Writing Assessments, New/Cold Read Assessments, Vocabulary Assessments, Formative Multiple-Choice Question Sets that are automatically graded for you
- Wit & Wisdom Slides (pre-made PowerPoint to support virtual and in person instruction)
- Guidance for teachers on learning recovery and slimmed down lesson plans/daily activities in the event of remote learning

PS. Ask me about digital resources that support continuous learning even when schools are closed. Introducing in Sync!

Best,  
Wendy



WENDY ZUBER  
Account Solutions Manager, KY & TN  
[REDACTED] | GreatMinds.org

*Every child is capable of greatness.*

**From:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at 2:38 PM  
**To:** Wendy Zuber <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** InSync

Hi Wendy!

I shared the cost of InSync with our assistant superintendent to see if it was possible for us to purchase for next year. To be transparent, we are on a very tight budget for all the reasons I mentioned on our Zoom meeting. We are also hesitant to spend so much money on a system that is just being built as we speak; we realize the first year may bring hiccups or glitches. It also seems that it would have been ideal to make this available as part of the adoption as we normally adopt a series with an accompanying online component; this being a separate purchase from the adoption is a first for us.

All that said, I want our ELA specialists, Marianne Gilbert and Karen Wight, to see a demo or presentation to give us an idea of the components involved in this program and how we could use them. I also want to ask if Great Minds has considered providing this resource for free the first year and for purchase for the following 5 years of implementation as you have time to add to/improve the product.

Thanks for considering and for your help!

*Jenny Lopez*  
Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

*So - WW's online component was not made available during the adoption process b/c it wasn't even built yet !!!*

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/24/2020 4:14:19 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: I forgot to ask

I am emailing you because I need some help.  
Please forgive me—I know you will, of course—but I don't know what this is.  
Can you help me know so I can answer better?  
Thanks a million.

**From:** Laurette Carle  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 24, 2020 1:22 PM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Laura LaChance <[REDACTED]>; Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>; Denise Goodwin <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** I forgot to ask

I forgot I wanted to ask you about something else at the end of that meeting! We were running so late, its slipped my mind!

Great Minds had a "Leader" PD we would like to offer to all elementary principals and assistant principals. It is 6 hours, but can be delivered in two separate halves as long as there is no longer than a week between the two.

We are thinking about this:

**First half from 8-11am on 2nd day of Admin Kickoff, Thursday July 23**

**Second half from 8-11am the following Monday July 27 - need your feedback on this date/time**

Let me know if you think that can work or if you see a better slot of two time periods, one during admin kickoff and the other afterwards but within a week. There will be two separate Zooms with 35 max in each. We'll have Jenny, Marianne and Karen attending as well as you three so we can hear what they hear and learn together. The session is very much about what it will look like, what to look for and how to support the implementation.

**Laurette Carle**

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*

Williamson County Schools

1320 West Main St., Suite 202

Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

*PD for  
Principals &  
asst. Principals  
less than 1 mo.  
before school starts*



Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wsc01cc

*Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.*

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 8/3/2020 10:52:58 AM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Core Text Order

Let Juli know..., ask if she minds you communicating directly with the Principals.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 8:35 AM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: Core Text Order

Just want to give you the heads-up that the second delivery of Barnes and Noble just shipped. Schools will be getting these boxes sometime this week. I think this will freak some out since they are so busy right now. It would be good for them to have a plan of where to place the boxes until they can get to them. Let me know how you want me to take approach this communication.

*Jenny Lopez*  
Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

**From:** Barnes & Noble Cool Springs <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 3, 2020 8:19 AM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; Nannie Curry <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Core Text Order

**WARNING: EXTERNAL EMAIL** - Do not click on links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning Jenny and Nannie,  
The second phase has shipped and it looks like it should arrive on Wednesday.  
I have attached the shipping form with the number of cartons and tracking numbers for each location.  
Thanks!

Sincerely,  
Robbie Bryan, Business Development Manager  
Barnes & Noble Cool Springs

*As we know, The WU core texts  
had to be ordered from Barnes + Noble  
& didn't arrive at schools for teachers  
until August 3rd - Tchrs. 1st day  
back - Students arrive August 7<sup>th</sup>  
(4 days later); So Tchrs. have little  
to No interaction w/ these texts*

*MTWTF  
3 4 5 6 7*

1701 Mallory Lane  
Brentwood, TN 37027

[REDACTED] (O) [REDACTED] (F)

**From:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 2, 2020 7:43 PM  
**To:** Barnes & Noble Cool Springs <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Core Text Order

Hi Robbie!

Hope you enjoyed the weekend. We are gearing up for the start of the school year; students return to school this Friday and our teachers return tomorrow, August 3rd. I need some information regarding the delivery of the core texts that schools have not received yet. Attached is a spreadsheet where I have recorded all the books that schools are still missing. Some details about the sheet include:

- Each school has a separate sheet with inventoried quantities for each title ordered for which the quantity has not been filled (either partially or completely).
- Note that Heritage, Clovercroft and Bethesda don't have a count because they didn't submit their inventory of the delivered titles. I am working to get those numbers and should have them soon.
- Numbers highlighted in yellow indicate that the school didn't receive any books for that specific title.
- Numbers not highlighted in the last column indicates the quantity still missing from the order (partially filled)
- Click on this link to see the spreadsheet. [BN Core Texts Inventory.xlsx](#)

We desperately need to get these books in our hands as some of the titles are to be used in the first quarter of the year. Please let me know the expected date of the second delivery.

Thank you!

**Jenny Lopez**  
Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

WCS BE NICE

*Everything seems to be a day late & a dollar short*

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 10/1/2020 2:10:10 PM  
**To:** Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>; Laura LaChance <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Friday 10.02.20

**Attachments:** image001.jpg

Hey y'all,  
Since I am out tomorrow will one of you please take the reins of this?  
We will need to add in the SACC blurb.  
Please add anything to the standing meeting notes if there is more to say. Will one of you send the Zoom link after the notes go out please?  
I will send anything else that comes my way.  
Add to the principal blurb below if you would like

**October is National Principal Month!**

We celebrate you. Each and every day we are thankful for you and awed by all that you make happen in the lives of your students. Thank you thank you thank you!

**PATIENT  
CARING  
CREATIVE  
ENGAGING  
DEDICATED  
INSPIRING  
HELPFUL  
MOTIVATING  
KNOWLEDGABLE**



Behind every great School  
is an amazing Principal

*PD is coming from coaches,  
not from WW*

**Follow up to Flex Day conversation**

- Wit and Wisdom training
  - Your coaches developed PD sessions today with Marianne and Karen that will be turned around in your buildings. These are three to four sessions that are based on the success and challenges teachers are facing across the district related to W&W. You and your coach need to identify the needs in your building and use the sessions available to specifically address the identified needs. These sessions can be done as you see fit anywhere between October 12 and November 13. There is NOT a set date/time that it needs to be done—just the completion date of November 13. The intention is to truly differentiate what your folks receive based on their needs and to maximize your flexibility in scheduling the time for your folks.
- October 12
  - We will offer content specific optional PD zooms through TLA on this day. The intention will be to offer any needed support developing asynchronous materials. Times TBA.
- October 23 and additional Flex Days
  - We will offer optional PD Zooms throughout the day on these days to support the work of our teachers. These will be departmentalized (ed tech, TLA, SSS for example). Times will be during the 9:20-12:00

from Juli Oyer  
10.1.2020

and 1:30-4:00 slot. Additional information TDA.

- Repeating because of importance! 😊
  - Assess technology needs with parents in all K-2 classrooms (should have happened first week of school but please take a current snapshot)
    - *This is critical and needs to happen as quickly as possible. Once a teacher has done this assessment with families, they need to communicate with you to determine how to assist with any and all technology needs. We have many, many kajeets ready to be dispersed but, as you know, that is a process so please get ahead of it ASAP to ensure success.*
  - Assign specific daily technology-based work in the classroom as warranted based on needs-assessment
    - *I know we have tons of examples of this happening in the classroom. Just keep this at the forefront of your teachers' minds so that students are prepared for the possibility of flex days but also so everyone is prepared if COVID impacts their educational environment*
  - Assign specific technology-based work to occur at home as appropriate
    - *Please make sure teachers are assigning items at home for students to do that are technology based. It makes sense to me for it to be a continuation of a technology-based task that starts in the classroom and can be finished at home if they find that useful. Remember the purpose is to support the growth in technology-based activity happening at home.*
  - Grade-level team ensure that all assignments are posted to the Google classroom
    - *I also know that many of you are balancing the use of technology with non-technology based assignments as well. Remember the power of choice! Having options is a good thing. I know people are being thoughtful and creative here. Thank you for working to ensure success on these days for all.*
  - Continue to develop your SSS plans for flex days
    - *We know this will take time and good problem solving. Work with your teams, us, and your SSS specialist to get to a solid place.*
    - *Remember to simultaneously be thinking about how you will be providing your SSS teachers time to plan.*

### Report Cards

Insert blurb and attachments if you get a final scoop, Brent. Thanks!

### Standing Meeting

We would like to cordially invite you to a standing meeting now that things have settled down just a bit.

A standing invite is forthcoming for Tuesdays from 11:30-1:00. If we don't need to have this meeting we will inform you and free up that chunk of time.

The meeting will be used to discuss hot topics, collaborate on current decisions that may need to be made, gather input and enjoy one another's company.

### SACC Update

Will allow them to register

Teacher kids can go to SACC

### TLA from Karen Wight

- I have heard several general questions/concerns about three of the Wit & Wisdom titles: *The River Between Us* (5th grade, 3rd module); *Separate is Not Equal: Sylvia Mendez and her Family's Fight for Desegregation* (2nd grade, 3rd module); *George vs. George: The American Revolution as seen from Both Sides* (4th grade, 3rd module). Since this is a new product, I just wanted to give you a bit of information that may help if the need arises. All of these are core titles and are foundational pieces in their respective modules. I would caution you against replacing those texts without you, and your teachers, first reading the texts so you have first-hand knowledge and can see how the entire module unfolds. If this is something you are considering, please contact me so we can have a discussion prior to making that final decision and attempting to replace it with an alternate text. I do not believe it will come to that, however. TLA has been working on ways to help support you in the event there are questions. After speaking with representatives from *Wit & Wisdom*, they sent the following as possible talking points.

#### ◦ Why does *Wit & Wisdom* include texts with potentially sensitive content?

Literature offers children a safe way to experience new feelings and complex emotions. Reading stories and empathizing with characters' successes and challenges provide a foundation for children to learn to consider issues from others' perspectives.

#### ◦ The content of [a *Wit & Wisdom* text] makes some teachers or parents uncomfortable. How should I address their concerns?

*Wit & Wisdom* exposes students to diverse topics. The texts have unique educational value. They build deep content knowledge, engage readers, model strong writing, and provide "mirrors and windows," allowing students to see themselves reflected in texts as well as learn about others' experiences.

Should concerns about a text arise, it can be helpful to do the following:

1. Check with your school or district to ensure compliance with any previously established policies and procedures for these kinds of concerns.
2. Acknowledge that texts may elicit a range of responses.
3. Provide the rationale (stated in the Texts Overview section) for how *Wit & Wisdom* teacher-writers selected texts.
4. Share the specific value of the text in the module, including its role in building skills and knowledge. (To find this information, refer to the Module Summary and Appendix A, and email [redacted] as needed.)

IMPORTANT

Wit & Wisdom knows there are problems b/c they have pre-developed talking points to address concerns

5. Point to places in lessons that support developmentally appropriate student conversations.
6. Facilitate a positive and productive conversation about the text's important topics.
7. Invite parents to read the texts alongside their children. Send home Parent Tip Sheets ([witeng.link/wwtips](http://witeng.link/wwtips)) to support discussion.

Of course, if you'd like to discuss this in greater detail, please do not hesitate to reach out.

---

Juli L. Oyer  
Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main Street, Suite 202  
Franklin, TN 37064  
Phone: [REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED]

Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does. -William James-



IMPORTANT

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 10/5/2020 1:40:19 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: October 12 - ES

Thanks.  
One thing Kari and I spoke of is the hope we could record that InSync training on that day.  
Possible?

**From:** Laurette Carle  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 1:14 PM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: October 12 - ES

[https://wcs.zoom.us/my/\[REDACTED\]](https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED])

### Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting

Zoom is the leader in modern enterprise video communications, with an easy, reliable cloud platform for video and audio conferencing, chat, and webinars across mobile, desktop, and room systems. Zoom Rooms is the original software-based conference room solution used around the world in board, conference, huddle, and training rooms, as well as executive offices and classrooms. Founded in 2011, Zoom helps businesses and organizations bring their teams together in a frictionless environment to get more done. Zoom is a publicly traded company headquartered in San Jose, CA.

#### **Laurette Carle**

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*

Williamson County Schools

1320 West Main St., Suite 202

Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wcsCOLcc

*Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.*

From: Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2020 1:11 PM  
To: Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: RE: October 12 - ES

Awesome.  
I will get a link from her and include her on the chart.  
So thankful for your logistical assist! 😊

From: Laurette Carle  
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2020 12:47 PM  
To: Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Re: October 12 - ES

Not to confuse the optional Great Minds PD with other open zooms, but I just learned that Kayla Fraley is available for an Optional Open Zoom RTI Q&A for elementary on October 12 from 12:30 - 2pm. You can add her to the list of other curriculum specialists.

**Laurette Carle**

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*

Williamson County Schools

1320 West Main St., Suite 202

Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wcsCOlcc

*Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.*

From: Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2020 12:02 PM  
To: Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>



Subject: RE: October 12 - ES

Awesome.

This is still in the category of "offered by not required" right—just making sure.  
We are thinking 10-11 or 2:00-3:00  
Are either of those possible?

From: Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2020 8:58 AM  
To: Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Re: October 12 - ES

Great Minds can do a 1-hour PD for their online platform for Wit & Wisdom called InSync - especially needed by OLP Elementary ELA teachers - on October 12. What time would be best for that one hour?

Laurette Carle

Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment

Williamson County Schools

1320 West Main St., Suite 202

Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wcsCOlcc

**Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.**

---

From: Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2020 7:33 AM  
To: Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: RE: October 12 - ES

This is awesome!  
Thank you very much. 😊

From: Laurette Carle  
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2020 4:36 PM  
To: Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Fw: October 12 - ES

Jeffrey is unavailable on Monday October 12, but the other curriculum specialists are available at the times listed in Jenny's email below.

*finally, on Oct 5, 2020 they find out Great Minds can do a 1 hr PD on their online platform 7 months after the curriculum was adopted*

Also on October 12, Maria will be available for special ed Q&A from 1:00 - 3:00 PM. <https://wcs.zoom.us/my/wcs.mariagriego> That open office hour block is open to K-12 that afternoon.

Kelly is working on which EdTech coaches will have hours and which times. Those are tbd as of now. Wanted to share what I have at this point in time.

**Laurette Carle**

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*

Williamson County Schools

1320 West Main St., Suite 202

Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wcsCOlcc

***Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.***

---

From: Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Friday, October 2, 2020 3:52 PM  
To: Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: October 12 - ES

Here are the time blocks and links for the elementary specialists.

Specialist	Time window(s)	Zoom Link
Tracey Edwards	1:00 - 3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/j/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/j/[REDACTED]</a>
Jeff Cicero	Unavailable	n/a
Karen Wight	11:00 - 12:30	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>
Marianne Gilbert	9:00-10 & 2:00-3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>

***Jenny Lopez***

Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

***Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.***

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 10/5/2020 1:11:36 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: October 12 - ES

Awesome.  
I will get a link from her and include her on the chart.  
So thankful for your logistical assist! 😊

**From:** Laurette Carle  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 12:47 PM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: October 12 - ES

Not to confuse the optional Great Minds PD with other open zooms, but I just learned that Kayla Fraley is available for an Optional Open Zoom RTI Q&A for elementary on October 12 from 12:30 - 2pm. You can add her to the list of other curriculum specialists.

**Laurette Carle**

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*

Williamson County Schools

1320 West Main St., Suite 202

Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wcsCOLcc

***Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.***

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 12:02 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: October 12 - ES

Awesome.

This is still in the category of "offered by not required" right—just making sure.

We are thinking 10-11 or 2:00-3:00

Are either of those possible?

**From:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 8:58 AM

**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Re: October 12 - ES

Great Minds can do a 1-hour PD for their online platform for Wit & Wisdom called InSync - especially needed by OLP Elementary ELA teachers - on October 12. What time would be best for that one hour?

**Laurette Carle**

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---

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 7:33 AM

**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** RE: October 12 - ES

This is awesome!

Thank you very much. 😊

**From:** Laurette Carle

**Sent:** Friday, October 2, 2020 4:36 PM

**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** Fw: October 12 - ES

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Also on October 12, Maria will be available for special ed Q&A from 1:00 - 3:00 PM. <https://wcs.zoom.us/my/wcs.mariagriego> That open office hour block is open to K-12 that afternoon.

Kelly is working on which EdTech coaches will have hours and which times. Those are tbd as of now. Wanted to share what I have at this point in time.

**Laurette Carle**

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Office phone: [REDACTED]

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From: Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, October 2, 2020 3:52 PM

To: Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>

Subject: October 12 - ES

Here are the time blocks and links for the elementary specialists.

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Tracey Edwards	1:00 -3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/j/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/j/[REDACTED]</a>
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***Jenny Lopez***

Director of Curriculum

Williamson County Schools

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

***Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.***

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 10/5/2020 12:34:29 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: October 12 - ES

Already did!  
I started with her since it impacted her most.  
She is good with either of those.

**From:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 12:31 PM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: October 12 - ES

Yes. We can ask for either time. Would you check with Kari to see if one of those is better for WCS Online?

Laurette Carle

Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment

Williamson County Schools

1320 West Main St., Suite 202

Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 12:02:00 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: October 12 - ES

Awesome.  
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Are either of those possible?

**From:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
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**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: October 12 - ES

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*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*

Williamson County Schools

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Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wcsCO1cc

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**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 7:33 AM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: October 12 - ES

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**Laurette Carle**

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*Jenny Lopez*  
Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools  
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**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
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**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 7:33 AM  
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Thank you very much. 😊

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*Jenny Lopez*

Director of Curriculum

Williamson County Schools



*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 10/5/2020 1:42:30 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: October 12 - ES

No preference—both interfere with SOMETHING so I think either will work

**From:** Laurette Carle  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 1:41 PM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: October 12 - ES

I will ask them when I ask for the time slot? Any preference on the two times?

**Laurette Carle**

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*

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**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 1:40 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: October 12 - ES

Thanks.

One thing Kari and I spoke of is the hope we could record that InSync training on that day.

Possible?

**From:** Laurette Carle  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 1:14 PM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: October 12 - ES

<https://wcs.zoom.us/j/wcs.kayla.fralew>

### Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting

Zoom is the leader in modern enterprise video communications, with an easy, reliable cloud platform for video and audio conferencing, chat, and webinars across mobile, desktop, and room systems. Zoom Rooms is the original software-based conference room solution used around the world in board, conference, huddle, and training rooms, as well as executive offices and classrooms. Founded in 2011, Zoom helps businesses and organizations bring their teams together in a frictionless environment to get more done. Zoom is a publicly traded company headquartered in San Jose, CA.

#### **Laurette Carle**

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Email: [REDACTED]

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**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
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Email: [REDACTED]

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**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
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**Subject:** Re: October 12 - ES

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This is awesome!  
Thank you very much. 🙏

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**Sent:** Friday, October 2, 2020 3:52 PM  
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*Jenny Lopez*  
Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 10/5/2020 7:06:43 PM  
**To:** Principal Elementary Group <[REDACTED]>; Assistant Principal Elementary Group <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Molly O'Neal <[REDACTED]>; Ann Harris <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Monday Notes 10.05.20

**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#), [image003.jpg](#), [image005.jpg](#), [COVID Self Quarantine Process 201002.docx](#)

Greetings all!



No matter how you are crossing the finish line coming to you through Fall Break, it is coming for YOU!  
 We are almost there.  
 I know there were many notes on Friday but we wanted you to have the notes below to carry on this week and beyond.  
 Principals, see you tomorrow for our meeting.  
 Looking forward to it.

**COVID Communication**

Starting tomorrow data will be released by school related to numbers of students and staff in isolation and quarantine. Please note if your school has fewer than five cases it will be posted as "less than five". A story will be released through InFOCUS. The data will be on the front of the COVID page on the website. No action needed from you here—just letting you know.

**Mask Exemptions**

This was discussed in Cabinet this morning and the decision is to continue moving forward with mask exemption approvals for religious purposes. If you have any questions, please let me or Dana know. Brent and Laura have had a few of these requests and will be returning these to schools ASAP.

*Masks*

**October 12 Support—TIA**

Please pass along the times and links to your teacher teams for any supportive planning assistance they may need from the fine folks below. *These are NOT required at all but are available to those who may need support of any kind.* Kelly is working on which EdTech coaches will have hours and which times. Those are TBD as of now.

This is a perfect example of Zoom being of great benefit. On call curriculum specialists—who would've thought!?!? Online real-time PD—amazing! Professional growth confetti just for our teachers! 😊

People	Time window(s)	Zoom Link
Great Minds One-hour PD on InSync, online platform for Wit and Wisdom	We are requesting either 10:00-11:00 OR 2:00-3:00 We will let you know.	Will be provided.
Jeff Cicero	Unavailable	n/a
Tracey Edwards	1:00 -3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/j/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/j/[REDACTED]</a>

Kayla Fraley	12:30-2:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>
Marianne Gilbert	9:00-10 & 2:00-3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>
Maria Griego (K-12)	1:00-3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>
Karen Wight	11:00 - 12:30	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>

**Online process**

Please keep this at the forefront of your communication with parents. All details needed and new FAQs that may be of benefit are included on the link below. Remember that even students who are not currently enrolled in WCS (are being homeschooled right now, for example or withdrew and went to private school) but wish to come back to WCS Online must do this process. They will complete the process as any new-to-WCS-student would. In order to guarantee enrollment in WCS Online for the Spring 2021 semester, they MUST complete the "New Student Online Enrollment" by October 14, 2020. This means that all paperwork must be submitted by then.  
<https://www.wcs.edu/Page/5846>

**Skyward Reports for Second Semester WCS Online - Kelly Wade**

Here is a link to the document to explain the reports to admins and secretaries: [WCS Spring 2020 Selections Reports Descriptions](#)

**SSS Early Release Concerns—Maria Griego**

We have several schools where SSS staff are taking students out to the buses before the school day ends (5-15 min); some students are getting home before the school dismisses. We need the help of principals to make sure students do not board buses prior to dismissal. SSS is hearing from schools that buses are there waiting and ask them to bring students out early, and they hear from the bus garage that they get there early and schools just bring the students out. Regardless of the situation, we need to make sure students do not board their buses until dismissal. SSS has asked Barbara to please address with her drivers and ask them not to board students prior to dismissal. We are asking principals to please address with their SSS staff as well. Thank you for your help!

**Teacher Self-Quarantine Guidance—Gary Anderson**

We've had many questions in the last week regarding teachers asking to self-quarantine ahead of the Health Department review. See the attached document for guidance on those questions.

*quarantine  
confusion for  
tchrs.*

---

Juli L. Oyer  
Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main Street, Suite 202  
Franklin, TN 37064  
Phone: [REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Twitter: @wcsCOjlo

Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does. -William James-

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 10/5/2020 7:07:39 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: EdTech Open Zooms for October 12

No worries at all!  
Thank you so much for coordinating.  
So incredibly helpful!

**From:** Laurette Carle  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 4:36 PM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** EdTech Open Zooms for October 12

I hate that this has come in so piecemeal, but here are three EdTech Coach optional Q&A Zooms for Monday October 12 to add to the options:

8:00 - 10:15: Christina Crutcher [https://wcs.zoom.us/my/\[REDACTED\]](https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED])

10:30 - 12:00 Tara Wilhelm [https://wcs.zoom.us/my/\[REDACTED\]](https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED])

1:00 - 3:00 Melissa Poloskey [https://wcs.zoom.us/my/\[REDACTED\]](https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED])

I will let you know when we get the Great Minds time confirmation for InSync. I believe that is the final one hanging out there. Ball is in their court right now.

**Laurette Carle**

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*

Williamson County Schools

1320 West Main St., Suite 202

Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wcsCOLcc

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**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 10/6/2020 2:24:32 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Kari Miller <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: October 12 - ES

This is great news.  
Thank you so much for all the coordination that went into this!  
I will change what I shared with folks in the principal meeting today because I thought it was for all. I will emphasize that it is for Online teachers only.  
Is it possible for the session to be recorded?

PD for NW  
InSync

**From:** Laurette Carle  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 6, 2020 2:16 PM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Kari Miller <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: October 12 - ES

We have confirmation that **Great Minds** will offer a one hour Zoom training on **InSync** specifically designed for the elementary WCS online teachers.

There will be a Zoom link sent out early Monday morning. Teachers/participants must join from their own computer and should not gather in groups to share screens.

Karen Wight is sending the presenters the list of questions she has gathered from the elementary online teachers. That will focus the time on what is most needed.

This optional PD for WCS Elementary Online teachers will begin at **10 AM Monday October 12th!** We know this was a high need for your ELA teachers so I hope most will be able to attend.

Juli, will you add this to your growing list of optional PD and open office Zoom sessions for Q&A that day which I assume you will share with all elementary principals? But keep in mind this one is not designed for those in the traditional setting. We will address their needs for InSync help a different way. Karen and Marianne will attend this PD on Monday along with the online teachers.

Thank you both!!

**Laurette Carle**

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*

Williamson County Schools

1320 West Main St., Suite 202

Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wcsCOlcc

*Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.*

---

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 1:42 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: October 12 - ES

No preference—both interfere with SOMETHING so I think either will work

**From:** Laurette Carle  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 1:41 PM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: October 12 - ES

I will ask them when I ask for the time slot? Any preference on the two times?

Laurette Carle

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*

Williamson County Schools

1320 West Main St., Suite 202

Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

Office phone: [REDACTED]

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---

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 1:40 PM

To: Lorette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: RE: October 12 - ES

Thanks.  
One thing Kari and I spoke of is the hope we could record that InSync training on that day.  
Possible?

From: Lorette Carle  
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2020 1:14 PM  
To: Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Re: October 12 - ES

[https://wcs.zoom.us/my/\[REDACTED\]](https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED])

### Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting

Zoom is the leader in modern enterprise video communications, with an easy, reliable cloud platform for video and audio conferencing, chat, and webinars across mobile, desktop, and room systems. Zoom Rooms is the original software-based conference room solution used around the world in board, conference, huddle, and training rooms, as well as executive offices and classrooms. Founded in 2011, Zoom helps businesses and organizations bring their teams together in a frictionless environment to get more done. Zoom is a publicly traded company headquartered in San Jose, CA.

#### **Laurette Carle**

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*

Williamson County Schools

1320 West Main St., Suite 202

Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wcsCO1cc

***Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.***

---

From: Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2020 1:11 PM

To: Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: RE: October 12 - ES

Awesome.  
I will get a link from her and include her on the chart.  
So thankful for your logistical assist! 😊

*Info about PD*

From: Laurette Carle  
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2020 12:47 PM  
To: Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Re: October 12 - ES

Not to confuse the optional Great Minds PD with other open zooms, but I just learned that Kayla Fraley is available for an Optional Open Zoom RTI Q&A for elementary on October 12 from 12:30 - 2pm. You can add her to the list of other curriculum specialists.

**Laurette Carle**

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*

Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main St., Suite 202  
Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wcsCOLcc

***Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.***

---

From: Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2020 12:02 PM  
To: Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: RE: October 12 - ES

Awesome.  
This is still in the category of "offered by not required" right—just making sure.  
We are thinking 10-11 or 2:00-3:00  
Are either of those possible?

From: Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, October 5, 2020 8:58 AM  
To: Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>



**Subject:** Re: October 12 - ES

Great Minds can do a 1-hour PD for their online platform for Wit & Wisdom called InSync - especially needed by OLP Elementary ELA teachers - on October 12. What time would be best for that one hour?

**Laurette Carle**

*Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment*

Williamson County Schools

1320 West Main St., Suite 202

Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wcsCOLcc

*Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.*

---

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 5, 2020 7:33 AM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: October 12 - ES

This is awesome!  
Thank you very much. 😊

**From:** Laurette Carle  
**Sent:** Friday, October 2, 2020 4:36 PM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fw: October 12 - ES

Jeffrey is unavailable on Monday October 12, but the other curriculum specialists are available at the times listed in Jenny's email below.

