From: Director Area 2 Rob MacDermid on behalf of Director Area 2 Rob MacDermid <director2@ckschools.org>
To: Eli Oldfield
Cc: Bruce Richards - Director 1; DavidB@ckschools.org; Erin Prince; Jeni Zapatka; amya@ckschools.org; dougn@ckschools.org; jeanneb@ckschools.org; katherinekiyoko@gmail.com
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: [EXTERNAL] CKSD Book Removal- Urgent Action Requested
Date: Thursday, October 28, 2021 1:26:41 PM

Thank you, Eli!

On Thu, Oct 28, 2021 at 13:19 Eli Oldfield <eli@qyouthresources.org> wrote:

> Hello Director MacDermid,
>
> There is already a committee process in place to review Library Media complaints, as I outlined in my original email. The issue is not about a lack of process. The already established process requires that the complainant fill out a Citizen's Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials , and that the administration assemble a Library Materials Review Committee (L.M.R.C.) to thoroughly review the material and make a formal report based on their findings. We were informed of this existing process by Director Zapatka when we inquired as to CKSD's policies regarding book removal.
>
> The issue is that the administration is making a deliberate choice to bypass an already established CKSD process. **That the administration is choosing to ignore their own processes and act unilaterally to remove LGBTQ-related materials is discriminatory.** The existing process must be initiated for *Gender Queer: A Memior* and any future complaints that you may receive.
>
> **Please view section E of CKSD's already existing policies, that I would hope the directors and administration would already be aware of:**
> https://p9cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_11091/File/Policies%20and%20Procedures/2000/2021P.pdf
>
> Best,
> Eli
>
>
> On Thu, Oct 28, 2021 at 1:03 PM Director Area 2 Rob MacDermid <director2@ckschools.org> wrote:
>
>> Erin,
>>
>> I am confident that you have thought of this. I would support a standing committee that would review questionable material and make recommendations to the CKSD on these issues. This standing committee should include a broad cross section of community members.
>>
>> Thank you,
>> Rob
>>
>> On Thu, Oct 28, 2021 at 12:41 Eli Oldfield <eli@qyouthresources.org> wrote:
>>
>>> CKSD Board Members and Superintendent Prince,
>>>
>>> QYR understands that CKSD is currently working to address our specific concerns about the district's choices and subsequent discriminatory anti-LGBTQ policy following the removal of the "Love Has No Gender" poster from a Cougar Valley classroom. We appreciate you taking the time to do this.
>>>
>>> Unfortunately, we are contacting you about an additionally urgent concern that reflects the same anti-LGBTQ+ discrimination we are hopeful you will act to correct.
>>>
>>> **This week, we learned that Superintendent Prince removed the book *"Gender Queer: A Memoir"* from Olympic High School's library without following CKSD's established process for a challenge of library media.**
>>>
>>> It is our understanding that the complainant was not asked to fill out a Citizen's Request for Reconsideration of Instructional Materials. Further, the book was removed without following the additional procedures when library media is challenged. These include several formal steps for documenting the complaint and assembling the Library Materials Review Committee. The LMRC is to follow an established set of procedures that results in a formal decision report. In the event that anyone reading this email is unfamiliar with this process, you can find it under section E of this document.
>>>
>>> **Superintendent Prince's removal of *Gender Queer: A Memoir* without following CKSD's process for challenged library materials is a discriminatory action.** When materials reflecting one particular protected class are repeatedly removed without following any formal process, that class is being targeted. This reflects the concerns we have repeatedly shared with you-- until it is addressed and reversed, CKSD continues to unfairly target LGBTQ+ materials without following formal process. **This is a violation of your LGBTQ+ students, staff, and families civil rights.**

We are hopeful CKSD will take urgent action to address and acknowledge this discrimination. CKSD must immediately initiate your formal process for reviewing library media complaints for *Gender Queer: A Memoir*, and any additional library media complaints that you may receive.

Please respond to Q Youth Resources regarding this matter, in addition to the other concerns of anti-LGBTQ discrimination at CKSD that we have repeatedly brought forward.

Best,
Eli Oldfield
--

Eli Oldfield
Board Chair
Q Youth Resources
eli@qyouthresources.org
(903)253-6788