Also on October 12, Maria will be available for special ed Q&A from 1:00 - 3:00 PM. [https://wcs.zoom.us/my/\[REDACTED\]](https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]) That open office hour block is open to K-12 that afternoon.

Kelly is working on which EdTech coaches will have hours and which times. Those are tbd as of now. Wanted to share what I have at this point in time.

**Laurette Carle**

Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment

Williamson County Schools

1320 West Main St., Suite 202

Franklin TN 37064

Email: [REDACTED]

Office phone: [REDACTED]

Twitter: @wcsCOlcc

**Williamson County Schools will provide a supportive environment where students are challenged to pursue excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.**

From: Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, October 2, 2020 3:52 PM

To: Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>

Subject: October 12 - ES

Here are the time blocks and links for the elementary specialists.

Specialist	Time window(s)	Zoom Link
Tracey Edwards	1:00 -3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/j/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/j/[REDACTED]</a>
Jeff Cicero	Unavailable	n/a
Karen Wight	11:00 - 12:30	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>
Marianne Gilbert	9:00-10 & 2:00-3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>

*Jenny Lopez*

Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.**

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 10/6/2020 2:45:10 PM  
**To:** Jessy Hunt <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: October 12 PD and Support opportunities

**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#), [image002.jpg](#), [image003.png](#)

---

It is ready to roll, yes mam.

**From:** Jessy Hunt  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 6, 2020 2:44 PM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: October 12 PD and Support opportunities

Thank you for sharing so quick.

May I share this with my staff?

Jill Hunt

Westwood Elementary School, Principal

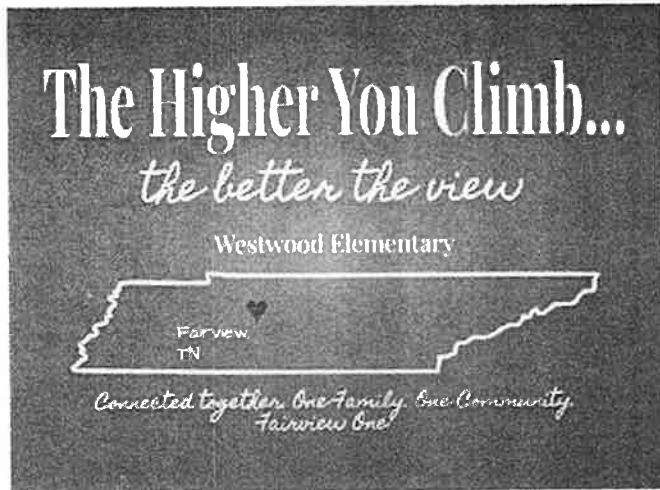
7200 Tiger Trail

Fairview, TN 37062

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

*"Treat others the way you want to be treated."*



From: Juli Oyer <[redacted]>  
Sent: Tuesday, October 6, 2020 2:42 PM  
To: Principal Elementary Group <[redacted]>  
Cc: Molly O'Neal <[redacted]>; Ann Harris <[redacted]>  
Subject: October 12 PD and Support opportunities

All,  
Below are the finalized details regarding PD on October 12.  
I wanted to be sure you had this information right away so I am sending it today for you to optimize your planning.  
Please note the training on October 12<sup>th</sup> with Great Minds will be solely for WCS Online teachers. It is not designed for those in the traditional setting. We will address their needs for InSync help a different way.  
Also, Karen and Marianne will attend this PD on Monday along with the online teachers.

As a reminder, please be mindful of WCS Online teachers that have accommodations that prevent them from coming into your buildings on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks all!  
I know it is going to be a great day for all,  
Juli

People	Time window(s)	Zoom Link
<b>Great Minds</b> One-hour PD on InSync, online platform for Wit and Wisdom PLEASE NOTE: This is only for WCS Online teachers at this time. (This is a change.)	10:00-11:00	There will be a Zoom link sent out early Monday morning. Teachers/participants must join from their own computer and should not gather in groups to share screens.
Cristina Crutcher	8:00-10:15	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/██████████">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/██████████</a>
Jeff Cicero	Unavailable	n/a
Karen Wight	11:00 - 12:30	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/██████████">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/██████████</a>
Kayla Fraley	12:30-2:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/██████████">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/██████████</a>
Marianne Gilbert	9:00-10 & 2:00-3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/██████████">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/██████████</a>
Maria Griego (K-12)	1:00-3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/██████████">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/██████████</a>
Melissa Poloskey	1:00-3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/██████████">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/██████████</a>
Tara Wilhelm	10:30-12:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/██████████">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/██████████</a>
Tracey Edwards	1:00-3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/j/██████████">https://wcs.zoom.us/j/██████████</a>

*PD schedule  
for MW InSync  
online program*

Juli L. Oyer  
Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main Street, Suite 202  
Franklin, TN 37064  
Phone: ██████████  
Email: ██████████  
Twitter: @wcsCOjlo

Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does. -William James-

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 10/6/2020 3:05:58 PM  
**To:** Amanda Fuller <[REDACTED]>; Principal Elementary Group <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Molly O'Neal <[REDACTED]>; Ann Harris <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: October 12 PD and Support opportunities

**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

Super helpful, Amanda, thank you.

And yes—100%--office hours, pop in for support, questions, problem solving around implementation, development of asynchronous assignments, etc.

You got it!

**From:** Amanda Fuller  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 6, 2020 3:04 PM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Principal Elementary Group <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Molly O'Neal <[REDACTED]>; Ann Harris <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: October 12 PD and Support opportunities

Use if helpful – I added positions to make sure it was clear what people do before sharing this. After talking with Karen, my understanding is these are essentially office hours and teachers can drop in and ask questions if they choose. Right?

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Cristina Crutcher (online tech coach)	8:00-10:15	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>
Karen Wight (ELA/SS Curriculum Specialist)	11:00 - 12:30	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>
Kayla Fraley (Curriculum Specialist/RTI)	12:30-2:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>
Marianne Gilbert (Curriculum Specialist/Literacy)	9:00-10 & 2:00-3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>
Maria Griego (Student Support Director)	1:00-3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>
Melissa Poloskey (Tech Coach)	1:00-3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>
Tara Wilhelm (Tech Coach)	10:30-12:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>
Tracey Edwards (Curriculum Specialist/Math)	1:00 -3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]">https://wcs.zoom.us/my/[REDACTED]</a>

Thanks.

Amanda Fuller, Ed.S.  
Principal  
Nolensville Elementary  
"Lift as you climb"



**From:** Juli Oyer  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 6, 2020 2:42 PM  
**To:** Principal Elementary Group <[redacted]>  
**Cc:** Molly O'Neal <[redacted]>; Ann Harris <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** October 12 PD and Support opportunities

All,  
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As a reminder, please be mindful of WCS Online teachers that have accommodations that prevent them from coming into your buildings on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

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Juli

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Tracey Edwards	1:00-3:00	<a href="https://wcs.zoom.us/j/[redacted]">https://wcs.zoom.us/j/[redacted]</a>

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Juli L. Oyer  
Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main Street, Suite 202  
Franklin, TN 37064  
Phone: [REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Twitter: @wcsCOjlo

Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does. -William James-



**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 10/6/2020 2:42:14 PM  
**To:** Principal Elementary Group <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Molly O'Neal <[REDACTED]>; Ann Harris <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** October 12 PD and Support opportunities

*Finalized PD details for Oct 12, 2020*

All,  
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 Juli

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Juli L. Oyer  
 Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools  
 Williamson County Schools  
 1320 West Main Street, Suite 202  
 Franklin, TN 37064

Phone: [REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Twitter: @wscCOjlo

Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does. -William James-

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 10/20/2020 10:53:47 AM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Concerns  
**Attachments:** Outlook-ojih5wil.jpg

Wendy said she was very disturbed. Is she talking about the kids being in swim suits?

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 20, 2020 10:46 AM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: Concerns

Just want to keep you guys in the loop.



**From:** Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 20, 2020 8:52 AM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: Concerns

Hi Juli,

If watch the video below from around the 2 minute 30 second mark to 3 minutes 30 seconds you will see Shannon's concern. I was with her when she called Karen W. Karen talked to us about just fast forwarding through this part. I don't think it is a huge concern, but Shannon did say that she has a couple of parents that would be upset. She called them before the kids got home and all is well.

I just wanted to make sure you were aware.

Have a good one!

**Brent Oakley**  
Executive Director of Elementary Schools  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main Street, Franklin, TN 37064  
(D): [REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED] | <http://www.wcs.edu>

**From:** Shannon Robertson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 19, 2020 1:44 PM

IMPORTANT  
2 Heritage Elem.  
Johns. upset re video &  
Dave Allen knows  
as of 10/20/2020  
Brent Oakley understands these  
concerns.

To: Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Fw: Concerns

I watched this and read the article and then spoke to the teacher today. When you get a chance, let's chat about this. I am going to send it on to Karen Wight as well. Thanks!

Shannon Robertson  
Principal, Heritage Elementary School  
Williamson County Schools

Office: [REDACTED]  
Fax: [REDACTED]



IMPORTANT

"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." –John Wesley

From: Wendy Millar <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2020 11:38 AM  
To: Shannon Robertson <[REDACTED]>; Shannon Elliott <[REDACTED]>; Lincy Reynolds <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Rebekah Reeves <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Concerns

In Wit and Wisdom, we are reading a short story called "All Summer in a Day." The story itself is appropriate. However, the curriculum called for students to watch the video to compare the settings to the story. I am very disturbed by this video. I just wanted you to know.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-QWmahMdeGU>



All Summer In A Day Pt. 1

Based on a short story by Ray Bradbury. It's a sad story. :(

[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

Teachers very upset  
about a video on WW  
"all Summer in a Day"

Mrs. Wendy Millar and Ms. Lincy Reynolds  
Fourth Grade Teachers  
Heritage Elementary

"When educating the minds of our youth,  
we must not forget to educate their hearts."

-Dalai Lama

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 10/20/2020 10:46:53 AM  
**To:** Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: Concerns

**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

Thank you much.



**From:** Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>  
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**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: Concerns

Hi Juli,

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I just wanted to make sure you were aware.

Have a good one!

***Brent Oakley***

*Executive Director of Elementary Schools  
Williamson County Schools  
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**Shannon Robertson**  
**Principal, Heritage Elementary School**  
**Williamson County Schools**

[REDACTED]  
**Office:** [REDACTED]  
**Fax:** [REDACTED]



"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." –John Wesley

From: Wendy Millar <[REDACTED]>  
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Based on a short story by Ray Bradbury. It's a sad story. :(

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Mrs. Wendy Millar and Ms. Lincy Reynolds  
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**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: Concerns

**Attachments:** Outlook-ojih5wil.jpg

---

Just want to keep you guys in the loop.



**From:** Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 20, 2020 8:52 AM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: Concerns

Hi Juli,

If watch the video below from around the 2 minute 30 second mark to 3 minutes 30 seconds you will see Shannon's concern. I was with her when she called Karen W. Karen talked to us about just fast forwarding through this part. I don't think it is a huge concern, but Shannon did say that she has a couple of parents that would be upset. She called them before the kids got home and all is well.

I just wanted to make sure you were aware.

Have a good one!

***Brent Oakley***

*Executive Director of Elementary Schools  
Williamson County Schools  
1320 West Main Street, Franklin, TN 37064  
(D): [REDACTED]  
Email: [REDACTED] | <http://www.wcs.edu>*

**From:** Shannon Robertson <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 19, 2020 1:44 PM  
**To:** Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fw: Concerns

I watched this and read the article and then spoke to the teacher today. When you get a chance, let's chat about this. I am going to send it on to Karen Wight as well. Thanks!

Shannon Robertson  
Principal, Heritage Elementary School  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]  
Office: [REDACTED]  
Fax: [REDACTED]





"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." –John Wesley

**From:** Wendy Millar <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 19, 2020 11:38 AM  
**To:** Shannon Robertson <[REDACTED]>; Shannon Elliott <[REDACTED]>; Lincy Reynolds <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Rebekah Reeves <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Concerns

In Wit and Wisdom, we are reading a short story called "All Summer in a Day." The story itself is appropriate. However, the curriculum called for students to watch the video to compare the settings to the story. I am very disturbed by this video. I just wanted you to know.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-QWmahMdeGU>



### All Summer In A Day Pt. 1

Based on a short story by Ray Bradbury. It's a sad story. :(

[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

Mrs. Wendy Millar and Ms. Lincy Reynolds  
Fourth Grade Teachers  
Heritage Elementary

"When educating the minds of our youth,  
we must not forget to educate their hearts."

-Dalai Lama

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 12/2/2020 6:04:31 PM  
**To:** Principal Elementary Group; Assistant Principal Elementary Group  
**Cc:** Ann Harris; Tabitha Murray; Allison Nunley; Molly O'Neal; Kari Miller; Allison Fisher; Leigh Webb; Heather Hayes; Willie Dickerson; David Allen; Maria Griego; Vickie Hall; Carol Birdsong; Leslie Holman; Mark Samuels; Dana Ausbrooks; Heather West; Jason Golden; Kayla Fraley; Lydia Glynn; Kara Solano; Laurette Carle; Jenny Lopez; Joseph Whinery; Mandi thompson; Tracey Edwards; Jeffrey Cicero; Marianne Gilbert; Karen Wight; David Aydelott; Christina Gilliland; Rachel Farmer; Gary Anderson;  
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jlo

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*We need to see the benchmark tests for ELA to determine if they are questioning/grading kids on CET questions*

#### Extracurriculars and Facility Use

- Extracurriculars: I know that in many ways this doesn't necessarily apply to elementary but I wanted to you all stay abreast of the intricacies of these changes at the secondary level as you continue to consider activities in your buildings. The attached is the document given to secondary principals for the coming weeks after Thanksgiving. Thank you to those of you who are reaching out to process even the smallest of activities with Laura, Brent and/or me. Remember...don't go it alone, fine folks.
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Please see email from Kayla with details about Winter Screener—just in case you missed it in the communication yesterday. Attaching it here for centralized location.

### Wit and Wisdom Pacing ✳

The question has come up a couple of times regarding W&W as we round out the second quarter. *Remember that teachers are not to move onto module 3 before the end of the semester.* If they have finished module 2, they have a couple of options:

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4. Another option with the additional texts is to use a fresh text and then reteach a lesson/standard that was a challenge for their students. Kind of using it as a cold read.
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*W&W Pacing  
- Don't move on  
even if you are  
finished*

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Juli L. Oyer  
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1320 West Main Street, Suite 202  
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**From:** David Allen <[redacted]>  
**Sent:** 1/19/2021 1:02:32 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[redacted]>; Laurette Carle <[redacted]>; Juli Oyer <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** Re: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 concerns  
**Attachments:** Outlook-vufgvx51.png

Solid points. ←

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Jenny Lopez <[redacted]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2021 9:46 AM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[redacted]>; David Allen <[redacted]>; Juli Oyer <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** FW: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 concerns

Please read from the bottom up when you have time. Just want us all to know the sentiment of not just the guardians, but the teacher.

*Jenny Lopez*  
Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools  
[redacted]

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

**From:** Karen Wight <[redacted]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 19, 2021 7:50 AM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** Fw: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 concerns

Heads up.

Karen Wight, M. Ed.  
Curriculum Specialist, K-5 ELA and Social Studies

[redacted]

[WCS ELA K - 5 Google Site](#)

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*IMPORTANT*  
*Mon. Jan 18, 2021*  
*Guardian / Parent / Teacher + principal re*  
*Grade 2 Mod. 3 + expresses*  
*concern; Tch. asks if she*  
*should continue w/ these topics;*  
*Karen Wright, Jenny Lopez,*  
*+ Dave Allen all*  
*acknowledge the guardian*  
*+ Tchrs. are making valid*  
*points*

*This is a multicultural family*

Email: [REDACTED]

Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does. -William James-



IMPORTANT

From: Jill Justus <[redacted]>  
Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 6:53 AM  
To: Marianne Gilbert <[redacted]>; Karen Wight <[redacted]>; Al Amore <[redacted]>  
Subject: Fwd: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 concerns

Keeping everyone in the know... the original email is from a Winstead family to our BES online teacher. ←

Jill Justus  
Principal  
Bethesda Elementary

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Marianne Walsh <[redacted]>  
Date: January 18, 2021 at 9:17:57 PM CST  
To: Jill Justus <[redacted]>, Michelle Hummel <[redacted]>, Kathy Wells <[redacted]>, Lynn Sawyer <[redacted]>  
Subject: Fw: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 concerns

Jill and Michelle,

I have forwarded an email that was sent to Mrs. Wells, Mrs. Sawyer, and myself with concerns from a parent over the current Wit & Wisdom curriculum.

Mrs. Wells and Mrs. Sawyer,

Mrs. Duffy is correct that much of the curriculum so far has focused on the injustices. I have been following the lessons laid out in the Wit & Wisdom teacher manual. The focusing question for Lessons 1-6 is "What injustices did people face before the Civil Rights Act of 1964?" and we are reading the book Martin Luther King, Jr. and the March on Washington. There is a picture of sit-in protesters being blasted with strong streams of water. The graphic organizer we filled out was looking at injustices that were mentioned in two different sources. Our lesson tomorrow includes a protest song "Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round" and we are writing our paragraph to respond to the focusing question using the graphic organizer.

We will start Lesson 7 on Thursday and the focusing question for Lessons 7-13 is "What was Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream for the world?". During lessons 7-13 we will read the book I Have a Dream which is the end part of Dr. King, Jr.'s speech. We will examine a photograph of the Selma to Montgomery March, sing "America (My Country Tis of Thee)", look back at Martin Luther King, Jr. and the March on Washington, and read the poem "Words Like Freedom" by Langston Hughes. Lessons 7-13 starts to focus more on what people did to respond to the injustices.

I do agree with Mrs. Duffy that these are tough topics for 2nd graders. Please let me know how you want me to continue.

Sincerely,  
Marianne Walsh  
2nd Grade Teacher  
WCS Online (Bethesda/Chapman's Retreat/Winstead)

From: Stacy duffy <[redacted]>  
Sent: Monday, January 18, 2021 7:45 PM  
To: Kathy Wells <[redacted]>; Lynn Sawyer <[redacted]>; Marianne Walsh <[redacted]>

Cc: Matthew Duffy <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 concerns

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Mrs. Wells, Mrs. Sawyer and Mrs. Walsh:

Thank you for taking time to read this email. We are Matt and Stacy Duffy, grandparents and legal guardians of [REDACTED], who is a student in Mrs. Walsh's second grade online class for Winstead Elementary School.

We want to state at the outset that we are very thankful for each of you and for the privilege it is for [REDACTED] to attend such a high caliber school such as Winstead Elementary. With that said, we are compelled to present our significant concerns over the current subject matter on injustice being taught from the Wit & Wisdom Curriculum entitled Great Minds, Module 3 Civil Rights Heroes.

Slavery, racial injustice, the Civil Rights Movement... these are important and serious parts of the American Story. This curriculum, however, is proving to be too much for these sweet 7 and 8-year-olds.

Every morning the students start their day by standing, placing their right hands over their hearts and then reciting their pledge to our country. Each day since the start of Q3 (January 5), the daily practice of reciting the pledge has been followed by lesson after lesson focused on the injustices of the past; the underlying narrative being America is racist and White Americans are bad people. We have read ahead, and this theme continues very subtly throughout the entire module. A person could reasonably draw the conclusion that the goal of this module is not to teach the importance of the Civil Rights Movement that was achieved by the efforts of everyday Americans and its leaders, Black and White alike working together, but rather as a curriculum of shame with the intention of sowing seeds of divisiveness, discontent and self-loathing.

After two weeks of this, we sat our grandson [REDACTED] down and asked him what he thinks about what he is being taught and what his feelings are. Be glad YOU did not have to see his face and expression of sadness and confusion in his eyes when his answer was that, "... White people are mean." That is his takeaway from the curriculum so far.

Entering week 3 of the module this week, students are being asked to write a paragraph to state what injustices people faced before the Civil Rights Act of 1964. (NOTE: The curriculum has not introduced the Civil Rights Act so far, yet the children are entering a third straight week of focusing on the injustices prior to this act they know nothing about)

To reiterate, we agree that these are important subjects to study and to wrestle with... but NOT in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Save it for junior high or high school. Right now, these young students are forming real bonds of friendship with their peers of every background and race. Unless they are being raised by bigots, they do not judge each other by skin tone. It is beautiful to watch and is one of the most affirming examples of the redeeming love of Christ in our times.

The Wit & Wisdom curriculum appears to clearly come from a specific ideological bent.

We propose the school strongly consider an alternative curriculum that teaches subject matter more age appropriate and is inspiring, unifying and fun. If that is not an option, we would like permission for [REDACTED] to log off during these particular lessons and be given an alternative for the reading and writing portion of his day.

Sincerely,

Matt and Stacy Duffy

Sent from my iPad



↓  
They are asking to opt out way before M4L even suggested opt-out

This family appears to be online schooling ???

IMPORTANT  
Jan. 18, 2021

THANK:  
(I wonder if we will find emails from the Dixons in here?)

IMPORTANT

From: David Allen <[redacted]>  
Sent: 1/21/2021 4:13:30 PM  
To: Jason Golden <[redacted]>; Juli Oyer <[redacted]>  
Subject: Re: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 - 2nd grade  
Attachments: FLS-Logo-Orange-PNG\_7a33a3c5-ad8d-424e-999a-7781c1ef553a.png, PhoneIconPNG(20x20)\_e588dfd8-f4fa-4810-aea1a-559802ceb9ec.png, MobileIconPNG(20x20)\_0b2782d1-ee93-4ed0-a051-14b5fd28f340.png, faxbottomPNG(20x20)\_ed0df2b6-d574-4cff-a0fe-19a1a2627646.png, EmailIconPNG(20x20)\_4b1ef5b9-6947-4b56-a9d4-c248c5fd20a9.png, image007.png, image008.png, image009.png, image010.png, image011.png, image012.jpg

We can jump on a zoom with Karen Wight and Jenny Lopez if needed for deeper discussion. Karen has been reviewing this portion of the module as well as module 3 in its entirety. I'm attaching emails below that were sent to Jill Justus/Kathy Wells and Kari Miller giving you Karen's feelings after her review.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

↓  
Karen Wight

So as of Jan 21, 2021  
Dave Allen knows there is  
a problem w/ G2M3 + tells  
Jason Golden  
- They are reviewing the  
whole module before it is  
ever finished

**From:** Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** January 21, 2021 at 1:34:06 PM CST  
**To:** Kari Miller <[REDACTED]>, Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>, Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>, Molly O'Neal <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 concerns

IMPORTANT

Kari,

Other than this grandparent, we have not heard concerns recently. This summer there were Tweets about this text, which I believe fueled some of the concerns (inaccurate statements from the book primarily). That concern was not tied to any of the texts they have read yet, but one later in the module: *Separate is Never Equal*. Marianne and I are out visiting classrooms and we saw the lesson where students write about injustices by citing facts they found in two different texts. The books are very factual stating examples about segregation. They never state that people are mean. Rather, they are showing how people were treated in a different time.

Since the grandparents met with Kathy and want their student removed for the remainder of this module, I will supply Winstead with an alternative packet for Charlotte's Web. They will need a copy and can probably pick it up at Winstead's library. The expectation is that the student completes the packet with support from home. I will send a copy of the packet to the teacher so she knows what is expected, too. I would encourage the teacher to still include the student as much as possible for instruction when possible (writing, possible grammar, etc.), but log off when doing text specific work. The classroom teacher is more than welcome to reach out for guidance.

→ No - but The tchr. guide leads them to that conclusion

Just as a FYI - I am attaching a PDF flowchart of how we are handling these concerns. This way, we are consistent. Keep or toss - up to you!

Where is this?

As far as how the program addresses this topic, the module is called Civil Rights Heroes and focuses on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks and Sylvia Mendez. You may want to check out the module overview for a quick synopsis. I'd love to have a chat about this, so please give a call on my cell when you have a moment. Thanks in advance and I look forward to chatting.

I will also forward to you my email that I sent to Kathy & Jill yesterday. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out. Thanks so much.

Karen Wight, M. Ed.  
Curriculum Specialist, K-5 ELA and Social Studies

[WCS ELA K - 5 Google Site](#)

Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.

**From:** Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 20, 2021 7:37 AM  
**To:** Jill Justus <[REDACTED]>; Kathy Wells <[REDACTED]>; Lynn Sawyer <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Marianne Gilbert <[redacted]>; Jenny Lopez <[redacted]>  
Subject: 2nd grade concern

**IMPORTANT**

All,

Good morning. Jill shared with me the concern expressed regarding the second grade Wit & Wisdom module Civil Rights Heroes. This is complicated a bit since this involves a Winstead student, but a Bethesda teacher, which is why I wanted to loop everyone in. I am including the Text Replacement Flowchart to help guide the next steps, but I would like to include a few additional comments:

- I would encourage you share the module summary with them so they can have a better understanding of how all the pieces of this module fit together. If you have not shared the Family Tip Sheet, I would definitely send that as well.
- It may help them to understand how this program was adopted, including being on a state approved list, teachers reviewing, and public opportunities to preview as well.
- I have observed the paragraph writing lesson and I do disagree with her. The children are asked to compare what they learn in a book and what they learn through a video. It is through these two resources that the students learn several injustices: separate drinking fountains, hotels, schools, etc. It does give students very concrete and age-appropriate information which they can turn around into their informative paragraph.
- Additionally, the texts are very straight forward and state the facts. There are no statements about groups of people being 'mean' or 'bad'. It reflects our history in a restrained way that is appropriate for seven/eight year olds. — *opinion*
- Please do not hesitate to call me for any additional information prior to meeting with the parents and I will be happy to walk you through the unit.
- If they decide to move forward with a separate study, please let me know and I will provide a PDF packet that they will need to complete with their student independently. I need to double check, but I suspect it will be Charlotte's Web, and the book could be picked up at the library since we do not provide that text. I will send a copy to Winstead for the student, and one to Bethesda for the teacher. That way, the teacher knows what to expect from the student.

What else can I do to help support you with this concern? If you need anything, please give me a call on my cell today and I will be happy to have a conversation. Take care.

Karen Wight, M. Ed.  
Curriculum Specialist, K-5 ELA and Social Studies

↑  
*Talking points principals should use when addressing this issue*

From: Jason Golden <[redacted]>  
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 2:37 PM  
To: David Allen <[redacted]>; Juli Oyer <[redacted]>  
Subject: FW: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 - 2nd grade

For discussion.

Jason Golden  
Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
[redacted]

From: Abby Hamm <[redacted]>  
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 2:03 PM  
To: Marianne Gilbert <[redacted]>; Jason Golden <[redacted]>; Juli Oyer <[redacted]>  
Cc: KC Haugh <[redacted]>  
Subject: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 - 2nd grade

**IMPORTANT** - *Jan 21, 2021*  
*re. Gd. 2 M 3; she is reaching out as a friend of Duffy's (1st email) & as a concerned parent*  
*wants WW removed*

WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon,

I want to preface this email by saying that my family greatly appreciates all the hard work of the members of the Williamson County School System. Unfortunately, I am reaching out for less pleasant reasons than that of sending our gratitude to the team.

This past weekend a neighbor and friend, Stacy Duffy, reached out to me regarding her concern with some of the content in the Wit & Wisdom Module 3 workbook that is currently being used in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade literacy (7/8 year



olds). Her and her husband are the legal guardian of her grandson, and are multicultural family. Since returning to school in January the topic of discussion in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade literacy classroom has been that of racial injustice. If you are familiar with the workbook in question, it has Ruby Bridges on the cover.

I have attached for your review some of the content that is being discussed.

When she asked her grandson, who is a virtual student, what he felt like he was learning about in literacy, his response was "white people are bad". The response from another minority who is in traditional learning was, "I go to an all white school".

The message that I am sending today is not asking that racial injustice not be discussed, but 7/8 year olds are not able to compartmentalize 60 years ago and the present. This material is not only too mature for very young and impressionable minds, it is divisive in nature. No child should have to wonder if they are lesser or bad because of the color of their skin because of what they are reading/discussing in their literacy classroom. These subjects are better suited for middle/high school. The only thing we should be teaching our 7/8 year old students is to love their neighbor... to be kind to all people... to be proud of who they are...that they are all created equally.

I ask that you review the workbook in question and either remove the Wit & Wisdom Curriculum going forward, or have clear instructions given to teachers on what is appropriate and inappropriate per age group when teaching from the book. It may surprise you to know that when a virtual student had a question regarding what would be suitable to use as a topic sentence in her paragraph, she was told "what black people don't have that some white people do".... I will let that sink in.

Stacy and her family have already reached out to Winstead Elementary. I am reaching out as her friend, and a concerned parent. Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to your response.

Regards,



**Abby Hamm**  
Director Strategic Accounts  
FLS Transportation Services (USA) Inc.



**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 1/21/2021 6:23:47 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 - 2nd grade

**Attachments:** [image001.png](#), [image002.png](#), [image003.png](#), [image004.png](#), [image005.png](#), [image006.png](#), [image007.jpg](#), [image008.png](#), [image009.png](#), [image010.png](#), [image011.png](#)

I am happy to join any conversation as needed.

Shoot me a link and I will hop on if I can.

Thanks to your folks Dave—they continue to do phenomenal work as we move through Wit and Wisdom. They are a never ending support for sure!

**From:** David Allen  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:14 PM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 - 2nd grade

We can jump on a zoom with Karen Wight and Jenny Lopez if needed for deeper discussion. Karen has been reviewing this portion of the module as well as module 3 in its entirety. I'm attaching emails below that were sent to Jill Justus/Kathy Wells and Kari Miller giving you Karen's feelings after her review.

Dave Allen Ed.D

Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** January 21, 2021 at 1:34:06 PM CST  
**To:** Kari Miller <[REDACTED]>, Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>, Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>, Molly O'Neal <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 concerns

Kari,

Other than this grandparent, we have not heard concerns recently. This summer there were Tweets about this text, which I believe fueled some of the concerns (inaccurate statements from the book primarily). That concern was not tied to any of the texts they have read yet, but one later in the module: *Separate is Never Equal*. Marianne and I are out visiting classrooms and we saw the lesson where students write about injustices by citing facts they found in two different texts. The books are very factual stating examples about segregation. They never state that people are mean. Rather, they are showing how people were treated in a different time.

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Just as a FYI - I am attaching a PDF flowchart of how we are handling these concerns. This way, we are consistent. Keep or toss - up to you!

As far as how the program addresses this topic, the module is called Civil Rights Heroes and focuses on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rosa Parks and Sylvia Mendez. You may want to check out the module overview for a quick synopsis. I'd love to have a chat about this, so please give a call on my cell when you have a moment. Thanks in advance and I look forward to chatting.

I will also forward to you my email that I sent to Kathy & Jill yesterday. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out. Thanks so much.

Karen Wight, M. Ed.  
Curriculum Specialist, K-5 ELA and Social Studies

[REDACTED]

[WCS ELA K - 5 Google Site](#)

Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.

**From:** Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 20, 2021 7:37 AM  
**To:** Jill Justus <[REDACTED]>; Kathy Wells <[REDACTED]>; Lynn Sawyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** 2nd grade concern

All,

Good morning. Jill shared with me the concern expressed regarding the second grade Wit & Wisdom module Civil Rights Heroes. This is complicated a bit since this involves a Winstead student, but a Bethesda teacher, which is why I wanted to loop everyone in. I am including the Text Replacement Flowchart to help guide the next steps, but I would like to include a few additional comments:

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*Karen Wright's talking points - once again*

to expect from the student.  
What else can I do to help support you with this concern? If you need anything, please give me a call on my cell today and I will be happy to have a conversation. Take care.

Karen Wight, M. Ed.  
Curriculum Specialist, K-5 ELA and Social Studies

---

**From:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 2:37 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 - 2nd grade

For discussion.

Jason Golden  
Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Abby Hamm <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 2:03 PM  
**To:** Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>; Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** KC Haugh <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Wit & Wisdom Module 3 - 2nd grade

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Stacy and her family have already reached out to Winstead Elementary. I am reaching out as her friend, and a concerned parent. Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to your response.

Regards,



**Abby Hamm**  
Director Strategic Accounts  
FLS Transportation Services (USA) Inc.  
20 S. Clark, Suite 1900  
Chicago, Illinois, United States, 60602





**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 1/21/2021 6:21:38 PM  
**To:** Kari Miller <[REDACTED]>; Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>; Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; Molly O'Neal <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 concerns

**Attachments:** [image001.png](#), [image002.png](#)

Thank you for your thoroughness, Karen.  
I appreciate it very much.  
Juli

**From:** Kari Miller  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 2:56 PM  
**To:** Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>; Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Molly O'Neal <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 concerns

Thank you so much for this excellent guidance and all of your help! I will definitely hang on to the flowchart. I love decision trees like this! I'll give you a call tomorrow to talk chat about the unit later today or first thing tomorrow morning. Thank you again!

**From:** Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 1:34 PM  
**To:** Kari Miller <[REDACTED]>; Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Molly O'Neal <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 concerns

Kari,

Other than this grandparent, we have not heard concerns recently. This summer there were Tweets about this text, which I believe fueled some of the concerns (inaccurate statements from the book primarily). That concern was not tied to any of the texts they have read yet, but one later in the module: *Separate is Never Equal*. Marianne and I are out visiting classrooms and we saw the lesson where students write about injustices by citing facts they found in two different texts. The books are very factual stating examples about segregation. They never state that people are mean. Rather, they are showing how people were treated in a different time.

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I will also forward to you my email that I sent to Kathy & Jill yesterday. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out. Thanks so much.

Karen Wight, M. Ed.  
Curriculum Specialist, K-5 ELA and Social Studies

[WCS ELA K - 5 Google Site](#)

Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.



From: Kari Miller <[redacted]>  
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 12:22 PM  
To: Karen Wight <[redacted]>; Marianne Gilbert <[redacted]>  
Cc: Jenny Lopez <[redacted]>; Juli Oyer <[redacted]>; Molly O'Neal <[redacted]>  
Subject: FW: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 concerns

*IMPORTANT  
Jan 21, 2021  
Kari Miller says parents are  
wanting to opt out of  
"Hatchet"*

Hi there!

Have you been receiving concerns about this Civil Rights Heroes unit in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Wit & Wisdom?

Kathy Wells gave me a heads up that these grandparents/guardians are very concerned and don't want their grandchild participating in this unit any longer.

*\** I know that with Hatchet, some parents requested an alternate assignment, and I believe that instructional coaches worked with teachers to meet the same standards with a different book. But I'm not sure if this is even possible with an entire unit in Wit & Wisdom, not to mention the other thoughts running through my head regarding the importance of this topic right now.

I'd love your guidance on this one before I reply to the grandparents. I haven't been immersed in the Wit & Wisdom curriculum enough to address their concerns with the way that the program is tackling this topic.

Thank you so much!

Kari

Kari Miller, Ed.D.  
Director on Special Assignment  
Elementary Team Leader  
WCS Online  
[redacted]



From: Stacy duffy <[redacted]>

Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 11:50 AM

To: Kathy Wells <[REDACTED]>; Lynn Sawyer <[REDACTED]>; Marianne Walsh <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Matthew Duffy <[REDACTED]>; Kari Miller <[REDACTED]>; Beth Aplin <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Re: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 concerns

WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dr Miller,

Please review the email below.

We had a very productive meeting with Principal Wells yesterday regarding the Wit & Wisdom book for second graders. I apologize that I did not realize the you were the on-line Principal and I should have included you on the email, as well as Mrs. Beth Apling, who is [REDACTED] Special Education Teacher. She is indeed an integral part of [REDACTED] Education.

We have started a new day today with the same lesson-Injustice... Week 3.

Best regards,  
Stacy Duffy  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

*IMPORTANT  
The Duffy's still complaining  
about another week re injustice*

On Jan 18, 2021, at 7:45 PM, Stacy duffy <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Mrs. Wells, Mrs. Sawyer and Mrs. Walsh:

Thank you for taking time to read this email. We are Matt and Stacy Duffy, grandparents and legal guardians of [REDACTED], who is a student in Mrs. Walsh's second grade online class for Winstead Elementary School.

We want to state at the outset that we are very thankful for each of you and for the privilege it is for [REDACTED] to attend such a high caliber school such as Winstead Elementary. With that said, we are compelled to present our significant concerns over the current subject matter on injustice being taught from the Wit & Wisdom Curriculum entitled Great Minds, Module 3 Civil Rights Heroes.

Slavery, racial injustice, the Civil Rights Movement... these are important and serious parts of the American Story. This curriculum, however, is proving to be too much for these sweet 7 and 8-year-olds.

Every morning the students start their day by standing, placing their right hands over their hearts and then reciting their pledge to our country. Each day since the start of Q3 (January 5), the daily practice of reciting the pledge has been followed by lesson after lesson focused on the injustices of the past; the underlying narrative being America is racist and White Americans are bad people. We have read ahead, and this theme continues very subtly throughout the entire module. A person could reasonable draw the conclusion that the goal of this module is not to teach the importance of the Civil Rights Movement that was achieved by the efforts of everyday Americans and its leaders, Black and White alike working together, but rather as a curriculum of shame with the intention of sowing seeds of divisiveness, discontent and self-loathing.

After two weeks of this, we sat our grandson [REDACTED] down and asked him what he thinks about what he is being taught and what his feelings are. Be glad YOU did not have to see his face and expression of sadness and confusion in his eyes when his answer was that, "... White people are mean." That is his takeaway from the curriculum so far.

Entering week 3 of the module this week, students are being asked to write a paragraph to state what injustices people faced before the Civil Rights Act of 1964. (NOTE: The curriculum has not introduced the Civil Rights Act so far, yet the children are entering a third straight week of focusing on the injustices prior to this act they know nothing about)

To reiterate, we agree that these are important subjects to study and to wrestle with... but NOT in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Save it for junior high or high school. Right now, these young students are forming real bonds of friendship with their peers of every background and race. Unless they are being raised by bigots, they do not judge each other by skin tone. It is beautiful to watch and is one of the most affirming examples of the redeeming love of Christ in our times.

The Wit & Wisdom curriculum appears to clearly come from a specific ideological bent.

We propose the school strongly consider an alternative curriculum that teaches subject matter more age appropriate and is inspiring, unifying and fun. If that is not an option, we would like permission for [REDACTED] to log off during these particular lessons and be given an alternative for the reading and writing portion of his day.

Sincerely,

Matt and Stacy Duffy

Sent from my iPad



**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 1/22/2021 3:44:47 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 - 2nd grade  
**Attachments:** [FIS-Logo-Orange-PNG\\_7a33a3c5-ad8d-424e-999a-7781c1ef553a.png](#), [PhoneIconPNG\(20x20\)\\_e588dfd8-f4fa-4810-ae1a-559802ceb9ec.png](#), [MobileIconPNG\(20x20\)\\_0b2782d1-ee93-4ed0-a051-14b5fd28f340.png](#), [faxbottomPNG\(20x20\)\\_ed0df2b6-d574-4cff-a0fe-19a1a2627646.png](#), [EmailIconPNG\(20x20\)\\_4b1ef5b9-6947-4b56-a9d4-c248c5fd20a9.png](#), [image.png](#), [image.png](#), [image.png](#), [image.png](#), [Outlook-0xwqjiitc.png](#), [image010.png](#), [image011.png](#), [image012.png](#), [image013.png](#), [image014.png](#), [image015.png](#), [image016.png](#), [image017.png](#), [image018.jpg](#)

Dang, Karen is thorough!

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 1:56 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 - 2nd grade

Karen did some digging into the module for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade (Civil Rights) that Jason received the email about. Just FYI...

*Jenny Lopez*

Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

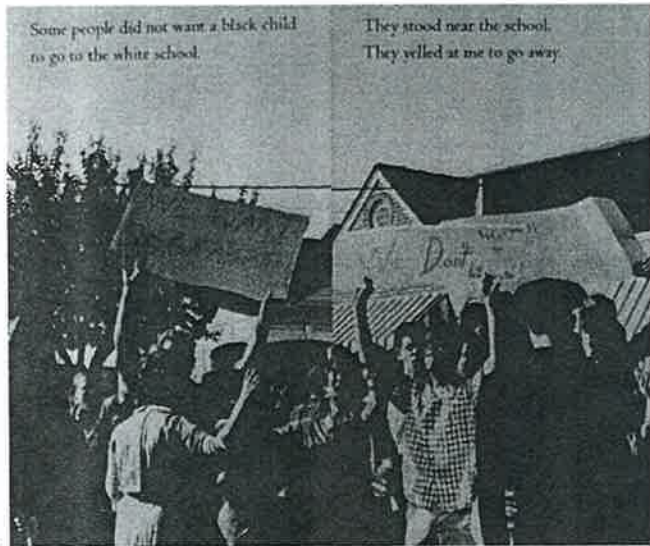
**From:** Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 22, 2021 7:48 AM  
**To:** Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 - 2nd grade

Thanks for sharing this. I have a couple of thoughts:

- They went through the student workbook and pulled pages that have not yet been used (I am almost positive of this).
  - There is no way they are already onto lesson 19.
- 9A is turned and you can't see the directions well.
  - I pulled it up and those are response cards. The students sort into two groups: MLK's dream for children and his dream for the states/nation.
    - This is actually a key detail activity.
    - The questions from the TE are:
      - How many parts to Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream did we identify today?
      - What is the relationship between Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream for children and his dream for the states/nation?
      - Why do you think Martin Luther King Jr. talked about both parts of his dream?
  - Clearly those are quotes from his speech.
- 19A *Ruby Bridges Goes to School* and *The Story of Ruby Bridges*
  - Comparison/contrast between the two texts.

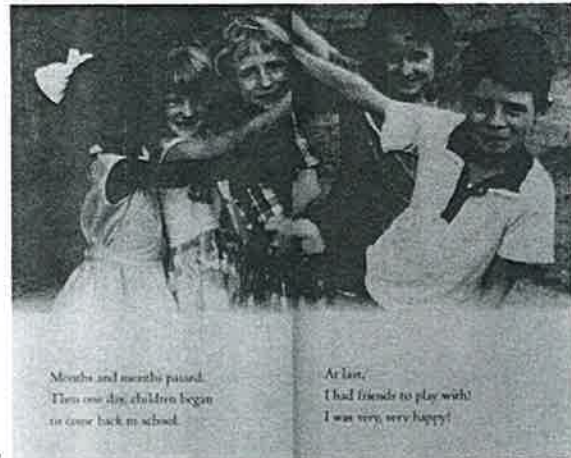
- The worksheet itself is what they call an 'exploded moment'. It takes a small moment and elaborates enough to make it complete for the reader.
- FYI - SCAPÉ is: Setting, Character, Action, Problem, Ending

- From *Ruby Bridges Goes to School: My True Story* by Ruby Bridges



Some people did not want a black child to go to the white school.

They stood near the school. They yelled at me to go away.



Months and months passed. Then one day, children began to come back to school.

At last, I had friends to play with! I was very, very happy!

Now black children and white children can go to the same schools. I like to visit schools. I tell my story to children.

I tell children that black people and white people can be friends.

When Ruby was only five, she was the first black child to go to the white school in New Orleans. She was the only black child to go to the white school in New Orleans.

When Ruby was only five, she was the first black child to go to the white school in New Orleans. She was the only black child to go to the white school in New Orleans.

- Nowhere in this book it states white people are mean.

*Karen Wright's comment!  
No - it doesn't state white ppl. are mean,  
but that is what the implicit curriculum teaches*

- From *The Story of Ruby Bridges* by Robert Coles

When school was over for the day Ruby hurried through the mob as usual. After she walked a few blocks and the crowd was behind her, Ruby said the prayer she repeated twice a day — before and after school.

*Please, God, try to forgive those people  
because even if they say those bad things,  
They don't know what they're doing.  
So You could forgive them,  
Just like You did those folks a long time ago  
When they said terrible things about You.*

- It uses the word angry to describe the group of people.
- I think we all could agree that if you are calling a Kindergartner names, yelling at her, and some wanting to hurt her, that group could be characterized as 'angry.'



When school was over for the day Ruby hurried through the mob as usual. After she walked a few blocks and the crowd was behind her, Ruby said the prayer she repeated twice a day — before and after school.

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because even if they say those bad things,  
They don't know what they're doing.  
So You could forgive them,  
Just like You did those folks a long time ago  
When they said terrible things about You.*

- My long point is that people need to read the texts to see the entirety.

- Anyone can sign up at <https://archive.org/>

- Then they go to 'Books'

- 'Books to borrow'

- Do a search for the title.

- 'Borrow for 1 hour'

- Then they can read the book.

[Internet Archive: Digital Library of Free & Borrowable Books, Movies, Music & Wayback Machine](https://archive.org/)

Internet Archive is a non-profit digital library offering free universal access to books, movies & music, as well as 525 billion archived web pages.

Internet Archive

Karen Wight, M. Ed.  
Curriculum Specialist, K-5 ELA and Social Studies

[WCS ELA K - 5 Google Site](#)

Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.



Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 3:49 PM  
To: Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Fw: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 - 2nd grade

Marianne Gilbert  
Williamson County Schools  
Curriculum Specialist, K-5 Literacy  
[REDACTED]

From: Abby Hamm <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 2:03 PM  
To: Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>; Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: KC Haugh <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 - 2nd grade

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.**

Good Afternoon,

I want to preface this email by saying that my family greatly appreciates all the hard work of the members of the Williamson County School System. Unfortunately, I am reaching out for less pleasant reasons than that of sending our gratitude to the team.

This past weekend a neighbor and friend, Stacy Duffy, reached out to me regarding her concern with some of the content in the Wit & Wisdom Module 3 workbook that is currently being used in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade literacy (7/8 year olds). Her and her husband are the legal guardian of her grandson, and are multicultural family. Since returning to school in January the topic of discussion in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade literacy classroom has been that of racial injustice. If you are familiar with the workbook in question, it has Ruby Bridges on the cover.

I have attached for your review some of the content that is being discussed.

When she asked her grandson, who is a virtual student, what he felt like he was learning about in literacy, his response was "white people are bad". The response from another minority who is in traditional learning was, "I go to an all white school".

The message that I am sending today is not asking that racial injustice not be discussed, but 7/8 year olds are not able to compartmentalize 60 years ago and the present. This material is not only too mature for very young and impressionable minds, it is divisive in nature. No child should have to wonder if they are lesser or bad because of the color of their skin because of what they are reading/discussing in their literacy classroom. These subjects are better suited for middle/high school. The only thing we should be teaching our 7/8 year old students is to love their neighbor... to be kind to all people... to be proud of who they are...that they are all created equally.

I ask that you review the workbook in question and either remove the Wit & Wisdom Curriculum going forward, or have clear instructions given to teachers on what is appropriate and inappropriate per age group when teaching from the book. It may surprise you to know that when a virtual student had a question regarding what would be suitable to use as a topic sentence in her paragraph, she was told "what black people don't have that some white people do"... I will let that sink in.

Stacy and her family have already reached out to Winstead Elementary. I am reaching out as her friend, and a concerned parent. Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to your response.

Regards,

**Abby Hamm**  
Director Strategic Accounts  
FLS Transportation Services (USA) Inc.  
20 S. Clark, Suite 1900  
Chicago, Illinois, United States, 60602



**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 2/16/2021 10:54:10 AM  
**To:** Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: PLC and Wit & Wisdom

**Attachments:** [image001.png](#), [image002.png](#), [image003.png](#), [image004.png](#)

Are you okay if I share this email with all principals and then schedule a time for TLA to come and discuss this hot topic further with them face-to-face? This would be the appetizer to satisfy their hungry minds and then y'all could come for the full-course later?

Didn't want to assume it was okay... 😊

**From:** Karen Wight  
**Sent:** Friday, February 12, 2021 8:04 AM  
**To:** Amy Stephenson <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>; Tracey Edwards <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Laura LaChance <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Shilynn McRae <[REDACTED]>; Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** PLC and Wit & Wisdom

Amy,

Good morning and thanks for asking such a wonderful question! We have had the conversation about standards/pacing with grade levels across the county. Everything still goes back to the standards, which can be found in the ELA Scope & Sequence. I 'converted' the Wit & Wisdom Common Core Standards into the TN Standards and used *Your Literacy Standards Guide* to help with the supporting words. Here is an example:

<b>5.R.1.K.18</b> Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support points in a text, identifying which reasons and evidence support which points.
Students examine how an author provides reasons and evidence to support key points in a text, then identify which reasons or evidence support which ideas or points.
<i>This standard is not explicitly taught over the year.</i>

*IMPORTANT admission that Tenn. uses common core*

For the most part the number of the standard in TN correlates to CC numbering. There are a few exceptions and the language standards do get a bit fuzzy. That is why I think the light blue box above helps so much. It explains the standard in a simpler way and teachers can see which TN standard is tied to the WW/CC standard more easily. We did purchase the guides for each school and Mary could definitely help support your teachers with that work. One last point about the standards is that they can be found at the bottom of the Welcome/Launch page and look like this:

### Standards Addressed

The Focus and Continuing Standards for this module can be found in the [Module Overview](#). Individual standards link to the appropriate page on the [Common Core State Standards](#) website.

- **Reading:** [RI.5.1](#), [RI.5.2](#)
- **Writing:** [W.5.2](#), [W.5.4](#)
- **Speaking and Listening:** [SL.5.1](#)
- **Language:** [L.5.2](#), [L.5.3](#)

We first heard from a teacher who very openly shared she wasn't sure what she was teaching this past October after her first observation. When I spoke with her about where to find the standards she was stunned. She has not seen them and I am positive she isn't the only one. We tried to get the word out through coaches, too, but let's be real: people were/are dealing with a lot right now. I know this is a growing space for our next W&W PDs, especially for new folks next year. It is imperative they know exactly the standard they are teaching and how to find them (to then cross check with our Scope & Sequences for TN wording). Finally, I want you to know that I have reached out to W&W several times asking if they would be 'translating' their standards to what we have here in

*WW refused to do a standards correlation*

TN. They are not. I tried!

← IMPORTANT

TLA is expecting the PLC to do the pacing guides

When chatting with the grade levels, here is how I advise them on creating their pacing guide. First look at the standards that are taught in that quarter and see where they are taught throughout the module. We know not all standards are created equal. That is when your teacher's expertise comes in. They can look and see a specific standard may be taught during lesson 7. Let's imagine that their past experience has shown students need additional time to grasp that standard and move towards mastery (Keeping in mind that mastery in ELA is dependent upon the text, lexile, etc.). So instead of pacing out lesson 7 for one day, maybe they will take three days to really delve into that standard with their students. In retrospect, I wish I had advised the groups I worked with to use the TE to identify the standards in order, using the Scope to double check the wording/see if there is a discrepancy, and pace it out that way. It eliminates one small step, but it does keep the focus on the standards. Using W&W just tells you the order in which to teach the standard, but your teachers have control over the pacing, which includes building extra time to teach/reteach/revise.

Whew! That is a lot longer than I thought it would be, but I wanted to make sure to answer your questions fully. TLA is meeting to discuss CFAs next week and how we can help support schools with the finer details. Please give me a call if you'd like to chat. Thank you again for sharing your concerns and allowing us to help support you. Take care and stay warm.

Karen Wight, M. Ed.  
Curriculum Specialist, K-5 ELA and Social Studies

WCS ELA K-5 Google Site

Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.



From: Amy Stephenson <[redacted]>  
Sent: Thursday, February 11, 2021 8:31 AM  
To: David Allen <[redacted]>; Karen Wight <[redacted]>; Marianne Gilbert <[redacted]>; Tracey Edwards <[redacted]>  
Cc: Laura LaChance <[redacted]>; Juli Oyer <[redacted]>; Shilynn McRae <[redacted]>; Brent Oakley <[redacted]>  
Subject: PLC and Wit & Wisdom

PLC = Professional Learning Community

Hi TLA,

I hope you are all enjoying this Snow Day. I know that I am absolutely enjoying a quiet day to truly plan for our PD Day on Monday. Thank you for the great refresher regarding PLCs! It was awesome to discuss teaching and learning yesterday 😊.

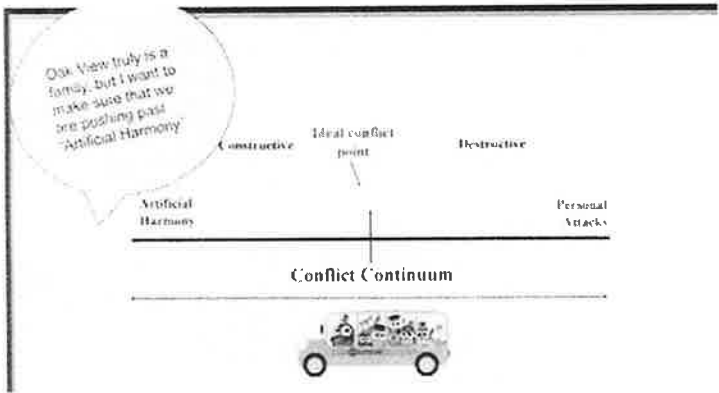
My plan for Monday was to present our PLC plan for the 21-22 school year. To be honest, my intention for next year was to do the PLC model to the fullest extent in Math, but still wait in ELA. I know you communicated that you want our schools to do both Math and ELA next year. However, I may need an extension on ELA or at least some specific guidance on how to follow the PLC expectation (create pacing guide first by heaviest standards, then create CFAs, then choose the curriculum to teach the standards) and how to do this with a prescribed day-by-day model that is put forth in Wit & Wisdom.

We have been following Wit & Wisdom with great fidelity at Oak View, but do struggle a bit with how to intertwine this with the PLC model. I honestly feel like we took a step backwards with PLCs and ELA when adopting Wit & Wisdom (prescribed daily lessons where the focus is not necessarily on standards, but rather day-to-day lessons that teach the book). I have observed a few Wit & Wisdom lessons where I had to stretch to find the TN state standard (this is rare, but has occurred). According to the PLC model, you would not teach a lesson or use a resource that is not directly correlated to that grade level's state standard. The teachers have challenged me (which I do appreciate), that this contradicts the standards first approach to every lesson that I have been preaching at Oak View for the last few years.

\* I promise this email is NOT at all about challenging Wit & Wisdom, but rather to find an "Ideal Conflict Point" that will help our Principals and Teachers use Wit & Wisdom, while also following the expectation of the PLC model.

This email makes me think of the below

IMPORTANT  
Principal @ Oak View Elem.  
is having a hard time seeing  
how WW aligns w/ the standards.



I appreciate each and every one of you!!!

Amy Stephenson  
Principal  
Oak View Elementary

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 2/16/2021 11:27:22 AM  
**To:** Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: PLC and Wit & Wisdom

**Attachments:** [image003.png](#), [image005.png](#), [image006.png](#), [image007.png](#)

Good deal.  
I will ask him.  
I know that meeting on Thursday will be helpful for us all, for sure but I like giving them a little pre-read while we talk amongst ourselves! 😊  
Thank you!

**From:** Karen Wight  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 11:25 AM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: PLC and Wit & Wisdom

That is so thoughtful of you to ask. I am fine with you sharing, but please double check with Dave. We do have a TLA meeting on Thursday talking about this, so I'm not sure if there's an overlap. Dave will be able to advise best. Take care and stay warm.

Karen Wight, M. Ed.  
Curriculum Specialist, K-5 ELA and Social Studies



[WCS ELA K - 5 Google Site](#)

Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.



**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:54 AM  
**To:** Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: PLC and Wit & Wisdom

Are you okay if I share this email with all principals and then schedule a time for TLA to come and discuss this hot topic further with them face-to-face? This would be the appetizer to satisfy their hungry minds and then y'all could come for the full-course later?

Didn't want to assume it was okay... 😊

**From:** Karen Wight  
**Sent:** Friday, February 12, 2021 8:04 AM  
**To:** Amy Stephenson <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>; Tracey Edwards <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Laura LaChance <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Shilynn McRae <[REDACTED]>; Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>

*PLC's are having a difficult time w/ standards alignment & pacing! - This is Feb. - it has been taught since August!  
Dave knows about this.*





Subject: PLC and Wit & Wisdom

Amy,

Good morning and thanks for asking such a wonderful question! We have had the conversation about standards/pacing with grade levels across the county. Everything still goes back to the standards, which can be found in the ELA Scope & Sequence. I 'converted' the Wit & Wisdom Common Core Standards into the TN Standards and used *Your Literacy Standards Guide* to help with the supporting words. Here is an example:

<b>5.RI.1.1.3</b>	<b>Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support points in a text, identifying which reasons and evidence support which points.</b>
	Students examine how an author provides reasons and evidence to support key points in a text, then identify which reasons or evidence support which ideas or points.
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For the most part the number of the standard in TN correlates to CC numbering. There are a few exceptions and the language standards do get a bit fuzzy. That is why I think the light blue box above helps so much. It explains the standard in a simpler way and teachers can see which TN standard is tied to the WW/CC standard more easily. We did purchase the guides for each school and Mary could definitely help support your teachers with that work. One last point about the standards is that they can be found at the bottom of the Welcome/Launch page and look like this:

## Standards Addressed

The Focus and Continuing Standards for this module can be found in the [Module Overview](#). Individual standards link to the appropriate page on the Common Core State Standards website.

- Reading: [RI.1.1.3](#), [RI.1.2.3](#)
- Writing: [W.1.1.3](#), [W.1.2.3](#)
- Speaking and Listening: [SL.1.1.3](#)
- Language: [L.1.1.3](#), [L.1.2.3](#)

We first heard from a teacher who very openly shared she wasn't sure what she was teaching this past October after her first observation. When I spoke with her about where to find the standards she was stunned. She has not seen them and I am positive she isn't the only one. We tried to get the word out through coaches, too, but let's be real: people were/are dealing with a lot right now. I know this is a growing space for our next W&W PDs, especially for new folks next year. It is imperative they know exactly the standard they are teaching and how to find them (to then cross check with our Scope & Sequences for TN wording). Finally, I want you to know that I have reached out to W&W several times asking if they would be 'translating' their standards to what we have here in TN. They are not. I tried!

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Karen Wight, M. Ed.  
Curriculum Specialist, K-5 ELA and Social Studies

[WCS ELA K - 5 Google Site](#)

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**Sent:** Thursday, February 11, 2021 8:31 AM  
**To:** David Allen <[redacted]>; Karen Wight <[redacted]>; Marianne Gilbert <[redacted]>; Tracey Edwards <[redacted]>  
**Cc:** Laura LaChance <[redacted]>; Juli Oyer <[redacted]>; Shilynn McRae <[redacted]>; Brent Oakley <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** PLC and Wit & Wisdom

Hi TLA,

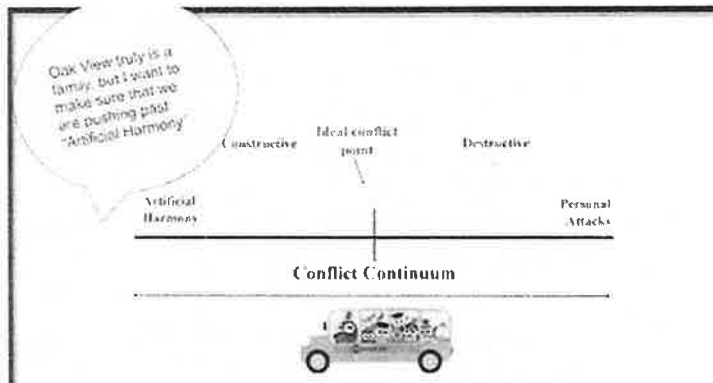
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This email makes me think of the below



I appreciate each and every one of you!!!

Amy Stephenson  
Principal  
Oak View Elementary

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 2/16/2021 11:26:28 AM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: PLC and Wit & Wisdom

**Attachments:** [image001.png](#), [image002.png](#), [image003.png](#), [image004.png](#)

Please read message below.

I am happy to wait until after our meeting Thursday but I think what she provides is a great start for people to marinate on...  
You good with that?

**From:** Karen Wight  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 11:25 AM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: PLC and Wit & Wisdom

That is so thoughtful of you to ask. I am fine with you sharing, but please double check with Dave. We do have a TLA meeting on Thursday talking about this, so I'm not sure if there's an overlap. Dave will be able to advise best. Take care and stay warm.

Karen Wight, M. Ed.  
Curriculum Specialist, K-5 ELA and Social Studies

[REDACTED]

[WCS ELA K - 5 Google Site](#)

Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.



**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 16, 2021 10:54 AM  
**To:** Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: PLC and Wit & Wisdom

Are you okay if I share this email with all principals and then schedule a time for TLA to come and discuss this hot topic further with them face-to-face?  
This would be the appetizer to satisfy their hungry minds and then y'all could come for the full-course later?

Didn't want to assume it was okay... 😊

**From:** Karen Wight  
**Sent:** Friday, February 12, 2021 8:04 AM  
**To:** Amy Stephenson <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>; Tracey Edwards <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Laura LaChance <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Shilynn McRae <[REDACTED]>; Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>

Subject: PLC and Wit & Wisdom

Amy,

Good morning and thanks for asking such a wonderful question! We have had the conversation about standards/pacing with grade levels across the county. Everything still goes back to the standards, which can be found in the ELA Scope & Sequence. I 'converted' the Wit & Wisdom Common Core Standards into the TN Standards and used *Your Literacy Standards Guide* to help with the supporting words. Here is an example:

<b>5.RI.1.KL3</b>	<b>Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support points in a text, identifying which reasons and evidence support which points.</b>
	Students examine how an author provides reasons and evidence to support key points in a text, then identify which reasons or evidence support which ideas or points.
	<i>This standard is not available for all about this year.</i>

For the most part the number of the standard in TN correlates to CC numbering. There are a few exceptions and the language standards do get a bit fuzzy. That is why I think the light blue box above helps so much. It explains the standard in a simpler way and teachers can see which TN standard is tied to the WW/CC standard more easily. We did purchase the guides for each school and Mary could definitely help support your teachers with that work. One last point about the standards is that they can be found at the bottom of the Welcome/Launch page and look like this:

## Standards Addressed

The Focus and Continuing Standards for this module can be found in the [Module Overview](#). Individual standards link to the appropriate page on the [Common Core State Standards website](#).

- **Reading:** [RL.5.1](#), [RL.5.2](#)
- **Writing:** [W.5.2](#), [W.5.9a](#)
- **Speaking and Listening:** [SL.5.1](#)
- **Language:** [L.5.2e](#), [L.5.2e](#)

We first heard from a teacher who very openly shared she wasn't sure what she was teaching this past October after her first observation. When I spoke with her about where to find the standards she was stunned. She has not seen them and I am positive she isn't the only one. We tried to get the word out through coaches, too, but let's be real: people were/are dealing with a lot right now. I know this is a growing space for our next W&W PDs, especially for new folks next year. It is imperative they know exactly the standard they are teaching and how to find them (to then cross check with our Scope & Sequences for TN wording). Finally, I want you to know that I have reached out to W&W several times asking if they would be 'translating' their standards to what we have here in TN. They are not. I tried!

When chatting with the grade levels, here is how I advise them on creating their pacing guide. First look at the standards that are taught in that quarter and see where they are taught throughout the module. We know not all standards are created equal. That is when your teacher's expertise comes in. They can look and see a specific standard may be taught during lesson 7. Let's imagine that their past experience has shown students need additional time to grasp that standard and move towards mastery (Keeping in mind that mastery in ELA is dependent upon the text, lexile, etc.). So instead of pacing out lesson 7 for one day, maybe they will take three days to really delve into that standard with their students. In retrospect, I wish I had advised the groups I worked with to use the TE to identify the standards in order, using the Scope to double check the wording/see if there is a discrepancy, and pace it out that way. It eliminates one small step, but it does keep the focus on the standards. Using W&W just tells you the *order* in which to teach the standard, but your teachers have control over the *pacing*, which includes building extra time to teach/reteach/revisit.

Whew! That is a lot longer than I thought it would be, but I wanted to make sure to answer your questions fully. TLA is meeting to discuss CFAs next week and how we can help support schools with the finer details. Please give me a call if you'd like to chat. Thank you again for sharing your concerns and allowing us to help support you. Take care and stay warm.

Karen Wight, M. Ed.  
Curriculum Specialist, K-5 ELA and Social Studies

[WCS ELA K - 5 Google Site](#)

Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.



**From:** Amy Stephenson <[redacted]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 11, 2021 8:31 AM  
**To:** David Allen <[redacted]>; Karen Wight <[redacted]>; Marianne Gilbert <[redacted]>; Tracey Edwards <[redacted]>  
**Cc:** Laura LaChance <[redacted]>; Juli Oyer <[redacted]>; Shilynn McRae <[redacted]>; Brent Oakley <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** PLC and Wit & Wisdom

Hi TLA,

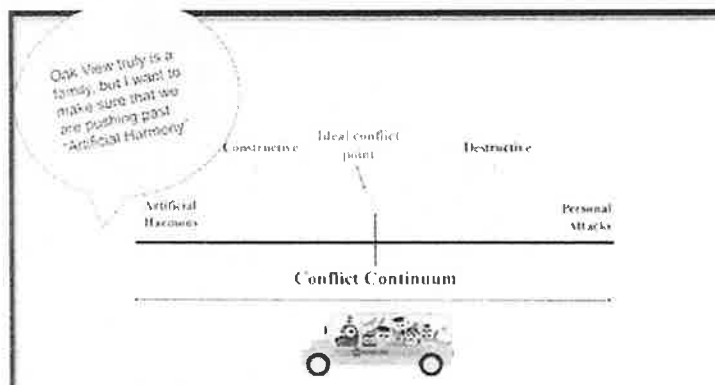
I hope you are all enjoying this Snow Day. I know that I am absolutely enjoying a quiet day to truly plan for our PD Day on Monday. Thank you for the great refresher regarding PLCs! It was awesome to discuss teaching and learning yesterday 😊.

My plan for Monday was to present our PLC plan for the 21-22 school year. To be honest, my intention for next year was to do the PLC model to the fullest extent in Math, but still wait in ELA. I know you communicated that you want our schools to do both Math and ELA next year. However, I may need an extension on ELA or at least some specific guidance on how to follow the PLC expectation (create pacing guide first by heaviest standards, then create CFAs, then choose the curriculum to teach the standards) and how to do this with a prescribed day-by-day model that is put forth in Wit & Wisdom.

We have been following Wit & Wisdom with great fidelity at Oak View, but do struggle a bit with how to intertwine this with the PLC model. I honestly feel like we took a step backwards with PLCs and ELA when adopting Wit & Wisdom (prescribed daily lessons where the focus is not necessarily on standards, but rather day-to-day lessons that teach the book). I have observed a few Wit & Wisdom lessons where I had to stretch to find the TN state standard (this is rare, but has occurred). According to the PLC model, you would not teach a lesson or use a resource that is not directly correlated to that grade level's state standard. The teachers have challenged me (which I do appreciate), that this contradicts the standards first approach to every lesson that I have been preaching at Oak View for the last few years.

I promise this email is NOT at all about challenging Wit & Wisdom, but rather to find an "Ideal Conflict Point" that will help our Principals and Teachers use Wit & Wisdom, while also following the expectation of the PLC model.

This email makes me think of the below



I appreciate each and every one of you!!!

Amy Stephenson  
Principal  
Oak View Elementary

IMPORTANT

May 6, 2021  
(before MYL Seminar)

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 5/6/2021 2:26:19 PM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fw: Emails from families regarding the Civil Rights module  
**Attachments:** [image003.jpg](#), [image004.jpg](#), [image.png](#), [Outlook-u03di4vl.png](#)

I asked Karen to review all feedback they received for the civil rights module in 2nd grade. This is the comprehensive list.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 6, 2021 1:59 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Emails from families regarding the Civil Rights module

Below you will see the five emails I personally received regarding the second grade module called Civil Rights Heroes.

1. Kenrose family
2. Community member who sent on behalf of Ms. Duffy.
3. OLP - Bethesda/Winstead family - Ms. Duffy.
4. Fairview inquiry. After discussing, the parent decided to leave the student with the class.
5. Lipscomb inquiry made in August based off of Tweets.

So, at the end of it all, I really do see it as two families: Kenrose and OLP.

I'm putting together other things to help for Monday.

Karen Wight, M. Ed.  
Curriculum Specialist, K-5 ELA and Social Studies

[WCS ELA K - 5 Google Site](#)

Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.



If this is the comprehensive list, then where are the Dixon's on this?

The large bold # on the following pages correspond to the emails in this alleged "comprehensive" list.



1.

**From:** Kim Stomber <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 5, 2021 6:53 PM  
**To:** Meaghan Mahoney <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Concern

WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Ms. Mahoney,

When will my daughter stop bringing home work that is about race? In my opinion, it has been very excessive. We had our first talk about race when she was in kindergarten. I asked if a friend of hers was from India (based on the child's name). She gave me a very confused look. I explained to her that people from different places often have different skin color. I gave her the example of my friend who is from South Africa and her response was that she is brown not black. My point is that these children do not see color. We have been getting papers about blacks and whites for two months now. The outcome of all of this race talk is only going to cause more division. These children are being taught that they are different. It is my hope that over the next two months that she will learn more about American history outside of the civil rights movement.

Kim Stomber

## Assessment 30A: New-Read Assessment 3

Directions: Listen to the Read Aloud of "Different Voices" by Anna Gratz Cockerille. Then reread parts of the passages to answer the questions.

### Different Voices

by Anna Gratz Cockerille


Illustrated by Mark Mitchell


There is more than one side to every story. Imagine that you could hear the voices of Birmingham in May 1963. This is what they might have said.

#### Lucille Lyons: Student Protester

My heart is fluttering in my chest. All around me kids chatter nervously. Many look around my age, 14, but a lot are younger, too. This morning we met at the 16th Street Baptist Church. Before we marched right into the area with all of the whites-only stores, I talked to one of my classmates from school. "You skipping school today, too?" he asked. I nodded yes. "You scared?" he asked. I nodded again. "Me too." Now we're looking across the street. We see firemen standing there with hoses, aimed right at us. Suddenly, water explodes from the nozzles. Some kids fall down. Others sit right down in the street. The firemen turn up their hoses even higher. I press myself against the side of a building to keep from getting swept away. Water beats my back and shoulders and pins me against the building. It feels like I'm being punched and kicked. The water tears my sweater. I'll be bruised and in big trouble when I get home, but I know I'm doing the right thing.



Name: Hillary Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Focusing Question Task 5 - Exploded Moments - Narrative  
100% 



My name is Sylvia Mendez.  
I went to trial. Mr. Kent was the  
superintendent. He kept telling us lies.  
When the lawyer, Mr. Marcus, asked  
him questions, my family got upset with  
his answer. Mr. Kent said we were  
inferior to whites. The judge called  
parents and students from the <sup>M</sup> school  
so they could ask  
us well. My family watched carefully.  
Mr. Kent said we have dirty faces, hands,  
and ears. That is not true. After that, the  
judge seemed to agree with us. That  
is what happened when I went to  
trial.

2

From: Abby Hamm <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 2:03 PM  
To: Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>; Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: KC Haugh <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 - 2nd grade

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.**

Good Afternoon,

I want to preface this email by saying that my family greatly appreciates all the hard work of the members of the Williamson County School System. Unfortunately, I am reaching out for less pleasant reasons than that of sending our gratitude to the team.

This past weekend a neighbor and friend, Stacy Duffy, reached out to me regarding her concern with some of the content in the Wit & Wisdom Module 3 workbook that is currently being used in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade literacy (7/8 year olds). Her and her husband are the legal guardian of her grandson, and are multicultural family. Since returning to school in January the topic of discussion in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade literacy classroom has been that of racial injustice. If you are familiar with the workbook in question, it has Ruby Bridges on the cover.

I have attached for your review some of the content that is being discussed.

When she asked her grandson, who is a virtual student, what he felt like he was learning about in literacy, his response was "white people are bad". The response from another minority who is in traditional learning was, "I go to an all white school".

The message that I am sending today is not asking that racial injustice not be discussed, but 7/8 year olds are not able to compartmentalize 60 years ago and the present. This material is not only too mature for very young and impressionable minds, it is divisive in nature. No child should have to wonder if they are lesser or bad because of the color of their skin because of what they are reading/discussing in their literacy classroom. These subjects are better suited for middle/high school. The only thing we should be teaching our 7/8 year old students is to love their neighbor... to be kind to all people... to be proud of who they are...that they are all created equally.

I ask that you review the workbook in question and either remove the Wit & Wisdom Curriculum going forward, or have clear instructions given to teachers on what is appropriate and inappropriate per age group when teaching from the book. It may surprise you to know that when a virtual student had a question regarding what would be suitable to use as a topic sentence in her paragraph, she was told "what black people don't have that some white people do".... I will let that sink in.

Stacy and her family have already reached out to Winstead Elementary. I am reaching out as her friend, and a concerned parent. Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to your response.

Regards,

3

**From:** Stacy duffy <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2021 11:50 AM  
**To:** Kathy Wells <[REDACTED]>; Lynn Sawyer <[REDACTED]>; Marianne Walsh <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Matthew Duffy <[REDACTED]>; Kari Miller <[REDACTED]>; Beth Aplin <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Wit & Wisdom Module 3 concerns

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS** - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dr Miller,

Please review the email below.

We had a very productive meeting with Principal Wells yesterday regarding the Wit & Wisdom book for second graders. I apologize that I did not realize the you were the on-line Principal and I should have included you on the email, as well as Mrs. Beth Apling, who is [REDACTED] Special Education Teacher. She is indeed an integral part of [REDACTED] Education.

We have started a new day today with the same lesson-injustice... Week 3.

Best regards,  
Stacy Duffy  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

On Jan 18, 2021, at 7:45 PM, Stacy duffy <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Mrs. Wells, Mrs. Sawyer and Mrs. Walsh:

Thank you for taking time to read this email. We are Matt and Stacy Duffy, grandparents and legal guardians of [REDACTED], who is a student in Mrs. Walsh's second grade online class for Winstead Elementary School.

We want to state at the outset that we are very thankful for each of you and for the privilege it is for [REDACTED] to attend such a high caliber school such as Winstead Elementary. With that said, we are compelled to present our significant concerns over the current subject matter on injustice being taught from the Wit & Wisdom Curriculum entitled Great Minds, Module 3 Civil Rights Heroes.

Slavery, racial injustice, the Civil Rights Movement... these are important and serious parts of the American Story. This curriculum, however, is proving to be too much for these sweet 7 and 8-year-olds.

Every morning the students start their day by standing, placing their right hands over their hearts and then reciting their pledge to our country. Each day since the start of Q3 (January 5), the daily practice of reciting the pledge has been followed by lesson after lesson focused on the injustices of the past; the underlying narrative being America is racist and White Americans are bad people. We have read ahead, and this theme continues very subtly throughout the entire module. A person could reasonable draw the conclusion that the goal of this module is not to teach the importance of the Civil Rights Movement that was achieved by the efforts of everyday Americans and its leaders, Black and White alike working together, but rather as a curriculum of shame with the intention of sowing seeds of divisiveness, discontent and self-loathing.

After two weeks of this, we sat our grandson [REDACTED] down and asked him what he thinks about what he is being taught and what his feelings are. Be glad YOU did not have to see his face and expression of sadness and confusion in his eyes when his answer was that, "... White people are mean." That is his takeaway from the curriculum so far.

Entering week 3 of the module this week, students are being asked to write a paragraph to state what injustices people faced before the Civil Rights Act of 1964. (NOTE: The curriculum has not introduced the Civil Rights Act so far, yet the children are entering a third straight week of focusing on the injustices prior to this act they know nothing about)

To reiterate, we agree that these are important subjects to study and to wrestle with... but NOT in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. Save it for junior high or high school. Right now, these young students are forming real bonds of friendship with their peers of every background and race. Unless they are being raised by bigots, they do not judge each other by skin tone. It is beautiful to watch and is one of the most affirming examples of the redeeming love of Christ in our times.

The Wit & Wisdom curriculum appears to clearly come from a specific ideological bent.

We propose the school strongly consider an alternative curriculum that teaches subject matter more age appropriate and is inspiring, unifying and fun. If that is not an option, we would like permission for [REDACTED] to log off during these particular lessons and be given an alternative for the reading and writing portion of his day.

Sincerely,

Matt and Stacy Duffy

## 4

We have a parent wanting to meet about module 3 for second grade. She is concerned about the depth of civil rights it goes into. I am having to work from home this week bc of our close quarters in our office. I have not read the books. Do you have any insight?! :)

Ann Frances Barker  
Reading Coach  
Fairview Elementary  
Get [Outlook](#) for iOS

## 5

From: Myka Spradlin <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Saturday, August 15, 2020 4:18 PM  
To: Tara Butler  
Subject: English

**WARNING: EXTERNAL EMAIL** - Do not click on links or attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon

I've seen that these books (attached) are in Metro Nashville and another teacher told me very similar to stuff she has but is choosing not to use. She said more later in year than Model 1. I knew we had new reading curriculum this year so was curious

Have you seen materials like this?

Thanks! Myka

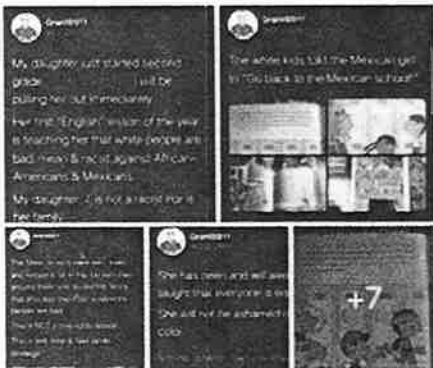
3:42



myfacebook.com

Recall Williamson

2nd Grade in Nashville



Shannon Hooper

This is what's being taught in a 2nd Grade English class in Nashville Public Schools.

This isn't just one teacher. This is the curriculum.

No wonder why so many school districts (including TN schools) don't want parents to listen in on what's being taught!

Lauren Conley and 34 others  
10 Comments · 10 Shares

Like Comment Share

Lauren Conley  
Unbelievable! This is so horrible!

Joannie Moore's with Ivy Cheney

Sent from my iPhone

May 7, 2021

IMPORTANT

From: David Allen <[redacted]>  
Sent: 5/7/2021 10:49:16 AM  
To: Jason Golden <[redacted]>; Dana Ausbrooks <[redacted]>; Vickie Hall <[redacted]>  
Cc: Jenny Lopez <[redacted]>  
Subject: Re: Notes from and follow up items from our meeting

Jason, as a follow up to our discussion this morning. We followed Board Policy 4.401 for our ELA adoption process. The Board approved the members of the adoption committee on November 18, 2019. Please let me know if you need anything else.

~~\*~~

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

From: Jason Golden <[redacted]>  
Sent: Friday, May 7, 2021 7:55 AM  
To: David Allen <[redacted]>; Dana Ausbrooks <[redacted]>; Vickie Hall <[redacted]>  
Subject: RE: Notes from and follow up items from our meeting

Dave, see the follow up questions at the bottom of Nancy's email from the meeting she and you had with the parents. Can you add what you know about the committee and how it was chosen, the dates, etc.? I've added some bold & italicized info.  
Vickie, can you review the last couple of questions and add your response, especially the second to last question?

Jason Golden  
Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
[redacted]

From: Nancy Garrett <[redacted]>  
Sent: Thursday, May 6, 2021 1:59 PM  
To: Jason Golden <[redacted]>  
Subject: Fwd: Notes from and follow up items from our meeting

For our meeting tomorrow

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Lorelie F <[redacted]>  
Sent: Thursday, May 6, 2021 1:11:41 PM  
To: Nancy Garrett <[redacted]>  
Subject: Re: Notes from and follow up items from our meeting

Nancy Garrett brings up concerns to Jason Golden; Golden questions Allen re adoption process & Allen assures him he followed board Policy 4.401 (but we know WW was thrown in at the last minute)

WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

IMPORTANT

Concerns expressed:

- Hiring of Fostering Healthy Solutions--you expressed concerns about lack of expertise and experience--the survey link has zero protection, can be used multipl times by anyone and is the same URL for most people--this opens the door to data manipulation, and shows they are incompetent ; you've seen this script of hiring a consultant play out in other areas across the country; don't think Fosters can objectively recommend policies because of Shan Foster's current political activism and priorities--deliberate goals of changing policies at schools and all US institutions with their support for discrimination, there's clearly a conflict of interest; Shane Foster's point of view saying that fans who were celebrating him were actually oppressing him is concerning; concerns about data being collected by FHS being biased, deliberately manipulated, fraudulent reporting; concerns that the Fosters have another conflict of interest--creating a false problem through fraudulent data and biased analysis, to then benefit from it by being hired to also fix it; don't support the diversity, equity, and inclusion versions as defined by Shan Foster in his work history, interviews, and his support of discrimination; policy recommendations should be backed by evidence that show good intended consequences; concerned Fosters will create racial problems instead of solving a bullying problem.
- Wit and Wisdom Curriculum--concerned about selection process, review process, and rigor of Review Committee; specific texts in Wit and Wisdom are not age-appropriate, includes racist remarks, racial slurs in artwork, racial political violence, causes psychological harm to young minds; segregating children from a class if they opt out of some texts can cause ostracization; concerned about mental health of students who are using this curriculum; concerned that Wit and Wisdom includes and perpetuates Critical Race Theory's central components (the white race is an oppressor, categorization of people by race, reducing people down to their race, levels of victimhood based on race, denouncing people based on race, point of view of the world as a struggle between white vs people of color in all elements of life, creating discomfort in talking about race, hate for whites, being ashamed to be white, hate for our country, heavily centered around feelings or emotions instead of knowledge or facts); ED Reports CEO, Eric Hirsch, pushes racial political agenda; thinks that people who want their children to read these books in the 2nd grade are in the minority.
- General concerns--want to embrace equality of opportunity---not equity which is equality of outcome; don't want people to be judged or promoted based on color of skin; trying to get everyone to have the same outcome is Marxist ideology; children should be encouraged to work hard to earn an achievement instead of getting an unearned handout to meet a quota; racism cuts both ways; each child is uniquely different, and children should receive individualized help if they need it based on their unique circumstances surrounding their unique situation, not just based on immutable characteristics and group identity; concerned that there is CRT in WCS; concerned about teaching children to hate each other and races or be ashamed of their skin color; think we should be blind to skin color like MLK teaches; concerned about a climate of antagonism, division or paranoia produced by curriculum; want children to learn how to think critically; disappointed that "N-word" is not banned in WCS; disappointed that the N-word is in a 2nd grade book; current deep analysis of racial slurs, racist remarks, racist actions, and racial violence currently in Wit and Wisdom second grade is concerning and module should be removed.

Here are the items I am following up on:



- Definition of and audience for sensitivity training mentioned at March 14 Board Meeting. **The presentation that the Board participated in was also done for building administrators and senior staff.**
- Who recommended Wit & Wisdom and how it was chosen. **It was chosen through the State approval process, with State review, local committee review, review by all our teachers, and Board vote.**
- Names and roles of committee members of curriculum committee who made the final approval of Wit & Wisdom. **The Board voted on the final approval**
- Details of how committee was chosen
- Dates curriculum was available, per State law, for public review
- Will board get to review raw data collected by FHS? **Vickie?**
- Is the survey data even reliable since anyone has access to the link survey? **All parents were offered an opportunity to respond. The more we hear from our community, the better. The survey technology was designed so that a forward of the link wasn't accessible, but we know that with a survey, there is always a possibility someone may find a way to respond additional times. We are not treating this as a vote for anything but instead an opportunity to hear from parents and will take into account that possibility**

Please let me know if I've left anything out or misunderstood anything. I'll follow up with a detailed reply after I get your input.

Nancy

Nancy Garrett  
District 12, Williamson County School Board

On Mon, May 3, 2021 at 1:27 PM Nancy Garrett <[redacted]> wrote:

Hi, Robin, Lori, and Sharon: I wanted to follow up from our meeting last week with some meeting notes and documentation of your concerns and questions. Please let me know if you want to make any clarifications to the text below.

Concerns expressed:

MHL

- Hiring of Fostering Healthy Solutions--you expressed concerns about lack of expertise and experience; you've seen this script of hiring a consultant play out in other areas across the country; don't think Fosters can objectively recommend policies, based on their social media presences; Shane Foster's video about how fans were oppressing him is concerning; there are grammatical errors on the FHS website; concerns about data being collected by FHS and will Fosters create a problem and be hired to fix it; what the Fosters are doing has nothing to do with education; don't support diversity, equity,

May 3, 2021  
This is before  
the M4L Seminar  
Harley Davidson

and inclusion as described by Fosters.

- Wit and Wisdom Curriculum--concerned about selection process, review process and rigor of Review Committee; specific texts in Wit and Wisdom; segregating children from a class if they opt out of some texts; mental health of students who are using this curriculum; concerned that Wit and Wisdom includes Critical Race Theory and DEI tenants; ED Reports CEO, Eric Hirsch, pushes CRT; think that people who want their children to read these books are in the minority.
- General concerns--want to embrace equality, not equity; don't want people to be defined by color of skin; trying to get everyone to the same place is Marxist; racism cuts both ways (example: taking away something from a child of one race and giving it to another); people are born with different privileges, and we should help children based on immutable characteristics, not just based on ethnicity; concerned that there is "low grade" CRT in WCS; concerned about teaching children to hate each other and races; think we should be blind to color like MLK teaches; concerned about a climate for division; want children to learn critical thinking and to love their neighbors; disappointed that "N-word" is not banned in WCS.

Here are the items I am following up on:

- Definition of and audience for sensitivity training mentioned at March 14 Board Meeting
- Names and roles of committee members of curriculum committee
- Details of how committee was chosen
- Dates curriculum was available, per State law, for public review

Please let me know if I've left anything out or misunderstood anything. I'll follow up with a detailed reply after I get your input.

Nancy

Nancy Garrett  
District 12, Williamson County School Board

██████████

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 5/13/2021 1:03:49 PM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Your meeting follow up.

*Jason & Nancy G  
are pressing Dave on  
the adoption process*

Nancy, Wit and Wisdom was originally only approved by TDOE for grades 3-5 because it didn't include the state required foundational skills component. However, we learned during the process that TDOE would approve the adoption of the curriculum k-5 for those districts using a foundational skills program approved by TDOE. After we learned this and were made aware of the excellent reviews given on EdReports for Wit and Wisdom, we felt the need to include Wit and Wisdom in the curriculum review process, so we added an additional community review day. We emailed or called every person that attended an earlier session to let them know about the addition of Wit and Wisdom so they could attend the new review session if they chose.

All teachers, and all members of the textbook review committee had an opportunity to review Wit and Wisdom as well.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

*Ed Reports  
is a "paid"  
rag & reviews  
are worth  
nothing!*

**From:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 13, 2021 12:08 PM  
**To:** Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** RE: Your meeting follow up.

Jenny, I'll let you answer this. You might also want to forward Nancy your emails answering some of these questions.

Jason Golden  
Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 13, 2021 12:07 PM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Your meeting follow up.

*Nancy asked specifically  
if WW was added later  
& Dave Allen  
obfuscates*

Thanks, Jason. One more question: was Wit and Wisdom added later in the process? If so, are the review dates below inclusive of all the times that W&W was available for review?

Copying Jenny and Dave....

Nancy



Nancy Garrett  
District 12, Williamson County School Board  
[REDACTED]

From: Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2021 12:02 PM  
To: Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Leigh Webb <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Carol Birdsong <[REDACTED]>; Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>; Vickie Hall <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Your meeting follow up.

Nancy, here are our answers to your follow up questions, in black italics below. Also, Dave told me that Jenny Lopez of his office has shared much of this with the one who emailed you.

Jason Golden  
Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]

Concerns expressed:

- Hiring of Fostering Healthy Solutions--you expressed concerns about lack of expertise and experience--the survey link has zero protection, can be used multiple times by anyone and is the same URL for most people--this opens the door to data manipulation, and shows they are incompetent ; you've seen this script of hiring a consultant play out in other areas across the country; don't think Fosters can objectively recommend policies because of Shan Foster's current political activism and priorities--deliberate goals of changing policies at schools and all US institutions with their support for discrimination, there's clearly a conflict of interest; Shane Foster's point of view saying that fans who were celebrating him were actually oppressing him is concerning; concerns about data being collected by FHS being biased, deliberately manipulated, fraudulent reporting; concerns that the Fosters have another conflict of interest--creating a false problem through fraudulent data and biased analysis, to then benefit from it by being hired to also fix it; don't support the diversity, equity, and inclusion versions as defined by Shan Foster in his work history, interviews, and his support of discrimination; policy recommendations should be backed by evidence that show good intended consequences; concerned Fosters will create racial problems instead of solving a bullying problem.
- Wit and Wisdom Curriculum--concerned about selection process, review process, and rigor of Review Committee; specific texts in Wit and Wisdom are not age-appropriate, includes racist remarks, racial slurs in artwork, racial political violence, causes psychological harm to young minds; segregating children from a class if they opt out of some texts can cause ostracization; concerned about mental health of students who are using this curriculum; concerned that Wit and Wisdom includes and perpetuates Critical Race Theory's central components (the white race is an oppressor, categorization of people by race, reducing people down to their race, levels of victimhood based on race, denouncing people based on race, point of view of the world as a struggle between white vs people of color in all elements of life, creating discomfort in talking about race, hate for whites, being ashamed to be white, hate for our country, heavily centered around feelings or emotions instead of knowledge or facts); ED Reports CEO, Eric Hirsch, pushes racial political agenda; thinks that people who want their children to read these books in the 2nd grade are in the minority.
- General concerns--want to embrace equality of opportunity---not equity which is equality of outcome; don't want people to be judged or promoted based on color of skin; trying to get everyone to have the same outcome is Marxist ideology; children should be encouraged to work hard to earn an achievement instead of getting an unearned handout to meet a quota; racism cuts both ways; each child is uniquely different, and children should receive individualized help if they need it based on their unique circumstances surrounding their unique situation, not just based on immutable characteristics and group identity; concerned that there is CRT in WCS; concerned about teaching children to hate each other and races or be ashamed of their skin color; think we should be blind to skin color like MLK teaches; concerned about a climate of antagonism, division or paranoia produced by curriculum; want children to learn how to think critically; disappointed that "N-word" is not banned in WCS; disappointed that the N-word is in a 2nd grade book; current deep analysis of racial slurs, racist remarks, racist actions, and racial violence currently in Wit and Wisdom second grade is concerning and module should be removed.

Here are the items I am following up on:

- Definition of and audience for sensitivity training mentioned at March 14 Board Meeting. *The presentation that the Board participated in at their meeting was also done for building administrators and senior staff.*
- Who recommended Wit & Wisdom and how it was chosen. *It was chosen through the State approval process, with State review, local committee review, review by all our teachers, and Board vote.*
- Names and roles of committee members of curriculum committee who made the final approval of Wit & Wisdom. *The Board voted on the final approval for our ELA selection. The Committee was appointed at the Board's November 2019 meeting. All our Board documents are posted on our website. Here's a link to that document: <https://meeting.boeconnect.net/Public/Agenda/566?meeting=48200>*
- Details of how committee was chosen *See attachment above*
- Dates curriculum was available, per State law, for public review: *January 15, 4:00-7:00, January 21, 10:00-5:00, January 30, 12:00-6:00, February 3, 10:00-5:00, February 6, 4:00-7:00, February 26, 10:0-5:30*

- Will board get to review raw data collected by FHS? **FHS is collecting the information anonymously and provide analysis of the feedback to the district.**
- Is the survey data even reliable since anyone has access to the link survey? **All parents were offered an opportunity to respond. The more we hear from our community, the better. The survey technology was designed so that a forwarded link wasn't accessible if it had been used, but we know that with a survey, there is always a possibility someone may find a way to respond additional times. We are not treating this as a vote for anything but instead an opportunity to hear from parents and will take into account questions of reliability that always arise with surveys.**

Please let me know if I've left anything out or misunderstood anything. I'll follow up with a detailed reply after I get your input.

Nancy

FHS has Williamson Co. Schools  
student information from survey



Subject: Wit and Wisdom Forum Request

WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Date: 24 May 2021

Jason Golden, WCS Superintendent  
1320 West Main Street  
Franklin, TN 37064

Dear Mr. Golden,

The 13 May 2021 Williamson County School (WCS) Board Work Session (Attachment 1) addressed, among other things, the Great Minds Wit & Wisdom curriculum, adopted by WCS on 30 March 2020. At minute 3:01:00, Nancy Garrett (District 12) suggested that a curriculum review, to include "teacher inputs, student inputs, and community inputs," should be reported on at the June board meeting. You responded, "Yes ma'am, I think that's a great idea, and they've already started that work." Furthermore, at 3:09:30, KC Haugh (District 11) suggested hearing from other counties who have also adopted Wit & Wisdom. Jay Galbreath (District 6) suggested "solicitation of feedback" at 3:18:53. We, the parents of Williamson County, would like to know what form this evaluation and feedback will take. Furthermore, we would like a seat at the table. We declare no confidence in David Allen, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, as the sole solicitor and repositor of said feedback.

In this capacity, we request your presence, and the presence of all WCS board members (cc'd) and Williamson County commissioners (cc'd), at a forum hosted by Moms for Liberty - Williamson County Chapter on 14 June 2021, 5:30 pm, or 15 June 2021, 10:00 am, at the WCS Central Office, 1320 West Main Street, or suggested venue capable of accommodating such a meeting.

In the interest of time, I request you review in advance a WCS parent testimony at the Moms for Liberty CRT101 Event (Attachment 2), minute 39:30.

This matter is central and absolutely critical to our children's education, and we insist our voices be heard outside of a one-minute time limit within a 30-minute window. We vow to be respectful of your time, as well. Please RSVP directly to me and/or

Respectfully,

Tonya Homme

Williamson County Parent

*Tonya's  
email  
May 24, 2021*

Attachments:

- 1. WCS Work Session Live Stream, 13 May 2021  
<https://livesream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/>
- 2. Moms For Liberty CRT101 Live Stream, 19 May 2021  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vleR5pSUA0&t=6s>

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 5/24/2021 8:21:58 AM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Leigh Webb <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Please Re-evaluate the Curriculum

*Calcote emails to Jason G - Dave Allen is triggered*

Nothing about this email is true. Jason, do you want to respond or do you want me to?

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Kimberly Calcote <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 21, 2021 9:00 PM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Leigh Webb <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Please Re-evaluate the Curriculum

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Mr. Golden,

To your reply to us that Wit and Wisdom is a state approved curriculum - see your previous email below - we learned from state senator Cepicky, the education sub-chair, that the Williamson county school board requested and received a waiver to use Wit and Wisdom - it is not state approved in general, only for 3rd grade - it was either sought out or sold to the board by outside influences. He also noted that the board/county likely received an incentive to adopt this curriculum. This is disturbing to say the least.

We want some answers. What reason did the board have to seek out this atrocious curriculum? Who on the board discovered it or was sold it (who received the incentive?), and was the entire board aware that it required a waiver to be put in place? The presence of any incentive does more than hint that there are unsavory influences behind that decision. Past that, we are from Louisiana, one of the worst run public school states in the country - and they have wit and wisdom as the state curriculum. This is not a model to follow, education is one of the reasons we left there to be here.

Curricula should be driven by teachers and parents, NOT by administrators looking to reap financial gains, gain favor with activist groups, or follow unsolicited and unwanted federal incentives rather than do what is best for our children. After studying the curriculum intensely over the past few weeks, we know for sure it was not chosen because it is good for the children, and have found many expert opinions that agree with this assertion. We're happy to share those references.

We have a very strong and growing group of parents working to review and remove the curriculum from the schools due to its severely inappropriate content and psychologically damaging approach to "learning", and we certainly will not be the only parents you will hear from on the matter. We look forward to working with you and the board to remove the Wit and Wisdom curriculum prior to the 2021-2022 school year to replace it with something that is good for the kids. Senator Cepicky noted that the

waivers (apparently other districts also were duped or sold into this debacle of a curriculum) are being removed in 2023, but that is not soon enough.

We realize this will be a challenge, but we offer you an army of parents who care deeply about our children's education to help with any reviews and working sessions. We're happy to support and work alongside the teachers to get this done and prepare for a drastic improvement going into next school year.

Regards,  
Brian and Kimberly Calcote  
Crockett Elementary (rising K and 4th)  
Woodland Middle (rising 6th and 8th)  
[REDACTED]

On Wed, May 12, 2021 at 8:18 PM Jason Golden <[REDACTED]> wrote:  
Ms. Calcote,

Thanks for your email. Wit and Wisdom is the State- and Board-approved K-5 English Language Arts curriculum. It is the first year of this ELA adoption, and we are reviewing each selection. To get started, can you let me know what schools your children are attending and whether you've talked with your Principals about these concerns? We have a process for review in place, and I want to make sure we get started on that review based on your concerns. In addition to your concerns about the Wit and Wisdom selections you mentioned, we do need to find out the specific selections you are concerned about for 7th grade, since Wit and Wisdom doesn't cover that grade level.

I have cc'd our elementary and secondary Assistant Superintendents so they are aware of your concerns and can start reviewing them.

Jason Golden  
Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]

On May 12, 2021, at 8:07 PM, Kimberly Calcote <[REDACTED]> wrote:

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS** - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Golden,

I implore you and the board to reconsider the ELA K-8th curriculum. Wit and Wisdom touches on topics that are dark, too mature for our children, and frankly, has contributed to anger and frustration in my home.

**Who selected and vetted the curriculum?**

I would like the board to clarify for me who selected this curriculum, what they did to evaluate the curriculum, and how they determined that it was appropriate for our children's minds. What evaluation process was used to decide on this curriculum and the specific content that our kids would be reading? I would like to know

whether this was chosen by people (a committee? teachers? the board? - I would like to know specifically who) who actually read through the content or if the approvers are ignorant of the inappropriate content within the materials.

### **Lack of transparency**

I know that, personally, I've requested the content of the curriculum for my 4 children next year, and have been given only screen shots of the reading list for one grade. While that's helpful, I specifically asked for clarification about what would be read in its entirety and what would be read as an excerpt, and I have not been provided any of that detailed information. The scope of the curriculum hasn't been up on the WCS website the entire year, and we are entitled to that as parents. Without textbooks, hard copies of the reading materials for us to review, and the delay of sending home grades, I've been in the dark about what my children have been consuming, until now. The Wit and Wisdom curriculum has made my children dislike reading, sit for hours trying to complete the workload, and I've been told by two of them that they should just "give up because there is no point!" Their grades are tanking, despite additional help, and they are uncomfortable with the dark content of the curriculum. My daughter, a 7th grader, has come home multiple times and mentioned that what they are reading is "inappropriate." If a 7th grader knows that she shouldn't be reading it, why doesn't the school know that? She and her class have also had multiple curves on her tests because the tests don't line up with the curriculum being taught.

### **Examples of age-inappropriate content**

I've begun researching the curriculum with some other mothers for next year, as I stated above, and I'm already disturbed with what I'm learning. Here are a few examples:

1. One of my children will enter 4th grade next year and will be reading books like *Hatchet*, which touches on topics such as infidelity, suicide, and divorce.
2. Another book that's part of the 4th grade curriculum is *Walk Two Moons*, which has 4 mother figures, each either having psychiatric problems or abandoning their families or dying (one does both). In this book, there is a vivid description of a still birth, the mention of sex, and the angst of teen romance in great detail. The main character (13years old) is given a pipe to smoke, drives a car 100 miles by herself, and helps her friend break into a neighbor's house.
3. The text called George vs George includes themes of rape, murder, wearing victims skin as leggings, and driving naked women and children into the streets to be killed.

### **A flawed process to avoid the inappropriate content**

I requested the information for opting out of these books, and was told that not only do you guys not have a list of options already available, you will separate my child from his classmates to do the work by himself. Separating children from their classmates, having them work on different content, and not being able to discuss the content with the class cannot be good for their mental health or their grades. How is the school going to explain to my 9 year old why he can't be with his peers? I want the school to choose books that can be read by ALL students.

### **Moms and teachers are united in wanting to help find solutions!**

If you don't have a list of age appropriate content, we have plenty of mother's, myself included, that are willing to contribute to a review committee in order to select books that can be read by ALL students. When my choices as a parent are to pick between him reading this garbage (You know the old saying, "Garbage in, Garbage out") or separating my child to work on a book by himself, it makes me question if Williamson County is providing the free and APPROPRIATE education, which children are entitled to under FAPE. When the content is over their heads, too mature, and difficult for them to digest due to their limited experiences on which to draw, it frustrates children, and takes the joy out of learning. I see the joy dwindling in my children's eyes for sure.

We entrust these young minds to Williamson County Schools and the board to make decisions regarding their academics. It's disheartening to know that we can no longer trust you because you have broken that trust in our home by implementing this curriculum and quite frankly, not being transparent with the process of the selection. We are asking you to restore that trust by re-evaluating and removing this curriculum from the schools until a deep dive into the content can be completed by a committee to include parent advocates and teachers. Please, for our kids sake, do not continue with Wit and Wisdom.

Respectfully yours,





*fact if they didn't follow full adoption procedure for WWS*

*5/24/21*

*Jason Golden requested a "draft" response to Calcote email from Dave Allen*

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 5/24/2021 9:05:43 AM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Leigh Webb <[REDACTED]>; Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>; Carol Birdsong <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Please Re-evaluate the Curriculum

Thank you for your email Mr. and Mrs. Calcote. I want to respond to each of the concerns in your email since there seems to be a lot of misinformation surrounding the adoption of our ELA curriculum materials. Please reach out if you have additional questions.

- Wit and Wisdom was approved for grades 3-5, but not approved for grades K-2 because it lacked a foundational skills component (phonics). Districts were granted a waiver for grades k-2 if they supplemented the curriculum with an approved foundational skills (phonics curriculum).
- Prior to Board approval of any curriculum adoption a Williamson County Schools textbook selection committee is created following the requirements of TCA 49-6-2207 and Board Policy 4.401, Textbook Selection and Adoption. This committee is made up of teachers and parents from all WCS schools and is responsible for reviewing the Tennessee Department of Education approved instructional materials. Concurrently with this committee reviewing TDOE approved materials, every English Languages Arts teacher reviews the same approved materials and submits feedback to the committee. Community review sessions are also held so parents and other community members can review and give feedback. Once all instructional materials have been reviewed by the community and the impacted teaching staff, teachers are asked for their top choice. The textbook selection committee then reviews all feedback from the community, parents and staff and selects which set of instructional materials they'll recommend for Board approval. **The accusation that our Board was somehow influenced to select Wit and Wisdom is simply not true. The reality is that Wit and Wisdom was the top choice of our teachers, and the recommendation of our textbook adoption committee.** In your email you state *curricula should be driven by teachers and parents, NOT by administrators looking to reap financial gains, gain favor with activist groups, or follow unsolicited and unwanted federal incentives rather than do what is best for our children.* We agree and followed our Board policy to ensure this happened.
- During this first year of implementation, we received both positive and concerning feedback. We have made several modifications based on this feedback and will continue to make adjustments as needed.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 24, 2021 8:30 AM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Leigh Webb <[REDACTED]>; Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>; Carol Birdsong <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Please Re-evaluate the Curriculum

Can you write a draft response?

Jason Golden  
Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]

On May 24, 2021, at 8:22 AM, David Allen <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Nothing about this email is true. Jason, do you want to respond or do you want me to?

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

---

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**Sent:** Friday, May 21, 2021 9:00 PM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Leigh Webb <[REDACTED]>  
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5/12/21  
Jason Golden  
response to  
Calcote email

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Respectfully yours,

J. Brian and Kimberly Calcote



[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Golden,

The 13 May 2021 Williamson County School (WCS) Board Work Session (Attachment 1) addressed, among other things, the Great Minds Wit & Wisdom curriculum, adopted by WCS on 30 March 2020. At minute 3:01:00, Nancy Garrett (District 12) suggested that a curriculum review, to include "teacher inputs, student inputs, and community inputs," should be reported on at the June board meeting. You responded, "Yes ma'am, I think that's a great idea, and they've already started that work." Furthermore, at 3:09:30, KC Haugh (District 11) suggested hearing from other counties who have also adopted Wit & Wisdom. Jay Galbreath (District 6) suggested "solicitation of feedback" at 3:18:53. We, the parents of Williamson County, would like to know what form this evaluation and feedback will take. Furthermore, we would like a seat at the table. We declare no confidence in David Allen, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, as the sole solicitor and repositor of said feedback.

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Respectfully,  
Sharon & Dan Blount  
May 24, 2021

- Attachments:
- 1. WCS Work Session Live Stream, 13 May 2021  
[https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/\[REDACTED\]](https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/[REDACTED])
  - 2. Moms For Liberty CRT101 Live Stream, 19 May 2021  
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- CC:
- Angela Durham, WCS Board District 1, [REDACTED]
  - Daniel Cash, WCS Board District 2, [REDACTED]
  - Eliot Mitchell, WCS Board District 3, [REDACTED]
  - Brad Fiscus, WCS Board District 4, [REDACTED]
  - Jennifer Aprea, WCS Board District 5, [REDACTED]
  - Jay Galbreath, WCS Board District 6, [REDACTED]
  - Sheila Cleveland, WCS Board District 7, [REDACTED]
  - Candace Emerson, WCS Board District 8, [REDACTED]
  - Kick Wimberly, WCS Board District 9, [REDACTED]
  - Eric Welch, WCS Board District 10, [REDACTED]
  - KC Haugh, WCS Board District 11, [REDACTED]
  - Nancy Garrett, WCS Board District 12, [REDACTED]
  - David Allen, Asst. Superintendent of Teaching, Learning and Assessment, [REDACTED]
  - Dwight Jones, District 1 Commissioner, [REDACTED]
  - Ricky D. Jones, District 1 Commissioner, [REDACTED]
  - Betsy Hester, District 2 Commissioner, [REDACTED]
  - Judy Herbert, District 2 Commissioner, [REDACTED]
  - Jennifer Mason, District 3 Commissioner, [REDACTED]
  - Keith Hudson, District 3 Commissioner, [REDACTED]
  - Chad Story, District 4 Commissioner, [REDACTED]
  - Gregg Lawrence, District 4 Commissioner, [REDACTED]

Beth Lothers, District 5 Commissioner, [REDACTED]  
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Dana Ausbrooks, District 12 Commissioner, [REDACTED]  
TN Senator Jack Johnson, [REDACTED]  
TN Representative Scott Cepicky, [REDACTED]  
TN Representative Sam Whitson, [REDACTED]  
TN Representative Glen Casada, [REDACTED]  
TN Representative Brandon Ogles, [REDACTED]

**From:** David Allen <[redacted]>  
**Sent:** 5/25/2021 3:04:10 PM  
**To:** Eric Welch <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** Re: Request for a Forum Re: Wit & Wisdom

*This email chain sets in motion the legal concerns of the parents & the need for WCS to be in legal assistance*

Thank you sir. We simply followed local and state Board policy allowing our teachers and textbook adoption committee to select what they felt were the best instructional materials available on a TDOE approved list. Dave Allen, nor anyone on my team even had a vote.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

*Eric Welch email - he doesn't want a board forum - Dan Cash does*

*Welch insulting Scott Cepicky*

**From:** Eric Welch <[redacted]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 25, 2021 2:56 PM  
**To:** CO Schoolboard Group <[redacted]>  
**Cc:** David Allen <[redacted]>; Jason Golden <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** Re: Request for a Forum Re: Wit & Wisdom

Colleagues -

I'm taking the extraneous copies off this email as this strikes me as a WCS/WCSB internal issue and does not concern the County Commission, our state delegation, and certainly not a fact-challenged former minor league baseball player and used car salesman from Maury County, where incidentally, the ELA growth scores were a Level 1 out of 5 on the last state report card.

As a body, we expect WCS staff from the newest TA to the Superintendent to follow our policy and failure to comply can be grounds for termination. I think it's only right and honorable then that we bind ourselves to following our policies as well, especially as we are the body who creates them, as well as referencing them when responding to community questions. With that in mind, I want to call out a couple Board Policies and select passages which I think apply here.

Policy 1.400 School Board Meetings and Work Sessions:

*The Board will transact all business at official meetings that may be either regular or special.*

*Every meeting of the Board shall be open to the public, except for those meetings in which the law allows closed sessions. Open meetings will be physically accessible to all students, employees, and interested citizens.*

Policy 1.404 Appeals to the Board:

*The Board desires that all matters be settled at the lowest appropriate level of responsibility. Complaints or concerns must advance through the proper procedure from the point of origin.*

Policy 1.500 Board-Community Relations:

*The Board and/or the Superintendent of Schools shall, as the need arises, call public meetings for the purpose of presenting and discussing information pertinent to the school program(s) in the district. Effort shall be exerted for such meetings to solicit attendance from a cross-section of the community.*

Policy 4.401 Textbook Selection and Adoption:



*The Board will appoint textbook review committees to review the textbooks and instructional materials proposed for adoption by the Department of Education. The committees shall be established by grade level and subject matter fields.*

*The Executive Committee shall prepare a recommended list of committee members for the Board to consider. Members of the committees shall be teachers, supervisors of teachers, and parents with children currently enrolled in a school under the jurisdiction of the Board at the time of the appointment. Teachers and supervisors who are appointed shall be teaching or supervising the respective grade level or subject at the time of appointment, must be licensed in Tennessee with endorsements in the grade level or subject matter, and must have at least three years of experience teaching in public schools.*

**Policy 4.401 Reconsideration of Instructional Materials and Textbooks:**

*The Board of Education supports principles of intellectual freedom inherent in the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.*

*The Board of Education, though it is ultimately responsible for all instructional material purchased, recognizes the student's right of free access to many different types of materials. The Board also recognizes the right of teachers and administrators to select instructional materials and to make those materials available in the schools. It is therefore the policy of the Board to require instructional materials selected for and used in the schools to be in accord with the following:*

- 1. Instructional materials shall be chosen for values of interest and enlightenment of all students in the community. Instructional materials shall not be excluded because of the race, nationality, political or religious views of the writer or of its style and language.*
- 2. Every effort will be made to provide materials that present many points of view concerning the problems and issues of our times--international, national, and local. Instructional materials of sound factual authority shall not be proscribed or removed from library shelves or classrooms because of partisan or doctrinal approval/disapproval.*
- 3. Censorship of instructional materials will be discouraged in order to maintain the school's responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.*

*In accordance with number three above, the Board of Education has adopted the following policy when dealing with complaints about or censorship of instructional materials:*

- 1. That the final decision concerning controversial instructional materials shall rest with the Board of Education after careful examination and discussion of the instructional materials with school faculties or anyone else the Board of Education wishes to involve;*
- 2. That no parent, group of parents, or non-school group has the right to determine the instructional materials for students other than their own children;*
- 3. 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;*
- 4. Any parent or other citizen who wishes to request review or reconsideration of the use of any instructional material in the school must make such a request in writing through the Principal of the school where the material is used.*

*Complainants who bypass the review/reconsideration procedure and who initially seek action from the Board of Education or Superintendent of Schools shall be informed of the policy and instructed first to seek solution to their problem with the involved teacher, librarian, or Principal.*

*In summary, Board Business is conducted by the full Board in open official meetings, not in moderated meetings hosted by outside third parties.*

*We have a policy and process for grievances that includes redress before the Board in an open meeting, which our Superintendent is following. This process does not include insulting the abilities of our staff and cutting them out of conversations.*

*We have a policy for hosting public meetings to provide information and answer questions, more commonly referred to as "Let's Talk Schools." The full public is welcome at these sessions and the agenda is not set and/or moderated by third parties. I question whether something like that would even be lawful under the state's sunshine laws.*

*Our process for selecting textbooks includes or parents, along with subject matter experts and final approval is by our board. Any suggestion to the contrary is demonstrably false. Our parents are also represented in the reconsideration of materials, for which we also have a process. That process does not include interest groups self-appointing themselves as the voice for all WCS parents and going directly to the Board.*





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Sharon & Dan Blount  
May 24, 2021

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Daniel Cash, WCS Board District 2, [REDACTED]  
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TN Representative Scott Cepicky, [REDACTED]  
TN Representative Sam Whitson, [REDACTED]  
TN Representative Glen Casada, [REDACTED]  
TN Representative Brandon Ogles, [REDACTED]



**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 5/29/2021 11:35:46 AM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: More curriculum questions

*Angie Colvin  
email*

Dana, looping you in. Do we need to provide the names of the parents?

Sent from my iPhone

On May 28, 2021, at 2:55 PM, Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]> wrote:

I need help answering this question. I am not sure who to forward the request to. It's a long chain of email below - I'll summarize the question:

Can you please advise me how I can get the list of names of the parents involved in the textbook adoption committee since it is not a part of the school board minutes?

For clarification – the parent names of committee members are not submitted to the school board for approval. We only submit teacher names to the board after we verify they meet the criteria set by TDOE (we verify the criteria through HR).

*Jenny Lopez*

Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

**From:** Angie Colvin <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 28, 2021 2:47 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: More curriculum questions

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hi,

Great! Thank you for that information. Can you please advise me how I can get the list of names of the parents involved in the textbook adoption committee since it is not a part of the school board minutes?

Thank you,  
Angie Colvin

On Fri, May 28, 2021 at 12:16 PM Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Angie,

The school board does not "approve" the parent list since they are volunteers. The school board approves the teacher names because there are strict state criteria regarding the teacher committee members. We verify that each teacher meets the criteria (HR confirms), then the school board approves the list of teachers. This is the reason the parent names are not included on the list in the school board minutes.

**Jenny Lopez**

Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

---

**From:** Angie Colvin <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 28, 2021 11:01 AM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: More curriculum questions

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Hello! I wanted to follow-up with you regarding the WCS textbook adoption committee names. I was able to find the names for the teachers on the School Board minutes. Thank you for helping me with that. However, I can't find the names for the 40+ parents that were on the WCS textbook adoption committee. Can you please provide me with that list?

Thank you,  
Angie Colvin

On Tue, May 25, 2021 at 2:42 PM Angie Colvin (angiemcolvin) <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Thank you. I was able to find the list of teacher names that were on the textbook adoption committee. However, I did not see a list of the names for the 40 parents that were on the committee. Where can I find that list?

Thank you so much,  
Angie Colvin

Sent from my iPhone

On May 25, 2021, at 9:38 AM, Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]> wrote:

See below.

**Jenny Lopez**

Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

---

**From:** Angie Colvin (angiemcolvin) <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 25, 2021 9:12 AM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: More curriculum questions

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS** - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi! Thank you so much for this information. I have a couple of additional follow up questions.

1. If the waiver for Wit and Wisdom was not approved until February 21, 2020, how was WCS able to view and consider it as a viable option on February 15, 2020?

Before putting Wit and Wisdom in front of teachers and the committee, I learned that TDOE would approve a waiver if a foundational skills (phonics) program was added to the K-2 curriculum (this is reason it was not approved for K-2).

2. How do I get a list of specific names of who was on the textbook adoption committee for WCS?

This is public information as it was approved at a board meeting in November 2019.

Thank you again for your time and assistance with this!

Angie Colvin

Sent from my iPhone

On May 25, 2021, at 8:55 AM, Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Angie!

Please see my answers below (in red). Have a great day!

*Jenny Lopez*

Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

---

**From:** Angie Colvin <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Monday, May 24, 2021 3:31 PM

**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** More curriculum questions

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hello! I hope you are doing well. I wanted to follow-up with you with some more questions about the Wit and Wisdom K-5 curriculum.

1. When was Wit and Wisdom presented as a K-5 ELA curriculum option to the WCS textbook adoption committee?  
February 15, 2020.

2. When were the dates that the public was allowed to come and review the ELA Curriculum?

January 15, 4:00-7:00

January 21, 10:00-5:00



January 30, 12:00-6:00

February 3, 10:00-5:00

February 6, 4:00-7:00

February 26, 10:00-5:30

3. How were parents and the public notified of these dates to review the ELA curriculum?

All of these preview opportunities were held at the WCS Professional Development Center at 1761 West Main Street, Franklin

These dates were published on In Focus, our WCS website, Channel 3, WCS Facebook and Twitter  
We also had school host sites that displayed materials for teachers to preview.

4. Who specifically was on the WCS textbook adoption committee?

The committee consisted of 1 parent representative and 1 teacher representative from each school building. These representatives were nominated by the principal at each school site and approved by the school board.

There are a set of criteria that have to be met in order to be on the committee per Tenn. Code 49-6-2207. Teachers must be teaching the content (ELA) and teach at the grade level of the material he/she is reviewing. Teachers must be licensed to teach in the state with endorsements in the subject matter or grade level for which textbooks or materials are being reviewed. Teachers shall have 3 or more years of experience as teachers in the public schools. Parent representatives must have children enrolled in the LEA.

5. Dave Allen mentioned that WCS is looking to replace the 4th grade book, *Woods Runner*. Did I understand correctly that an alternative option will not be available until Fall 2022?

The alternative option to *Woods Runner* will be available for the 2020-2021 school year. *Woods Runner* is read in Module 3 (3<sup>rd</sup> quarter). This means the replacement will be available at that time and we will not use *Woods Runner* next school year.

6. Is WCS paying additional money to Great Minds for them to replace *Woods Runner*?

No. Great Minds is providing the module lessons to accompany the replacement book at no cost to the district. Our cost will be in replacing the text (we will purchase the replacement text).

Thank you for your help and your time!

Angie Colvin





<[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; Glen Casada <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]

Subject: Please replace Wit & Wisdom

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Jason  
Golden, WCS Superintendent  
1320  
West Main Street  
Franklin,  
TN  
37064  
[REDACTED]

Dear  
Mr. Golden,

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Please RSVP to me and/or to  
[REDACTED]  
or [REDACTED]

Respectfully,  
Myka Spradlin  
Williamson Co Parent - Elementary and Middle  
May 26, 2021

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2.  
Moms For Liberty CRT101 Live Stream, 19 May 2021  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vleR5pSUA0&t=6s>

**From:** David Allen <[redacted]>  
**Sent:** 5/29/2021 8:19:18 AM  
**To:** Karen Wight <[redacted]>; Marianne Gilbert <[redacted]>; Jenny Lopez <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please replace Wit & Wisdom

Do you have any idea what she's talking about with the disadvantaged comment?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Myka Spradlin <[redacted]>  
**Date:** May 29, 2021 at 7:31:29 AM CDT  
**To:** Jason Golden <[redacted]>  
**Cc:** [redacted], [redacted], betsy.hester@williamsoncounty-tn.gov, Brad Fiscus <[redacted]>, [redacted], Candace Emerson <[redacted]>, [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], Daniel Cash <[redacted]>, David Allen <[redacted]>, [redacted], [redacted], Eliot Mitchell <[redacted]>, Eric Welch <[redacted]>, [redacted], Glen Casada <[redacted]>, Jay Galbreath <[redacted]>, Jennifer Aprea <[redacted]>, Jennifer.mason@williamsoncounty-tn.gov, [redacted], [redacted], KC Haugh <[redacted]>, [redacted], [redacted], Nancy Garrett <[redacted]>, [redacted], Rick Wimberly <[redacted]>, [redacted], [redacted], Sheila Cleveland <[redacted]>, [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted], [redacted]

**Subject: Re: Please replace Wit & Wisdom**

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Thank you for responding. I know in this new phonics program, for example, they referenced Dick and Jane books from the 1930's and asked "looking at this picture, who do you think is disadvantaged?" It was a picture of 3 white kids playing. I just don't get it. Why not just stick to the story?! This curriculum is making it political. Teacher friends said they all voted against this wit and wisdom and every one they talked to also voted against it and have no idea how it



Jason  
Golden, WCS Superintendent  
1320  
West Main Street  
Franklin,  
TN  
37064  
[REDACTED]

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Williamson Co Parent - Elementary and Middle  
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1.  
WCS Work Session Live Stream, 13 May 2021  
[https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/\[REDACTED\]](https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/[REDACTED])
2.  
Moms For Liberty CRT101 Live Stream, 19 May 2021  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vleR5pSUA0&t=6s>

*Tom Tunncliffe  
County Comm.  
Dist. 7 email  
to Dave Allen*

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 5/30/2021 12:42:24 PM  
**To:** Tom Tunncliffe <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Carol Birdsong <[REDACTED]>; Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>; Vickie Robbins <[REDACTED]>; Gary Anderson <[REDACTED]>; Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>; Leigh Webb <[REDACTED]>; Lydia Glynn <[REDACTED]>; Mark Samuels <[REDACTED]>; Rachel Farmer <[REDACTED]>; Vickie Hall <[REDACTED]>;  
**Subject:** Re: Wit and Wisdom Adoption vs Wonder Adoption

Hi Commissioner Tunncliffe. Yes, I can answer any questions you have about the options our teachers and textbook selection committee had in front of them and the quantitative feedback our teachers gave the selection committee before the recommendation to the Board. Is there a time on Tuesday we can talk by phone so I can walk you through it?

Dave

Sent from my iPhone

On May 30, 2021, at 11:08 AM, Tom Tunncliffe <[REDACTED]> wrote:

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.**

David,  
Do you have information you can share with me concerning the curriculum that we didn't choose when we chose Wit and Wisdom. Did those that helped select W&W score all the choices? Please share this with me if this data exist.

Respectfully,

Tom Tunncliffe  
Williamson County TN  
County Commissioner  
District 7

*"Seek first to understand then be understood."*

On May 28, 2021, at 3:41 PM, Vickie Robbins <[REDACTED]> wrote:



Tom,

Attached is what I was able to get for your meeting tonight.

Wit and Wisdom Adoption totaled \$3,745,367 for full curriculum package, WCS only paid Wit and Wisdom ( Great Minds/Tennessee Book Co) a total of \$2,264,321. The trade books could be purchased other places, and those were mostly purchased from Barnes and Noble.

In 12-13 the Wonder Curriculum Adoption all purchased from Ingram Book Co in the amount of \$1,935,830.

Please let me know if you have any other questions.

*Vickie Robbins CPA,  
Williamson County Board of Education  
1320 West Main St. Suite 202  
Franklin, TN 37064*

IMPORTANT

Cost of  
WW

[This message is From an EXTERNAL SENDER]

<Wit and Wisdom VS Wonders.xlsx>

From: David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: 5/30/2021 1:31:16 PM  
To: Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Re: Please replace Wit & Wisdom

Karen and Marianne are looking, but they have yet to find what she's referencing. This is the first time we're hearing this complaint.

DA

Sent from my iPhone

On May 30, 2021, at 1:23 PM, Jason Golden <[REDACTED]> wrote:

FYI.

From: Myka Spradlin <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Saturday, May 29, 2021 7:31 AM  
To: Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>

Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Brad Fiscus <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED];  
Candace Emerson <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>; David  
Allen <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; Eliot Mitchell <[REDACTED]>; Eric Welch <[REDACTED]>;  
[REDACTED]; Glen Casada <[REDACTED]>; Jay Galbreath <[REDACTED]>; Jennifer Aprea <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED];  
[REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; KC Haugh <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED];  
[REDACTED]; Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]; Rick Wimberly <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED];  
[REDACTED]; Sheila Cleveland <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED];  
[REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED];

Subject: Re: Please replace Wit & Wisdom

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.**

Thank you for responding.

I know in this new phonics program, for example, they referenced Dick and Jane books from the 1930's and asked "looking at this picture, who do you think is disadvantaged?" It was a picture of 3 white kids playing. I just don't get it. Why not just stick to the story?! This curriculum is making it political. Teacher friends said they all voted against this wit and wisdom and every one they talked to also voted against it and have no idea how it passed

On Thu, May 27, 2021 at 10:49 AM Jason Golden <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Thanks for your email on behalf of Moms for Liberty. We have received the same email content from different people on behalf of that group, so I wanted to make sure I responded to each of you and re-share a few items that we've discussed at our Board meetings the past few weeks.

Wit and Wisdom is our adopted English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum for grades K-5 through the State's required curriculum adoption process. For grades K-2, we included a Foundational Literacy (phonics) program in addition to Wit and Wisdom. This curriculum was reviewed and selected by teachers and a stakeholder review committee then adopted by the School Board following the review process that is in Tennessee State law and established in School Board policy. Board policies and the law that guide this process are TCA 49-6-2207 and Board Policy 4.401, Textbook

*They cannot find reference to Dick + Jane books addressed in myka spradlin's emails*



3:01:00, Nancy Garrett (District 12) suggested that a curriculum review, to include "teacher inputs, student inputs, and community inputs," should be reported on at the June board meeting. You responded, "Yes ma'am, I think that's a great idea, and they've already started that work." Furthermore, at 3:09:30, KC Haugh (District 11) suggested hearing from other counties who have also adopted Wit & Wisdom. Jay Galbreath (District 6) suggested "solicitation of feedback" at 3:18:53. We, the parents of Williamson County, would like to know what form this evaluation and feedback will take. Furthermore, we would like a seat at the table. We declare no confidence in David Allen, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, as the sole solicitor and repositor of said feedback.

In this capacity, we request your presence, and the presence of all WCS board members (cc'd) and Williamson County commissioners (cc'd), at a forum hosted by Moms for Liberty - Williamson County Chapter on 14 June 2021, 5:30 pm, or 15 June 2021, 10:00 am, at the WCS Central Office, 1320 West Main Street, or suggested venue capable of accommodating such a meeting.

In the interest of time, I request you review in advance a WCS parent testimony at the Moms for Liberty CRT101 Event (Attachment 2), minute 39:30.

This matter is central and absolutely critical to our children's education, and we insist our voices be heard outside of a one-minute time limit within a 30-minute window. We vow to be respectful of your time, as well. Please RSVP to me and/or to [REDACTED] or [REDACTED].

Respectfully,

Myka Spradlin

Williamson Co Parent - Elementary and Middle

May 26, 2021

Attachments:

1. WCS Work Session Live Stream, 13 May 2021

[https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/\[REDACTED\]](https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/[REDACTED])

2. Moms For Liberty CRT101 Live Stream, 19 May 2021

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vleR5pSUA0&t=6s>

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/1/2021 5:06:31 PM  
**To:** Bronwyn Rector <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>; Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jessica Cole <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials \*\* resend with attachments  
**Attachments:** [image2.jpeg](#), [image3.jpeg](#), [Outlook-ee32cje5.png](#)

Thanks Bronwyn. We'll be back in touch with further direction once Dana Ausbrooks has a chance to view the request through the lens of our Board policy.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wscCOda

**From:** Bronwyn Rector <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 1, 2021 3:08 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>; Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jessica Cole <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fw: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials \*\* resend with attachments

Please see the request below.

*Bronwyn Rector*  
Principal  
Crockett Elementary  
9019 Crockett Road  
Brentwood, TN 37027  
Phone: [REDACTED]



*mail from Joe Pasquale  
indicating WW is  
in violation of anti- CRT law  
attached is his  
4.403 request  
letter*

**From:** Joe Pasquale <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 1, 2021 11:20 AM  
**To:** Bronwyn Rector <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Deb Pasquale <[REDACTED]>; Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Angela Durham <[REDACTED]>; Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>; Eliot Mitchell <[REDACTED]>; Brad Fiscus <[REDACTED]>; Jennifer Aprea <[REDACTED]>; Jay Galbreath <[REDACTED]>; Sheila Cleveland <[REDACTED]>; Candace Emerson <[REDACTED]>

[Redacted] >; Rick Wimberly <[Redacted]>; Eric Welch <[Redacted]>; KC Haugh <[Redacted]>; Nancy Garrett <[Redacted]>; [Redacted]  
<[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>;  
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<[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>;  
<[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>;  
<[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>;  
<[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>;  
<[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>; [Redacted] <[Redacted]>;

**Subject:** Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials \*\* resend with attachments

WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

please see attached form 4.102p. Request for reconsideration of instructional materials.

This letter also serves to inform Wit & Wisdom is a direct violation of Tennessee Law as expressed in SB0623 which takes effect July 1, 2021- better known as Anti CRT legislation, as denoted across all major media in the US.

Regards

Joe Pasquale  
[Redacted]  
[Redacted]

Date: June 1 2021  
Bronwyn Rector, Principal  
Crockett Elementary  
[Redacted]

Dear Principal Rector,

Our child is at the age she would be attending Crockett in the Fall, and I am writing to express concern over the Great Minds Wit and Wisdom curriculum, which i had the opportunity to review last week and which was rolled out in the 2020-2021 school year. I'm sure you have heard that this curriculum has been a topic of much discussion over the past several months due to what many of us parents believe is gratuitously dark content, age inappropriateness, and racially charged instruction. As an example I request you review a WCS parent testimony at the Moms for Liberty CRT101 Event (Attachment 2), minute 39:30. Additional concerns have been shared on Instagram @Dr\_Mr.Golden.

Per Williamson County Board of Education Policy 4.403, dated 6 April 2019, I am formally requesting a "Reconsideration of Instructional Materials," to include the Wit and Wisdom curriculum, the supplemental use of Brain Pop, and the library's GALE database. I further request an exception to policy, as stated below.

4.403, if followed to the letter will not yield a timely result before the coming 2021-2022 school year. Furthermore, the Board of Education addressed the Great Minds Wit & Wisdom curriculum at their 13 May 2021 work session (Attachment 1). At minute 3:01:00, Nancy Garrett (District 12) suggested that a curriculum review, to include "teacher inputs, student inputs, and community inputs," should be reported on at the June board meeting. Superintendent Golden responded, "Yes ma'am, I think that's a great idea." Jay Galbreath (District 6) suggested "solicitation of feedback" at 3:18:53. Since 4.403 could easily exceed 30 working days, by its own admission, I request the following exception to policy.

Exception to Policy: Since multiple principals are receiving this same request and because

the issue is already up for review at the county level, it is my recommendation and my request that this issue be immediately elevated to the WCS Board of Education and Superintendent of Schools, so that multiple schools may simultaneously review the material in a timely manner so that a decision may be reached in time for the 2021-2022 school year.

I submit 15 June 2021, 10:00 am, at the auditorium in the WCS Central Office, or a WCS gymnasium, for this review to take place. Parents across the county are prepared to make a centralized presentation on this matter. This format will not exceed 90 minutes. I, and parents like me, simply wish to be heard ahead of the 17 June Board of Education work session and 21 June board meeting when the Wit and Wisdom results will be discussed.

Please respond to myself at the information above and to

or

Respectfully,

Joe Pasquale  
June 1 2021  
Williamson County Parent

Attachments:

1. WCS Work Session Live Stream, 13 May 2021  
<https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/>
2. Moms For Liberty CRT101 Live Stream, 19 May 2021  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vleR5pSUA0&t=6s>
3. Form 4.102p "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials"

Attachment 3 of 4.403 Request Letter

Williamson County Board of Education Standard Operating Procedure	
4.102p	Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials (Part of Board Policy 4.403) Page 1 of 3
<b>Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials</b>	
Author <u>Multiple Authors</u>	Paperback <u>Handover</u>
Title <u>Wit &amp; Wisdom K-5 ELA Curriculum</u>	
Publisher (if known) <u>Great Minds LLC</u>	
Request initiated by <u>See 4.403 Request Letter?</u>	
Telephone <u>for contact information</u>	
Address _____	
City _____	
Zip _____	
Complainant represents	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Himself/Herself	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (Organization) <u>Moms For Liberty</u>	
(Other group) _____	
1. Have you been able to discuss this work with the teacher or librarian who ordered it or who used it? ___ Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
2. What do you understand to be the general purpose for using this work?	
a. Provide support for a unit in the curriculum? ___ Yes ___ No	
b. Provide a learning experience for the reader in one kind of literature? ___ Yes ___ No	
c. Other <u>It is the primary ELA curriculum</u>	
3. Did the general purpose for the use of the work, as described by the teacher or librarian, seem a suitable one to you? ___ Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
If not, please explain: <u>This Curriculum is in violation of SB0623. It is - Age Inappropriate Subject Matter, Racially divisive, Emotionally charged, Dark, shameful content in violation of HB0590/SB0623</u>	

Williamson County Board of Education Standard Operating Procedure	
4.102p	Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials (Part of Board Policy 4.403) Page 3 of 3
13. What would you like your library/school to do about this work? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Do not assign/lend it to my child <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return it to the staff selection committee/department for re-evaluation. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other, please explain. <u>Remove entirely the Wit and Wisdom ELA curriculum as it is impossible to extract individual books from lesson plans.</u>	
14. In its place, what work would you recommend that would convey as valuable a picture and perspective of the subject treated? <u>Revert to previous McGraw Hill Wonders curriculum for the 2021-2022 school year while a new, more suitable curriculum can be properly vetted + reviewed</u>	
Signature <u>[Signature]</u>	Date <u>1 June 2021</u>

please pardon the ridiculous grammar & other eccentricities courtesy of iPhone spell check.



**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/2/2021 12:56:26 PM  
**To:** Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Wit and Wisdom curriculum

Yes. Thank you.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 2, 2021 12:38 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fw: Wit and Wisdom curriculum

I think you have this one from its original date.

Nancy

Nancy Garrett  
District 12, Williamson County School Board  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 30, 2021 11:48 AM  
**To:** Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Wit and Wisdom curriculum

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS** - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Nancy, below is an email that I sent to my board member on May 2. I also CC'd all board members in on it. I appreciate you forwarding it to the correct people for me.  
Enjoy your weekend,  
Danielle

Hi Angela,  
I hope this email finds you well. There's been a lot on my mind these last few weeks that I think you should be aware of. I'll apologize in advance that this will probably be long and not very eloquently written. The first, which I have spoken to you about before, is Fostering Healthy Solutions. I personally think they have no business in our school district. I've said this to you before, but we do not have a racism issue. This survey they are sending

*5/30/21  
Danielle Policari email  
violates anti-CRT*

out for our kids to complete is going to lead to nothing by problems. I sat down with my boys and asked them to take the survey, I didn't tell them who was sending it out or why, and they answered exactly as I expected them to....like two teenage boys who, at the end of a very long and off kilter year, are just done. In the comments section where it asked them what they would change, do you know what they wrote? They want to get rid of the Covid requirements (masks, quarantining, social distancing, etc.). They want "normal" back. I have a feeling a lot of the kids are going to have similar answers and the sad part is that the Board will never see them. This survey is vague and misleading. Data can be made to look like whatever you want. Do you really think FHS is going to come back and say WCS is good to go, there are no issues to deal with? Of course not, they are a business who makes money on there being racism in our schools. This school board is going down a very slippery slope letting this company into our school district. You know where that money is better spent? On reading programs for our kids. Do you know how many 6th graders I see that cannot read?!

Which leads me to my second issue....Critical Race Theory, or let's just start by talking about how a lot of our curriculum is not age appropriate. I am right now watching Brain Pop videos and I can tell you that they are horrible. Portraying BLM as peaceful protestors, talking about stopping police violence and how different groups (immigrants, LGBTQ community, etc) are just trying to "live proudly and openly". That is just in the Civil Rights Brainpop video that my 11 year old watched recently in school. Let's talk about the Jim Crowe video where there is an image of a man hung from a tree and white cops beating black people with bats. They even have videos on LGBTQ. These are all videos that young impressionable children can watch. My daughter is 11 and in 5th grade, she has access to all of these videos on regular Brainpop. And I'm just going to say it. BrainPop is extremely anti-American and anti-white. I remember in the beginning of the school year they had an "interview with Dr. Fauci". It was the real Dr. Fauci and not a cartoon character. He told the children that "parents listen to their children, so children should tell their parents to wear masks and social distance." Do you know what that is? Psychological manipulation.

Let's go into the new Wit and Wisdom ELA curriculum that was implemented in our schools this year. I can talk about 5th grade from experience. They read "The Boys War". There were extremely graphic pictures and descriptions in there. For example, underneath a picture of a dead soldier with his head hung back, his mouth wide open, and his gun sitting next to him is the caption "This unidentified Confederate soldier had his leg shattered early in the battle. He wrapped a cotton shirt around the wound and continued fighting until a bullet struck him in the heart." There is another picture of tens of dead soldiers lying in a field. The paragraph underneath talks about how the soldier named Elisha Stockwell found himself "facedown on the ground, shells exploding all around and soldiers screaming for help." I'm sorry, grown men who have seen these things have PTSD and need help to cope. Why would we traumatize our 10/11 year old with this? We talk about the Civil War in 8th grade social studies and it is not at all graphic like this.

I have heard other mothers talk about the book Walk Two Moons that their 4th grader had to read. There is a scene in this book that talks about how the girl hears her father calling the doctor to come help with the mother who is delivering a baby. The girl hears the mother tell the father that something is wrong. The mother sees the girl standing there and tells her she shouldn't watch. The girl is sitting on the floor in the hallway and hears the mother scream "just once, one long, mournful wail, and then it was quiet." When the doctor comes out carrying the baby, the girl asks to see it. "It had a pale, bluish tinge and there were marks on its neck where the umbilical chord had strangled it. "It might have been dead for hours," the doctor told my father. "I just can't say exactly". There is another part in the book that states "In my book was a picture of a tree. I drew a round head with curly hair, put a rope around the neck and attached it to that tree....I hated her that day. I didn't care how upset she was about her mother. I really hated her, and I wanted her to leave." Do you think that is appropriate for a 9/10 year old to read? I think not.

Besides not being age appropriate, I have other issues with this curriculum. I don't understand why we need to tie our social studies and ELA subjects together? There are so many wonderful age appropriate classic novels that we read in school. Why are the kids not reading those?

Another thing I'd like to talk about is the Covid vaccine survey that was sent out. WCS's responsibility is to educate the children, nothing else. If families wanted to get the covid vaccine, they have access to their own doctors. They can even make an appointment with their local pharmacy if they choose. What especially bothered me with the survey was the wording. "At this time vaccinated persons are not required to quarantine if they are fully vaccinated". If that's not psychological manipulation, I don't know what is.

Lastly, I know that the board will discuss next school year during the work session this month. I just have to say....I am done!!! These masks need to come off our kids. The mass quarantining of healthy students needs to end. I've said this to you before, but I guess it is worth repeating. This is not a year ago where we did not know what we were dealing with. We are a year in and have a lot more information. I'd like to know what has Gary Anderson been doing? We're paying him a ton of money for what? Can he tell us out of all the healthy kids that were quarantined how many actually got sick? Is he looking at other counties to see how and what they are doing? I have a friend who lives in Hickman county. Her kids are not required to wear masks to school, they have never been quarantined or gone remote. Jason Golden said that he is going by CDC guidelines. Well, they are guidelines and recommendations! The CDC does not have any actual authority, nor are they voted in by taxpayers. Their job is not educating children, the same way WCS are not health care officials. You and the Board have got to take back the power you gave Golden. If people are afraid to send their kids to school, then let them wear a mask or do online. But the people who don't want their kids in a mask and want their normal back, its time to let them make that decision for themselves. The only thing we are doing is teaching the kids to live in fear, and the Bible tells us to do the opposite. What WCS is doing to these kids is borderline child abuse and it has to stop.

These are a lot of the reasons we moved from New York to Tennessee, specifically Williamson County. When we were researching school districts in TN, Williamson County was said to be the best and most conservative school district here. Please do not let what is happening around the country happen here in Williamson County. I urge you to do your own research regarding things like Wit and Wisdom, BrainPop and even critical race theory. In NYC schools, where my niece is a 1st grade teacher, they are not allowed to teach pronouns. Let me repeat that...the teachers are not allowed to teach pronouns to 6/7 year olds. A few months ago, for "Queer and Trans day" during story time, she had to show her kids a video of a drag queen reading a book called The Hips on the Drag Queen Go Swish Swish Swish. She told me some of the kids were crying and scared because they didn't understand what they were seeing. I know it sounds far fetched, and you're thinking that it can never come here, but it will if we don't stand vigilant.

Sincerely,  
Danielle Policari

—Original Message—

From: Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>  
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Sun, May 30, 2021 11:11 am  
Subject: Re: Wit and Wisdom curriculum

Hi, Danielle: thanks for your email. Could you please provide specific references to your family's concerns? I want to make sure these are forwarded to our Curriculum team.

Thanks,  
Nancy

Nancy Garrett  
District 12, Williamson County School Board  
[REDACTED]

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

**Sent:** Saturday, May 29, 2021 6:37 PM

**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>

**Cc:** Angela Durham <[REDACTED]>; Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>; Eliot Mitchell <[REDACTED]>; Brad Fiscus <[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]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;

[REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>;

**Subject:** Wit and Wisdom curriculum

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Mr. Golden,

The 13 May 2021 Williamson County School (WCS) Board Work Session (Attachment 1) addressed, among other things, the Great Minds Wit & Wisdom curriculum, adopted by WCS on 30 March 2020. At minute 3:01:00, Nancy Garrett (District 12) suggested that a curriculum review, to include "teacher inputs, student inputs, and community inputs," should be reported on at the June board meeting. You responded, "Yes ma'am, I think that's a great idea, and they've already started that work." Furthermore, at 3:09:30, KC Haugh (District 11) suggested hearing from other counties who have also adopted Wit & Wisdom. Jay Galbreath (District 6) suggested "solicitation of feedback" at 3:18:53. We, the parents of Williamson County, would like to know what form this evaluation and feedback will take. Furthermore, we would like a seat at the table. We declare no confidence in David Allen, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, as the sole solicitor and repositor of said feedback.

In this capacity, we request your presence, and the presence of all WCS board members (cc'd) and Williamson County commissioners (cc'd), at a forum hosted by Moms for Liberty - Williamson County Chapter on 14 June 2021, 5:30 pm, or 15 June 2021, 10:00 am, at the WCS Central Office, 1320 West Main Street, or suggested venue capable of accommodating such a meeting.

In the interest of time, I request you review in advance a WCS parent testimony at the Moms for Liberty CRT101 Event (Attachment 2), minute 39:30.

This matter is central and absolutely critical to our children's education, and we insist our voices be heard outside of a one-minute time limit within a 30-minute window. We vow to be respectful of your time, as well. Please RSVP to me and/or to [REDACTED] or [REDACTED].

Respectfully,  
Danielle Policari  
Williamson County Resident

- Attachments:
1. WCS Work Session Live Stream, 13 May 2021  
[https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/\[REDACTED\]](https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/[REDACTED])
  2. Moms For Liberty CRT101 Live Stream, 19 May 2021  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vleR5pSUA0&t=6s>

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/3/2021 8:30:11 AM  
**To:** Julie Sparrow <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

Dang. Do you mind if I respond to your email including the group (or you can if you would rather) stating that so everyone knows it wasn't because of a lack of responsiveness on your part, or my part, or anyone else's....

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

*Nicole Campbell  
email re  
removing std. due  
to WW*

**From:** Julie Sparrow <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 3, 2021 8:20 AM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

No concerns or prior communication at all other than some mask exemption related things.

On Jun 3, 2021, at 7:50 AM, David Allen <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Yikes. Bureaucratic stonewalling? Interesting. Out of curiosity, did this parent raise concerns throughout the year? Did she raise a concern about BrainPop? Does she know it's been removed from the student dashboard while a team looks at content? Did she express specific concerns about a particular book or unit in Wit and Wisdom during the year? Just curious.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Julie Sparrow <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 2, 2021 7:08 PM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Laura LaChance <[REDACTED]>; Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>; Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Drew Perry <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

I believe most of you are already on this email but I wanted to be sure.



Attached is a letter expanding on the concerns as well as a brief rundown of our experiences on the above stated curriculum. Also enclosed along with the letter are the following references and 4102p forms.

1. WCS Work Session Live Stream, 13 May 2021  
<https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/██████████>
2. Moms For Liberty CRT101 Live Stream, 19 May 2021  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vleR5pSUA0&t=6s>
3. Form 4.102p "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials" - Wit & Wisdom
3. Form 4.102p "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials" - BrainPOP

This last year we have been blessed to be part of the school and are so thankful for the hard work you and the teachers put forth everyday. I hope that bringing some of this to your attention will shine a light on what "approved curriculum" our children are being exposed to. I'm sorry that you are having to deal with all this, as I would generally have thought and trusted that the approval committee would have done more due diligence.

I wish you a wonderful Summer,

Nicole Campbell



[REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED],  
[REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED],  
[REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED],  
[REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED],  
[REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED],  
[REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED],  
[REDACTED], [REDACTED], Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>, MFL-  
[REDACTED], [REDACTED]

**Subject: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom**

WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Principal Sparrow,

I want to start off by thanking you, Mr. Perry and all of [REDACTED] teachers these last 2 years. We appreciate the care and concern you have taken with her. Unfortunately, I am writing to express grave concern over the Great Minds Wit and Wisdom curriculum, as well as the supplemental tool BrainPOP. I've been following along regarding the board's response to concerns being brought up and have been severely disappointed in their lack of action. Due to their lack of concern and lack of follow-up regarding those that approved this curriculum, we have decided we will not be subjecting our 9 year old child to this and are sadly removing her from the school system. It's the LAST thing we ever wanted to do. We moved here to this very community for the schools and to settle into a neighborhood that would see our family through for decades. It's heart-breaking to have to make a decision like this due to bureaucratic stonewalling that is frankly more concerned with agendas than the children. I look forward to being able to have [REDACTED] back in the Williamson County School District and will be following these matters closely.

Attached is a letter expanding on the concerns as well as a brief rundown of our experiences on the above stated curriculum. Also enclosed along with the letter are the following references and 4102p forms.

1. WCS Work Session Live Stream, 13 May 2021  
[https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/\[REDACTED\]](https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/[REDACTED])
2. Moms For Liberty CRT101 Live Stream, 19 May 2021  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vleR5pSUA0&t=6s>
3. Form 4.102p "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials" - Wit & Wisdom
3. Form 4.102p "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials" - BrainPOP

This last year we have been blessed to be part of the school and are so thankful for the hard work you and the teachers put forth everyday. I hope that bringing some of this to your attention will shine a light on what "approved curriculum" our children are being exposed to. I'm sorry that you are having to deal with all this, as I would generally have thought and trusted that the approval committee would have done more due diligence.

I wish you a wonderful Summer,

Nicole Campbell



**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/3/2021 9:32:10 AM  
**To:** Julie Sparrow <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Laura LaChance <[REDACTED]>; Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>; Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>; Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

I touched based with Julie this morning to see what specific concerns Ms. Campbell may have had this year regarding curriculum. Julie indicated she received no communication or notification of concerns related to curriculum at all during this past year from Ms. Campbell.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

*Is this w/drawal email the only email from Nicole Campbell?*

**From:** Julie Sparrow <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 2, 2021 7:08 PM  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Laura LaChance <[REDACTED]>; Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>; Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Drew Perry <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

I believe most of you are already on this email but I wanted to be sure.

This appears to be a withdraw notification although I will have our secretary request the actual withdrawal form tomorrow.

Thank you,  
Julie

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Nicole Campbell <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** June 2, 2021 at 6:32:50 PM CDT  
**To:** Julie Sparrow <[REDACTED]>, Drew Perry <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED], Angela Durham <[REDACTED]>, Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>, Eliot Mitchell <[REDACTED]>, Brad Fiscus <[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]>, David Allen <[REDACTED]>, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]



**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/3/2021 9:26:56 AM  
**To:** Julie Sparrow <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

---

Sounds good. Thanks.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

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**From:** Julie Sparrow <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 3, 2021 8:57 AM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

Totally fine with me if you respond - I don't mind but Juli and Dana's emails made me feel like I shouldn't other than the copy/paste from Dana.

On Jun 3, 2021, at 8:30 AM, David Allen <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dang. Do you mind if I respond to your email including the group (or you can if you would rather) stating that so everyone knows it wasn't because of a lack or responsiveness on your part, or my part, or anyone else's....

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

---

**From:** Julie Sparrow <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 3, 2021 8:20 AM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

No concerns or prior communication at all other than some mask exemption related things.

On Jun 3, 2021, at 7:50 AM, David Allen <[REDACTED]> wrote:



[REDACTED], [REDACTED],  
[REDACTED], [REDACTED],  
[REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED],  
[REDACTED], Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>, [REDACTED],  
[REDACTED]

**Subject: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom**

WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Principal Sparrow,

I want to start off by thanking you, Mr. Perry and all of [REDACTED] teachers these last 2 years. We appreciate the care and concern you have taken with her. Unfortunately, I am writing to express grave concern over the Great Minds Wit and Wisdom curriculum, as well as the supplemental tool BrainPOP. I've been following along regarding the board's response to concerns being brought up and have been severely disappointed in their lack of action. Due to their lack of concern and lack of follow-up regarding those that approved this curriculum, we have decided we will not be subjecting our 9 year old child to this and are sadly removing her from the school system. It's the LAST thing we ever wanted to do. We moved here to this very community for the schools and to settle into a neighborhood that would see our family through for decades. It's heart-breaking to have to make a decision like this due to bureaucratic stonewalling that is frankly more concerned with agendas than the children. I look forward to being able to have [REDACTED] back in the Williamson County School District and will be following these matters closely.

Attached is a letter expanding on the concerns as well as a brief rundown of our experiences on the above stated curriculum. Also enclosed along with the letter are the following references and 4102p forms.

1. WCS Work Session Live Stream, 13 May 2021  
[https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/\[REDACTED\]](https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/[REDACTED])
2. Moms For Liberty CRT101 Live Stream, 19 May 2021  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vleR5pSUA0&t=6s>
3. Form 4.102p "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials" - Wit & Wisdom
3. Form 4.102p "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials" - BrainPOP

This last year we have been blessed to be part of the school and are so thankful for the hard work you and the teachers put forth everyday. I hope that bringing some of this to your attention will shine a light on what "approved curriculum" our children are being exposed to. I'm sorry that you are having to deal with all this, as I would generally have thought and trusted that the approval committee would have done more due diligence.

I wish you a wonderful Summer,

Nicole Campbell

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/10/2021 8:15:40 AM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>; Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fw: Dear Mr. Golden and Board Members... Regarding my children's education and safety in your schools

IMPORTANT

LOOK AT THIS RESPONSE

I haven't been forwarding these to you, but wanted to give you an idea what Jason, the Board and County Commission has been receiving daily. The vast majority are without specifics they can point to in the curriculum (I have shared with you every specific example I've been given). I'm estimating about half of what they receive are from community members that don't have kids in the elementary school.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

↓  
Blaming  
this on MYL

Kristin Miazga  
email re  
damage to her  
daughter's result  
of WW

**From:** Kristin Miazga <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 9, 2021 5:33 PM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>; Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>; KC Haugh <[REDACTED]>; Eric Welch <[REDACTED]>; Rick Wimberly <[REDACTED]>; Sheila Cleveland <[REDACTED]>; Candace Emerson <[REDACTED]>; Jay Galbreath <[REDACTED]>; Jennifer Aprea <[REDACTED]>; Brad Fiscus <[REDACTED]>; Angela Durham <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Dear Mr. Golden and Board Members... Regarding my children's education and safety in your schools

WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Golden and Board Members,

I am writing to inform you of my experience this year with Williamson County Schools. When we moved to TN, we were told WCS was the best place to send our children. Our first couple of years have been amazing. This year, I have seen a change in my children that has been extremely disturbing. The content of my daughter's (a junior) AP English class has been incredibly racially charged. To the point where my daughter has brought multiple assignments and reading excerpts to me questioning her value as a person.

Most notably, my 7 year old (first grader) has shown the most tragic changes. We went from a normal functioning, sweet child to one who will literally crumble at the slightest challenge and word. My daughter started coming home asking very pointed questions about who she is and if she is a bad person. She came home extremely upset. She told me "Mom, I'm white. My friend is brown. I need to apologize to him for being white because white people have done bad things to people with brown skin." This was a result of several books that were presented to the class from the Wits and Wisdom curriculum. This curriculum has destroyed my daughter's self esteem and created a world in which she is fraught with anxiety and is now in treatment for OCD caused by the constant thoughts being represented by this material. What you don't see is that these children are impressionable. They will take what you say and turn it over and over in their minds until it consumes them. It starts other conversations in their minds about themselves, their self worth, their identity and those they spend time with. My child doesn't sleep, we don't sleep. She is extremely anxious, to the point that some days she can't go to school. She has struggled making friends and feels alone. She has outbursts of extreme anger and tells us "she doesn't deserve anything because she is bad". This IS NOT the climate that we create or things that we teach our children in our home. Children her age ARE NOT equipped to emotionally work through the subjects and curriculum that are being presented. We are now having to obtain counseling to help my daughter work through these awful thoughts and feelings of self hate that border on suicidal. A 7 YEAR OLD. Let that sink in. A 7 year old should not come home and be able to describe acts of the civil war as if they had been there experiencing it. A 7 year old should not be made to feel that she had any part in the oppression of others simply because she was born with white skin.

Now moving forward, I have a special needs daughter that will be moving up to kindergarten this coming school year. She most certainly is not equipped to work through the Wits and Wisdom curriculum or the climate which is being created in your schools. If the Wits and Wisdom curriculum is allowed to stand in your schools or ANY type of CRT remains whether in name or the teaching of ideals, I will be pulling my children from your school

system. This curriculum destroys our children's innocence and lies to them about who they are and their value to this world and has NO PLACE in the classroom.

Sincerely,  
Kristin Miazga  
District 12

**From:** David Allen <[redacted]>  
**Sent:** 6/15/2021 11:58:20 AM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[redacted]>  
**Cc:** Laurette Carle <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** Re: Wit and Wisdom Adoption vs Wonder Adoption

IMPORTANT

So are they trying to lobby to county commission?

Dang, I'm surprised it's that much cheaper.

← It's his job to know the cost

DA  
 Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 15, 2021, at 11:11 AM, Jenny Lopez <[redacted]> wrote:

I wanted to share an email I sent Rachel and Vickie Robbins yesterday regarding the cost of W&W in comparison to our adoption of Wonders 7 years ago. Just wanted to make sure you are aware of what I responded.

**Jenny Lopez**  
 Director of Curriculum  
 Williamson County Schools  
 [redacted]

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

**From:** Jenny Lopez  
**Sent:** Monday, June 14, 2021 4:34 PM  
**To:** Rachel Farmer <[redacted]>  
**Cc:** Vickie Robbins <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** RE: Wit and Wisdom Adoption vs Wonder Adoption

Hi Rachel,

Below is a cost comparison of 3 elementary ELA programs that were up for adoption in TDOE Section E (ELA 2019-2020 adoption). To answer the questions below, trade books were not part of the Wonders adoption. In fact, trade books as part of an ELA series is a new methodology/practice in ELA. Hard to compare the adoption prices 7 years ago to our current one. I believe the pricing below will clarify that current prices are much higher across the board. However, it's difficult to compare across products since each publishers bundles packages differently. Let me know if there are additional questions.

6/14/21  
 email from Rachel Farmer for Tom Tunnicliffe re WW costs

See email June 16, 2020 Jenny Lopez to Dave Allen

Wit & Wisdom (Great Minds)	Amplify (CKLA)	Wonders (McGraw Hill)
~ \$205.56/ per pupil	~ \$241.56/ per pupil	~ \$269.89/ per pupil

not including books

This is not accurate for 21-22 school year. See earlier emails re issuing only a one yr. PO due to price



\$3.7 million spent on adoption / 18,000 elementary students	Complete Classroom Kit & Activity Consumable Subscription Set of 25 6 Year 3 9781683917960 \$6,038.92	Tennessee System with Big U and 6 Years K \$4,858.02, set of 18
--	---	---

*Jenny Lopez*

Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

**From:** Rachel Farmer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 14, 2021 12:21 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Vickie Robbins <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: Wit and Wisdom Adoption vs Wonder Adoption

Jenny,

One our commissioners had some follow-up questions related to the information we pulled a few weeks ago on Wit and Wisdom and Wonders previously. Please see the questions below and let us know if you have any additional information we can give Mr. Tunnicliffe.

Thanks,  
Rachel

**From:** Tom Tunnicliffe <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 14, 2021 12:16 PM  
**To:** Vickie Robbins <[REDACTED]>; Rachel Farmer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Wit and Wisdom Adoption vs Wonder Adoption

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.**

Vickie & Rachel,

In reviewing the numbers provided on the 28th I have a couple of questions.

1. How do I compare the cost of the 2 different curriculums? Were there trade books for the Wonder curriculum?
2. Is it fair to compare 3.7 million for W&W to 1.9 million for Wonder?
3. If that is right, have all curriculums increased at that rate?

Respectfully,

Tom Tunnicliffe  
Williamson County TN  
County Commissioner  
District 7

*"Seek first to understand then be understood."*

On May 28, 2021, at 3:41 PM, Vickie Robbins <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Tom,

Attached is what I was able to get for your meeting tonight.

Wit and Wisdom Adoption totaled \$3,745,367 for full curriculum package, WCS only paid Wit and Wisdom ( Great Minds/Tennessee Book Co) a total of \$2,264,321. The trade books could be purchased other places, and those were mostly purchased from Barnes and Noble.

In 12-13 the Wonder Curriculum Adoption all purchased from Ingram Book Co in the amount of \$1,935,830.

Please let me know if you have any other questions.

*Vickie Robbins CPA,  
Williamson County Board of Education  
1320 West Main St. Suite 202  
Franklin, TN 37064*

[This message is From an EXTERNAL SENDER]



I want to start off by thanking you, Mr. Perry and all of Mia's teachers these last 2 years. We appreciate the care and concern you have taken with her. Unfortunately, I am writing to express grave concern over the Great Minds Wit and Wisdom curriculum, as well as the supplemental tool BrainPOP. I've been following along regarding the board's response to concerns being brought up and have been severely disappointed in their lack of action. Due to their lack of concern and lack of follow-up regarding those that approved this curriculum, we have decided we will not be subjecting our 9 year old child to this and are sadly removing her from the school system. It's the LAST thing we ever wanted to do. We moved here to this very community for the schools and to settle into a neighborhood that would see our family through for decades. It's heart-breaking to have to make a decision like this due to bureaucratic stonewalling that is frankly more concerned with agendas than the children. I look forward to being able to have Mia back in the Williamson County School District and will be following these matters closely.

Attached is a letter expanding on the concerns as well as a brief rundown of our experiences on the above stated curriculum. Also enclosed along with the letter are the following references and 4102p forms.

1. WCS Work Session Live Stream, 13 May 2021

<https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/> [REDACTED]

2. Moms For Liberty CRT101 Live Stream, 19 May 2021

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vleR5pSUA0&t=6s>

3. Form 4.102p "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials" – Wit & Wisdom

3. Form 4.102p "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials" – BrainPOP

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I wish you a wonderful Summer,

Nicole Campbell

From: David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
 Sent: 6/17/2021 4:57:06 PM  
 To: Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
 Subject: Re: IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

Jason, teachers are provided daily lesson plans as shown below. The first two weeks in second grade focus on Greek Myths and the second two weeks focus on insects. The materials are pulled straight from our ELA adopted curriculum. Based on the email you received it seems like the teacher is following the lesson plan sequence. Today should be the last day for Greek Myths and they should be transitioning to insects on Monday.

Second Grade Lessons-at-a-Glance

Week One - Greek Myths			
Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Lesson 1A: "The Twelve Gods of Mount Olympus" (40 min.) - p.11	Lesson 2A: "Prometheus and Pandora" (40 min.) • P. 24	Lesson 3A: "Demeter and Persephone" (40 min.) - p. 36	Lesson 4A: "Arachne the Weaver" (40 min.) - p. 49
<b>Assessment - Pre-Test</b>	Lesson 2B: Extensions (20 min.)	Lesson 3B: Extensions (20 min.)	Lesson 4B: Extensions (20 min.)
60 min.	60 min.	60 min.	60 min.

Week Two - Greek Myths			
Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8
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Lesson 5B: Extensions (20 min.)	Lesson 6B: Extensions (15 min.)	Lesson 7B: Extensions (15 min.)	Lesson 8B: Extensions (15 min.)
60 min.	60 min.	60 min.	60 min.

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*Brooke Barr  
 email chain re  
 issues w/ summer school  
 curriculum for 2nd grade  
 on Greek myths  
 watching Hercules  
 descend into hell*

(20 min.)	(20 min.)	(20 min.)	(20 min.)
60 min.	60 min.	60 min.	60 min.

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Day 13	Day 14	Day 15	Day 16
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Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wscCOda

**From:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 4:06 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

Juli & Dave,

See below. I was bcc'd by this parent.

Dave, can you have your staff follow up on this to make sure the curriculum is being handled appropriately?

Juli, can you make sure someone responds appropriately and check on the report that they're showing a movie – that it was handled appropriately with notice, appropriate copyright compliance, etc.

Jason Golden  
Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Brooke Barr <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:59 PM  
**To:** Kathryn Hopfensperger <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Leslie Beasley <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

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I would like to know the exact book title/author that was read to the class. Also, can you provide the texts that my child has been assigned to read himself while at summer school? As an adult (and former educator), I can barely pronounce many of the Greek characters' names you listed in the email below, so my next question is how is this particular book (and topic) helping to increase my child's reading level?

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I look forward to the answers to my above questions. Thank you for being accommodating to my concerns.

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Sent from my iPhone

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Arachne  
Athena  
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Also, below is the movie we have been watching for about 5-10 minutes during snack time while the students eat and cool off from recess. It is on Disney Plus and it is called Hercules.

<image003.jpg>

Please let me know if you have any more questions.

Hope you have a great Thursday!

Best,  
Kathryn Hopfensperger

Kathryn Hopfensperger

2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher

<image006.png>

**From:** Brooke Barr <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 12:20 AM  
**To:** Leslie Beasley <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Kathryn Hopfensperger <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

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Please provide feedback before the start of the school day, Thursday June 17.

Thank you,

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Also, if your child has any extra supplies for this school year; crayons, colored pencils, scissors, glue sticks if they could bring those that would be wonderful.

Can't wait to meet your students in a couple of days! Have a great rest of your week!



Arrival: 8:15

Dismissal: 3:45

Bring:

- Chromebook and charger (if yours was turned in we have it here)
- Water bottle

Breakfast and Lunch are provided.

Please respond to this email to let me know how your child will be going home on Monday.

Best,

Kathryn Hopfensperger

**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/17/2021 5:15:06 PM  
**To:** Laura LaChance <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 4:57 PM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

Jason, teachers are provided daily lesson plans as shown below. The first two weeks in second grade focus on Greek Myths and the second two weeks focus on insects. The materials are pulled straight from our ELA adopted curriculum. Based on the email you received it seems like the teacher is following the lesson plan sequence. Today should be the last day for Greek Myths and they should be transitioning to insects on Monday.

### Second Grade Lessons-at-a-Glance

Week One - Greek Myths			
Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
Lesson 1A: "The Twelve Gods of Mount Olympus" (40 min.) - p.11	Lesson 2A: "Prometheus and Pandora" (40 min.) • P. 24	Lesson 3A: "Demeter and Persephone" (40 min.) - p. 36	Lesson 4A: "Arachne the Weaver" (40 min.) - p. 49
<b>Assessment - Pre-Test</b>	Lesson 2B: Extensions (20 min.)	Lesson 3B: Extensions (20 min.)	Lesson 4B: Extensions (20 min.)
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Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

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Dave, can you have your staff follow up on this to make sure the curriculum is being handled appropriately?

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Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]

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**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:59 PM  
**To:** Kathryn Hopfensperger <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Leslie Beasley <[REDACTED]>  
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<image003.jpg>

Please let me know if you have any more questions.

Hope you have a great Thursday!

Best,

Kathryn Hopfensperger

**Kathryn Hopfensperger**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher**

<image006.png>

**From:** Brooke Barr <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 12:20 AM

**To:** Leslie Beasley <[REDACTED]>

**Cc:** Kathryn Hopfensperger <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

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**From:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/17/2021 4:46:16 PM  
**To:** Laura LaChance <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

Will you please touch base with Leslie and let me know her reply?  
Thank you!

**From:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 4:06 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
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Williamson County Schools  
(615) 472-4009

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2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher

<image006.png>

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Cc: Kathryn Hopfensperger <[REDACTED]>  
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**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/18/2021 1:01:17 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 18, 2021, at 12:00 PM, Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]> wrote:

This email chain refers to summer school materials for ELA. Just want to keep you in the loop.

*Jenny Lopez*

Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

**From:** Brooke Barr <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 18, 2021 2:31 AM  
**To:** Leslie Beasley <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS** - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you Mrs. Beasley for getting me the requested information promptly and for filling in the missing blanks. I commend you for your professionalism in all our dialogue. I very much appreciate your candid honesty and apology. There is no need for forgiveness, just understanding and grace extended.

[REDACTED] loves summer school, and loves Ms. "Hop." I am thrilled about that! He is excited to see Mrs. Potts everyday (she filled in as his 2nd grade teacher due to a maternity leave). He recently saw Mrs. Stephenson at Trinity who is an absolute rock star principal to us. The staff at Oak View and now Trinity in our experience, have been exceptional.

To be clear, my concern is ONLY with the curriculum. Our family experienced some difficulties with the newly adopted Wit & Wisdom curriculum (module 3) this past school year, as we witnessed some negative corresponding effects at home. My antennae went up. When questioning our vice principal in a recent IEP meeting if W&W would be used in summer school, I was told an emphatic "no," only specific remedial teaching would be used, nothing questionable or offensive, and [REDACTED] would benefit by going. This assurance made me comfortable signing my son up for summer school. I have looked over all work samples sent home over the last two weeks, and have had zero issues, and no known references to Greek Mythology until the conversation brought up by Jesse that I have disclosed to you. When my son tells me something, I listen. Simply stated, motherly instincts direct me to advocate for the well being of my child.

I have looked into the list of characters that were read about in class. In my quick findings, none appear to be admirable, noble, or of redeemable qualities. I will read the listed books you shared from the classroom stories and hope I am proven wrong. Any future questions that come up, and/or conversations regarding this district-approved curriculum I will address directly to Ms. Lopez.

Thank you again for your time and responses.

Best,  
Brooke Barr

On Thursday, June 17, 2021, 06:10:47 PM MDT, Leslie Beasley <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Good evening Ms. Barr,

I appreciate our dialogue over the phone this morning. I will answer your additional questions below.

Mrs. Hopfensperger has been reading the Greek myths aloud to students. Students do not have a personal copy of the books. The book that she is reading from is [Greek Myths: Tell it Again! Read Aloud Anthology](#), *Listening and Learning Strand Grade 2 from Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA)*. The following stories are the ones Mrs. Hopfensperger read aloud:

- Lesson 2A: "Prometheus and Pandora"
- Lesson 3A: "Demeter and Persephone"
- Lesson 4A: "Arachne the Weaver"
- Lesson 5A: "Theseus and the Minotaur"
- Lesson 6A: "Daedalus and Icarus"
- Lesson 7A: "Hercules"
- Lesson 8A: "Other Adventures of Hercules"

Mrs. Hopfensperger has also been doing reading passages in her small groups with comprehension questions. These should be coming home in [REDACTED] backpack. Please let me know if you have not seen them, and I will locate them for you.

[REDACTED] has also been reading/listening to books on EPIC. You can find this link on his Chromebook dashboard and can see a running record of every book he has read and listened to. Students have not been assigned texts to read, the books are personal choice.

As we discussed this morning, today was the last day of Greek Myths, and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will be moving on to Insects for the remaining two weeks.

In the event that I did not address all of your questions fully, I have copied the Director of Curriculum, Jenny Lopez.

I apologize profusely for the viewing of the "Hercules" movie. This was not part of the curriculum provided and was a misstep that I take full responsibility for. Ms. Hop thought that viewing snippets of "Hercules" would better help students understand the curriculum. There will not be any more movies shown.

Please let me know how I can further assist.

---

**From:** Brooke Barr <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:59 PM  
**To:** Kathryn Hopfensperger <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Leslie Beasley <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

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Brooke Barr

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 17, 2021, at 8:24 AM, Kathryn Hopfensperger <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Mrs. Barr,

I talked Mrs. Beasley this morning about the conversation you both had. Like she told you this morning this is our last day of Greek myths.

Below are the characters we have read about the last two weeks:

Hercules  
Daedalus  
Icarus  
Arachne  
Athena  
Demeter  
Persephone  
Pandora

Zeus

Also, below is the movie we have been watching for about 5-10 minutes during snack time while the students eat and cool off from recess. It is on Disney Plus and it is called Hercules.

<image003.jpg>

Please let me know if you have any more questions.

Hope you have a great Thursday!

Best,  
Kathryn Hopfensperger

**Kathryn Hopfensperger**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher**

<image006.png>

**From:** Brooke Barr <[REDACTED]>

**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 12:20 AM

**To:** Leslie Beasley <[REDACTED]>

**Cc:** Kathryn Hopfensperger <[REDACTED]>

**Subject:** IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hello,

My second grade son has told me about a book read in Ms. Hopfensperger's class this week with the character "Zeus" (god of gods) and Cornelius? (half man/animal?) and another creature with 3 heads...? as well as a movie shown during snack times about the "Underworld?"

Please clarify by providing information on what specific books and movies have been read or shown during summer school over the last two weeks.

Due to my recent concerns, my husband and I are requesting an immediate response on what other books and movies will be taught for the remainder of summer school.

Please provide feedback before the start of the school day, Thursday June 17.

Thank you,

Brooke Barr

On Thursday, June 3, 2021, 06:35:30 PM MDT, Leslie Beasley <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Parents,

My name is Kathryn Hopfensperger and I will be your child's summer school teacher for the next 4 weeks!

I have been teaching in the county for four years and have been teaching second grade at Clovercroft Elementary for the last four years as well. I love teaching and love getting to work with young minds.



I am looking forward to getting to know your child during these next couple of weeks. If there is anything you need please feel free to let me know. I'd be happy to help anyway I can!

Also, if your child has any extra supplies for this school year; crayons, colored pencils, scissors, glue sticks if they could bring those that would be wonderful.

Can't wait to meet your students in a couple of days! Have a great rest of your week!

Arrival: 8:15

Dismissal: 3:45

Bring:

- Chromebook and charger (if yours was turned in we have it here)
- Water bottle

Breakfast and Lunch are provided.

Please respond to ~~this email to let me know how your child will be going home on Monday.~~

Best,

Kathryn Hopfensperger

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/18/2021 12:05:57 PM  
**To:** Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

Yes. There are multiple videos she could be referring too...

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 18, 2021, at 1:00 PM, Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Julie did ask for additional information from this parent with the form email we provided to her. The parent responded to Julie with specific information about Wit and Wisdom, but I can't find any additional information the parent supplied to Julie about the BrainPop videos. Is there more than one video that the parent could be describing? (I am guessing the answer is yes, but I double checking.)

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**Subject:** Fwd: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

I'm not sure that I can identify the specific videos that she wants reviewed? Is the most logical next step to have the principal ask her for the specific videos?

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Sent from my iPhone

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**Date:** June 2, 2021 at 8:08:37 PM EDT  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Laura LaChance <[REDACTED]>, Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>, Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>, David Allen <[REDACTED]>, Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>, Drew Perry <[REDACTED]>  
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**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/24/2021 12:12:10 PM  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>; Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>; Marianne Gilbert <[REDACTED]>; Karen Wight <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Wit and Wisdom thoughts  
**Attachments:** Outlook-of0krleo.jpg

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** June 24, 2021 at 12:10:13 PM CDT  
**To:** Madison Economos <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Chad Walker <[REDACTED]>, Daniel Foshee <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Wit and Wisdom thoughts

Thank you Madison. This feedback is really helpful! I appreciate you taking the time to share.

Dave

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On Jun 24, 2021, at 9:23 AM, Madison Economos <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Good afternoon Mr. Allen,

My name is Madison Economos, and I am a second grade teacher at Jordan Elementary School. I had a conversation with Mr. Walker, principal at Jordan Elementary, at the end of the school year about Wit and Wisdom. He suggested that I pass along some of my thoughts to you. I hope this email finds you well and helps with much of the Wit and Wisdom discussion happening in the district currently.

I will be honest with you, I did not vote for Wit and Wisdom when we initially were selecting a new program to adopt. As someone who has a majority of teaching experience in K-2, I was worried about the program for these young minds. Not necessarily the content, but its structure and format.

With that being said, I am fortunate enough to work on a team that felt it was in our best interest to not only teach the program with fidelity, but to do our

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IMO*

best to discuss, interpret and dissect the lessons. We knew that the more thorough we were with this process would only result in better instruction with a new program. Over the course of the year, I began to see so many positives in this program. While no program is perfect or contains everything we need to teach, I felt as though our students grew in so many ways.

The questioning is rigorous. The content is rich. The focus on writing motivated my students to want to write every day! I have never had a class that asked me every day "are we writing a paragraph today?" (And they would be upset if we were not!) I watched my class go from struggling to write a topic sentence to becoming confident authors over the course of one year.

I polled my class at the end of the year to ask about their favorite module, their favorite book, etc. The majority of my students not only said Module 3, but also chose books from that module (Civil Rights Heroes). Another fan favorite was *The Buffalo Are Back* from Module 2 (The American West).

My class went remote this past year during module 3. On one of these days, we were scheduled for a Socratic Seminar. I almost changed the plan for the day, as I was not only worried about how a Socratic Seminar would run on zoom, but I was also worried about the content being listened to by families while students were at home.

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Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can clarify anything further. I appreciate your time and hope that this information is helpful.

Have a wonderful day,

*Miss Madison Economos, M.Ed*  
Second Grade Teacher  
Jordan Elementary School  
9714 Split Log Road  
Brentwood, TN 37027

<Outlook-ofokrleo.jpg>

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/18/2021 1:01:17 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 18, 2021, at 12:00 PM, Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]> wrote:

This email chain refers to summer school materials for ELA. Just want to keep you in the loop.

*Jenny Lopez*  
Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

**From:** Brooke Barr <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 18, 2021 2:31 AM  
**To:** Leslie Beasley <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.**

Thank you Mrs. Beasley for getting me the requested information promptly and for filling in the missing blanks. I commend you for your professionalism in all our dialogue. I very much appreciate your candid honesty and apology. There is no need for forgiveness, just understanding and grace extended.

[REDACTED] loves summer school, and loves Ms. "Hop." I am thrilled about that! He is excited to see Mrs. Potts everyday (she filled in as his 2nd grade teacher due to a maternity leave). He recently saw Mrs. Stephenson at Trinity who is an absolute rock star principal to us. The staff at Oak View and now Trinity in our experience, have been exceptional.

To be clear, my concern is ONLY with the curriculum. Our family experienced some difficulties with the newly adopted Wit & Wisdom curriculum (module 3) this past school year, as we witnessed some negative corresponding effects at home. My antennae went up. When questioning our vice principal in a recent IEP meeting if W&W would be used in summer school, I was told an emphatic "no," only specific remedial teaching would be used, nothing questionable or offensive, and [REDACTED] would benefit by going. This assurance made me comfortable signing my son up for summer school. I have looked over all work samples sent home over the last two weeks, and have had zero issues, and no known references to Greek Mythology until the conversation brought up by Jesse that I have disclosed to you. When my son tells me something, I listen. Simply stated, motherly instincts direct me to advocate for the well being of my child.

I have looked into the list of characters that were read about in class. In my quick findings, none appear to be admirable, noble, or of redeemable qualities. I will read the listed books you shared from the classroom stories and hope I am proven wrong. Any future questions that come up, and/or conversations regarding this district-approved curriculum I will address directly to Ms. Lopez.

*Brooke Barr  
- now states her  
issues w/ W&W*

Thank you again for your time and responses.

Best,  
Brooke Barr

On Thursday, June 17, 2021, 06:10:47 PM MDT, Leslie Beasley <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Good evening Ms. Barr,

I appreciate our dialogue over the phone this morning. I will answer your additional questions below.

Mrs. Hopfensperger has been reading the Greek myths aloud to students. Students do not have a personal copy of the books. The book that she is reading from is Greek Myths: Tell it Again! Read Aloud Anthology. Listening and Learning Strand Grade 2 from Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA). The following stories are the ones Mrs. Hopfensperger read aloud:

- Lesson 2A: "Prometheus and Pandora"
- Lesson 3A: "Demeter and Persephone"
- Lesson 4A: "Arachne the Weaver"
- Lesson 5A: "Theseus and the Minotaur"
- Lesson 6A: "Daedalus and Icarus"
- Lesson 7A: "Hercules"
- Lesson 8A: "Other Adventures of Hercules"

Mrs. Hopfensperger has also been doing reading passages in her small groups with comprehension questions. These should be coming home in [REDACTED] backpack. Please let me know if you have not seen them, and I will locate them for you.

[REDACTED] has also been reading/listening to books on EPIC. You can find this link on his Chromebook dashboard and can see a running record of every book he has read and listened to. Students have not been assigned texts to read, the books are personal choice.

As we discussed this morning, today was the last day of Greek Myths, and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade will be moving on to Insects for the remaining two weeks.

In the event that I did not address all of your questions fully, I have copied the Director of Curriculum, Jenny Lopez.

I apologize profusely for the viewing of the "Hercules" movie. This was not part of the curriculum provided and was a misstep that I take full responsibility for. Ms. Hop thought that viewing snippets of "Hercules" would better help students understand the curriculum. There will not be any more movies shown.

Please let me know how I can further assist.

---

**From:** Brooke Barr <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2021 3:59 PM  
**To:** Kathryn Hopfensperger <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Leslie Beasley <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: IMMEDIATE RESPONSE REQUESTED

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Thank you for providing this information. I also appreciate Mrs. Beasley reaching out to me by phone this morning.

I would like to know the exact book title/author that was read to the class. Also, can you provide the texts that my child has been assigned to read himself while at summer school? As an adult (and former educator), I can barely pronounce many of the Greek characters' names you listed in the email below, so my next question is how is this particular book (and topic) helping to increase my child's reading level?

I am a credentialed elementary school teacher in the state of California, where I taught grades 2, 3, & 4 for 12 years. Greek mythology is covered there in grade 6, and as a subtopic to the state standard "Ancient Greek & Roman Civilizations." I am troubled that this curriculum was deemed appropriate for 7 & 8 year old children by WCS, and that two whole weeks have been spent on it with struggling 2nd grade readers who have zero background knowledge or context.

I am familiar with the Disney movie "Hercules" shown during snack time. I do not allow many Disney movies to be viewed in our home, particularly those with demonic themes such as this one, in reference to "the underworld."

Furthermore, this topic is in direct opposition to our family's values and religious beliefs. It would have been prudent to provide all parents with a consent form before proceeding.

Please understand that I am not laying blame at your feet. I have worn teachers shoes and know they can be heavy at times to walk in. My disappointment lies with the district's upper echelon who are making potentially damaging decisions for children. The ingredients in these myths are ripe for nightmares at this age. We will be having more discussions at home to monitor any possible harm done. I will be sharing these thoughts with the District Office.

I look forward to the answers to my above questions. Thank you for being accommodating to my concerns.

Brooke Barr

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<image003.jpg>

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**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher**

<image006.png>

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**Cc:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

Yes. There are multiple videos she could be referring too...

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**Subject:** Fwd: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

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**Cc:** Laura LaChance <[REDACTED]>, Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>, Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>, David Allen <[REDACTED]>, Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>, Drew Perry <[REDACTED]>  
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IMPORTANT  
↓



this and are sadly removing her from the school system. It's the LAST thing we ever wanted to do. We moved here to this very community for the schools and to settle into a neighborhood that would see our family through for decades. It's heart-breaking to have to make a decision like this due to bureaucratic stonewalling that is frankly more concerned with agendas than the children. I look forward to being able to have Mia back in the Williamson County School District and will be following these matters closely.

Attached is a letter expanding on the concerns as well as a brief rundown of our experiences on the above stated curriculum. Also enclosed along with the letter are the following references and 4102p forms.

1. WCS Work Session Live Stream, 13 May 2021  
<https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/██████████>
2. Moms For Liberty CRT101 Live Stream, 19 May 2021  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vleR5pSUA0&t=6s>
3. Form 4.102p "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials" - Wit & Wisdom
3. Form 4.102p "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials" - BrainPOP

This last year we have been blessed to be part of the school and are so thankful for the hard work you and the teachers put forth everyday. I hope that bringing some of this to your attention will shine a light on what "approved curriculum" our children are being exposed to. I'm sorry that you are having to deal with all this, as I would generally have thought and trusted that the approval committee would have done more due diligence.

I wish you a wonderful Summer,

Nicole Campbell

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/18/2021 9:14:42 AM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

**Attachments:** [Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials.pdf](#)

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**Subject:** Fwd: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

I believe most of you are already on this email but I wanted to be sure.

This appears to be a withdraw notification although I will have our secretary request the actual withdrawal form tomorrow.

Thank you,  
Julie

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Nicole Campbell <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** June 2, 2021 at 6:32:50 PM CDT  
**To:** Julie Sparrow <[REDACTED]>, Drew Perry <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED], Angela Durham <[REDACTED]>, Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>, Eliot Mitchell <[REDACTED]>, Brad Fiscus <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Aprea <[REDACTED]>, Jay Galbreath <[REDACTED]>, Sheila Cleveland <[REDACTED]>, Candace Emerson <[REDACTED]>, Rick Wimberly <[REDACTED]>, Eric Welch <[REDACTED]>, KC Haugh



Nicole Campbell

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/21/2021 2:59:21 PM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Wit and Wisdom Adoption vs Wonder Adoption

I am good with this being sent.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2021 2:56 PM  
**To:** Nancy Garrett <[REDACTED]>; Rachel Farmer <[REDACTED]>; David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Carol Birdsong <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: Wit and Wisdom Adoption vs Wonder Adoption

Everyone, see below. Jay followed up today asking for contracts on ELA adoption, but the purchasing process is more about invoices and what's already been paid. Are you OK with my sending this to the Board?

Board Members,

Jay Galbreath asked about the cost of Wit and Wisdom compared to Wonders. Rachel forwarded me this information below from her office and Dr. Allen's office.

Jason Golden  
Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]

- 2019-2020 Wit and Wisdom Adoption totaled \$3,745,367 for full curriculum package, WCS paid Wit and Wisdom ( Great Minds/Tennessee Book Co) a total of \$2,264,321. The trade books could be purchased other places, and those were mostly purchased from Barnes and Noble. Rachel's office has these invoices.
- In 12-13, the Wonder Curriculum Adoption was purchased from Ingram Book Co in the amount of \$1,935,830.
- Below is an approximate per pupil cost comparison of 3 elementary ELA programs that were up for adoption in 2019-2020. This is approximate since we did not fully price anything through direct conversations with companies other than Wit and Wisdom during our purchase process.

Wit & Wisdom (Great Minds)	Amplify (CKLA)	Wonders (McGraw Hill)
~ \$205.56/ per pupil	~ \$241.56/ per pupil	~ \$269.89/ per pupil
~\$3.7 million spent on adoption / 18,000 elementary students	Complete Classroom Kit & Activity Consumable Subscription Set of 25 6 Year 3 9781683917960 \$6,038.92;	Tennessee System with Big U and 6 Years K \$4,858.02, set of 18 ~\$4.8 million



~\$4.3 million

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**Sent:** 6/24/2021 12:10:12 PM  
**To:** Madison Economos <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Chad Walker <[REDACTED]>; DANIEL FOSHEE <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Re: Wit and Wisdom thoughts

**Attachments:** [Outlook-of0krleo.jpg](#)

---

Thank you Madison. This feedback is really helpful! I appreciate you taking the time to share.

Dave

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 24, 2021, at 9:23 AM, Madison Economos <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Good afternoon Mr. Allen,

My name is Madison Economos, and I am a second grade teacher at Jordan Elementary School. I had a conversation with Mr. Walker, principal at Jordan Elementary, at the end of the school year about Wit and Wisdom. He suggested that I pass along some of my thoughts to you. I hope this email finds you well and helps with much of the Wit and Wisdom discussion happening in the district currently.

I will be honest with you, I did not vote for Wit and Wisdom when we initially were selecting a new program to adopt. As someone who has a majority of teaching experience in K-2, I was worried about the program for these young minds. Not necessarily the content, but its structure and format.

With that being said, I am fortunate enough to work on a team that felt it was in our best interest to not only teach the program with fidelity, but to do our best to discuss, interpret and dissect the lessons. We knew that the more thorough we were with this process would only result in better instruction with a new program. Over the course of the year, I began to see so many positives in this program. While no program is perfect or contains everything we need to teach, I felt as though our students grew in so many ways.

The questioning in rigorous. The content is rich. The focus on writing motivated my students to want to write every day! I have never had a class that asked me every day "are we writing a paragraph today?" (And they would be upset if we were not!) I watched my class go from struggling to write a topic sentence to becoming confident authors over the course of one year.

I polled my class at the end of the year to ask about their favorite module, their favorite book, etc. The majority of my students not only said Module 3, but also chose books from that module (Civil Rights Heroes). Another fan favorite was *The Buffalo Are Back* from Module 2 (The American West).

My class went remote this past year during module 3. On one of these days, we were scheduled for a Socratic Seminar. I almost changed the plan for the day, as I was


not only worried about how a Socratic Seminar would run on zoom, but I was also worried about the content being listened to by families while students were at home.

All I can say is - I am so glad I went through with it. My second graders had some of the most meaningful conversations I have ever heard from a group of seven and eight year olds. They felt strongly about what they were learning and had so much value to share. When students genuinely care about the topic they are learning, they become emotionally invested and emersed in the content. That is exactly what happened during module 3. I also felt as though I was truly teaching something of importance. The insightful and thought-provoking conversations that took place during this module cannot be replaced.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can clarify anything further. I appreciate your time and hope that this information is helpful.

Have a wonderful day,

*Miss Madison Economos, M.Ed*  
Second Grade Teacher  
Jordan Elementary School  
9714 Split Log Road  
Brentwood, TN 37027



<Outlook-ofokrleo.jpg>

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/24/2021 12:12:01 PM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Wit and Wisdom thoughts

**Attachments:** Outlook-of0krleo.jpg

---

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Madison Economos <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** June 24, 2021 at 9:23:16 AM CDT  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Chad Walker <[REDACTED]>, Daniel Foshee <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Wit and Wisdom thoughts

Good afternoon Mr. Allen,

My name is Madison Economos, and I am a second grade teacher at Jordan Elementary School. I had a conversation with Mr. Walker, principal at Jordan Elementary, at the end of the school year about Wit and Wisdom. He suggested that I pass along some of my thoughts to you. I hope this email finds you well and helps with much of the Wit and Wisdom discussion happening in the district currently.

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Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can clarify anything further. I appreciate your time and hope that this information is helpful.

Have a wonderful day,

*Miss Madison Economos, M.Ed*  
Second Grade Teacher  
Jordan Elementary School  
9714 Split Log Road  
Brentwood, TN 37027

*World Class*  *Every Class*

*Jordan Elementary School, Est. 2018*

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/18/2021 9:16:55 AM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

**Attachments:** [Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials.pdf](#)

I'm not sure that I can identify the specific videos that she wants reviewed? Is the most logical next step to have the principal ask her for the specific videos?

Dave

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Julie Sparrow <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** June 2, 2021 at 8:08:37 PM EDT  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Laura LaChance <[REDACTED]>, Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>, Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>, David Allen <[REDACTED]>, Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>, Drew Perry <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

*Nicole Campbell email  
has withdrawal*

I believe most of you are already on this email but I wanted to be sure.

This appears to be a withdraw notification although I will have our secretary request the actual withdrawal form tomorrow.

Thank you,  
Julie

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Nicole Campbell <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** June 2, 2021 at 6:32:50 PM CDT  
**To:** Julie Sparrow <[REDACTED]>, Drew Perry <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED], Angela Durham <[REDACTED]>, Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>, Eliot Mitchell <[REDACTED]>, Brad Fiscus <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Aprea <[REDACTED]>, Jay Galbreath <[REDACTED]>, Sheila Cleveland <[REDACTED]>, Candace Emerson <[REDACTED]>, Rick Wimberly <[REDACTED]>, Eric Welch <[REDACTED]>, KC Haugh





Nicole Campbell



this and are sadly removing her from the school system. It's the LAST thing we ever wanted to do. We moved here to this very community for the schools and to settle into a neighborhood that would see our family through for decades. It's heart-breaking to have to make a decision like this due to bureaucratic stonewalling that is frankly more concerned with agendas than the children. I look forward to being able to have Mia back in the Williamson County School District and will be following these matters closely.

Attached is a letter expanding on the concerns as well as a brief rundown of our experiences on the above stated curriculum. Also enclosed along with the letter are the following references and 4102p forms.

1. WCS Work Session Live Stream, 13 May 2021  
<https://livestream.com/accounts/5076979/events/9664074/videos/██████████>
2. Moms For Liberty CRT101 Live Stream, 19 May 2021  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vleR5pSUA0&t=6s>
3. Form 4.102p "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials" - Wit & Wisdom
3. Form 4.102p "Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials" - BrainPOP

This last year we have been blessed to be part of the school and are so thankful for the hard work you and the teachers put forth everyday. I hope that bringing some of this to your attention will shine a light on what "approved curriculum" our children are being exposed to. I'm sorry that you are having to deal with all this, as I would generally have thought and trusted that the approval committee would have done more due diligence.

I wish you a wonderful Summer,

Nicole Campbell

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/18/2021 9:14:42 AM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>; Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

**Attachments:** [Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials.pdf](#)

I'm not sure that I can identify the specific videos that she wants reviewed? Is the most logical next step to have the principal ask her for the specific videos?

Dave

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Julie Sparrow <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** June 2, 2021 at 8:08:37 PM EDT  
**To:** Juli Oyer <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** Laura LaChance <[REDACTED]>, Brent Oakley <[REDACTED]>, Dana Ausbrooks <[REDACTED]>, David Allen <[REDACTED]>, Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>, Drew Perry <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials - BrainPOP / Wit & Wisdom

I believe most of you are already on this email but I wanted to be sure.

This appears to be a withdraw notification although I will have our secretary request the actual withdrawal form tomorrow.

Thank you,  
Julie

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Nicole Campbell <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** June 2, 2021 at 6:32:50 PM CDT  
**To:** Julie Sparrow <[REDACTED]>, Drew Perry <[REDACTED]>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED], Angela Durham <[REDACTED]>, Daniel Cash <[REDACTED]>, Eliot Mitchell <[REDACTED]>, Brad Fiscus <[REDACTED]>, Jennifer Aprea <[REDACTED]>, Jay Galbreath <[REDACTED]>, Sheila Cleveland <[REDACTED]>, Candace Emerson <[REDACTED]>, Rick Wimberly <[REDACTED]>, Eric Welch <[REDACTED]>, KC Haugh



Nicole Campbell

IMPORTANT  
are they looking into Edgenuity? Why?

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/28/2021 4:23:35 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fw: Law Conference  
**Attachments:** [image008.gif](#), [image009.png](#), [image010.png](#), [image011.jpg](#), [image012.jpg](#), [image002.png](#), [TN Textbook and Instructional Materials Waiver Requests\\_062821.docx](#), [TN Courses Gap Analysis.xlsx](#), [Edgenuity Efficacy.pdf](#)

As of right now we don't need this, but sending your way in case we change our minds.

Dave Allen Ed.D  
Assistant Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
Twitter: @wcsCOda

**From:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 28, 2021 3:55 PM  
**To:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>; Leigh Webb <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: Law Conference

FYI.  
  
Jason Golden  
Superintendent  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Nancy Smith <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 28, 2021 3:24 PM  
**To:** Dr. Cathy Beck <[REDACTED]>; Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Courtney Bennett, Ed.D. <[REDACTED]>; Amy Clemons <[REDACTED]>; Robbie Faulkner <[REDACTED]>; Collins, Trevor <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]; Allison Fisher <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Amber MacRobbie <[REDACTED]>; Holly Kirby <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: Law Conference  
**Importance:** High

**WARNING: THIS EMAIL DID NOT ORIGINATE FROM WCS - Do NOT reply, click links, or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.**

The attached word document includes verbiage to support you to complete the virtual school curriculum waiver. We have highlighted the questions that we could provide supporting verbiage for; the rest should be completed by the District.

The attached excel is a gap analysis that lists each standard not met in the TN-specific courses. If a course is not listed on this document, it is because the course has 100% alignment. Please let me know if you need this analysis in a different format.

Finally, the attached PDF can be submitted for the "optional" piece of the waiver: "(Optional) If available, you may submit a third-party review, completed by a reviewer or review organization, of all proposed materials, and/or other evidence of the quality of the materials, such as descriptions of the student and teacher resources included as part of the materials."



Please let us know if these meet your needs and/or if there is anything else we can do to support with the waiver application. Please also feel free to pass this along to colleagues that may have reached out for help.

Thank you,  
Nancy Smith

 Nancy Smith | Account Executive, TN  
✉ [redacted] | 📞 [redacted] | Edgenuity®  
<https://www.edgenuity.com/states/tennessee/>  
   LearnZillion  Odysseyware

---

Erin Langan  
*State Approvals Manager*  
TEL [redacted]  
EMAIL [redacted]



[edgenuity.com](https://www.edgenuity.com)

**From:** Nancy Smith <[redacted]>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 25, 2021 8:21 AM  
**To:** Dr. Cathy Beck <[redacted]>  
**Cc:** Amber MacRobbie <[redacted]>; Lynette McVay <[redacted]>  
**Subject:** RE: Law Conference

Dr. Beck,

Thanks for the information. I just got off the phone with our course development and approvals team, and they are working on gathering the information for the responses; the person who can do the gap analysis is out but, we should have something for you by Monday. I apologize for the delay. I know this is hugely frustrating for everyone with such short notice.

Nancy

 Nancy Smith | Account Executive, TN  
✉ [redacted] | 📞 [redacted] | Edgenuity®  
<https://www.edgenuity.com/states/tennessee/>  
   LearnZillion  Odysseyware

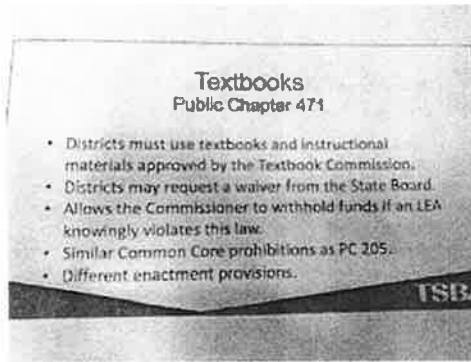
**From:** Dr. Cathy Beck <[redacted]>

Sent: Friday, June 25, 2021 10:32 AM

To: Nancy Smith <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Law Conference

I'm at a law conference. Since Edgenuity is not on the approved list we cannot use it without an approved waiver. I'm sitting with two State Board members and I've been explaining to them how valuable Edgenuity is. Without their approval none of us in TN will be able to use Edgenuity for anything. Help! I need the gap documentation ASAP please. Cathy



Sent from my iPhone

**From:** David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** 6/25/2021 12:25:53 PM  
**To:** Jason Golden <[REDACTED]>; Carol Birdsong <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Great Minds

**Attachments:** image001.png

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** June 25, 2021 at 12:21:17 PM CDT  
**To:** Laurette Carle <[REDACTED]>, David Allen <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** FW: Great Minds

Below is a statement that was released by Great Minds in response to the criticism they are receiving about their materials.

*Jenny Lopez*  
Director of Curriculum  
Williamson County Schools  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

*Williamson County Schools will become a district recognized nationally for students who excel in academics, the arts, and athletics.*

**From:** Wendy Zuber <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Friday, June 25, 2021 12:16 PM  
**To:** Jenny Lopez <[REDACTED]>  
**Subject:** Great Minds



At Great Minds, we provide opportunities for young Americans to deeply study history, the arts, and science. The award-winning texts selected for *Wit & Wisdom* are written by great writers, orators, artists, and figures of historical, literary, artistic, and scientific significance. From Kindergarten to Grade 8, students explore historical topics paired with rich content in the arts and sciences. By exploring events in our nation's past, students examine what it means to live out the nation's creed of "liberty and justice for all" and to consider America's unique place in the world. By exploring works of art and texts about scientific events, students examine what it means to question, examine, write, create, and think. We curate high-quality texts and tasks that build knowledge of the United States and of the world.

WENDY ZUBER  
Regional Solutions Manager  
[REDACTED] | greatminds.org

*IMPORTANT*  
*the June - the 20-21*  
*sch. year is over & great*  
*minds is again releasing*  
*a statement*

*Great minds is receiving criticism & is releasing a statement!*



every child  
is capable of  
greatness.

*Due to shipping delays that are spanning across the country, please confirm and submit your purchase order as soon as possible if you plan to partner with Great Minds for the 21-22 school year. Our goal was to ship materials as quickly as possible in spite of these delays.*

*Reviewing curriculum? Ask me how to get samples of [Eureka Math](#), [Wit & Wisdom](#), [PhD Science](#) or [Geodes](#) for your curricula reviews!*