



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

Ad Hoc Challenge Materials Committee Meeting

March 2, 2022

11:30 AM

Curriculum Resource Room

AGENDA

- Review of Challenge to Instructional and/or Media Materials Process
- Challenged Materials
 - Drama
 - Brave
- Good of the Order

BOARD MEMBERS: DEBBIE JORDAN, CHAIR, DISTRICT 4 | MARY FISCHER, VICE CHAIR, DISTRICT 1

MELISA W. GIOVANNELLI, DISTRICT 2 | CHRIS N. PATRICCA, DISTRICT 3 | GWYNETTA S. GITTENS, DISTRICT 5 | BETSY VAUGHN, DISTRICT 6
CATHLEEN O'DANIEL MORGAN, DISTRICT 7 | KENNETH A. SAVAGE, Ed.D., SUPERINTENDENT | KATHY DUPUY-BRUNO, ESQ., BOARD ATTORNEY



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

Committee Response Challenge to Instructional and/or Media Materials

Committee Meeting Date: March 2, 2022

Date Challenge to Instruction and/or Media Materials Form Received: Per Ad Hoc committee, a recommendation was made January 24, 2022, to review the email from [REDACTED] (sent 10/14/21) with a list of materials, reviewed by the Florida Citizens Alliance, based upon citation of objections referencing violation of State Statute FS 847.012. No form was officially submitted for individual books.

Note: *To be in compliance with Board Policies, complainant submitted a Challenge Form. See pages 5-6 of this response document.*

Submitted by: [REDACTED]

Challenged Material: Drama by: Raina Telgemeier

Complainant: Book is being challenged per FS 847.012.

Decision:

- Recommend continued use of challenged material as instructional materials and for media circulation
- Recommend continued use for media circulation only
- Recommend continued use for instructional purposes only
- Recommend continued use of challenged material with the following guidelines:
A notice will be placed in Destiny that this book is only recommended for students in the fourth grade and beyond. In addition, labels will be sent to all elementary schools to label the book as appropriate for fourth grade and beyond.
- Recommend to discontinue use of challenged material during instruction and remove from media circulation



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Additional Comments and/or Notes:

While this book is in media circulation, it is not included in current district curriculum or coursework. Parents may exercise their parental rights within the Parent Bill of Rights and submit an individual request to their child's school for an alert to be placed on the child's Destiny account, identifying the book as prohibited for media checkout.



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Voting Committee Members in Attendance:

Director of Elementary School Curriculum & Instruction

Director of High School Curriculum & Instruction

Coordinator of K-12 Fine and Performing Arts

School-based Administrator Representative

Diversity & Inclusion Representative

Curriculum Advisory Representative

Non-Voting Committee Members in Attendance:

Coordinator for Instructional Technology and Instructional Materials - Facilitator

Content Specialist for Instructional Technology and Instructional Materials - Recorder



Challenge to Instructional and/or Media Material

School or District: Lee County Public Schools Date: June 15, 2022

Please check type of instructional material:

Book: _____ () AV (Video, CD, etc.): _____ Other (Identify): _____

Title: Drama

Author: Raina Telgemeier

Publisher or Producer: _____

Request initiated by name: [REDACTED]

Student Name: N/A

Telephone Address: [REDACTED]

City: [REDACTED] State: [REDACTED] Zip Code: [REDACTED]

It is expected that the material in question has been read, viewed, or listened to in its entirety. Please complete the following questions. If insufficient space is provided, attach additional sheets.

(Please sign your name to each additional attachment)

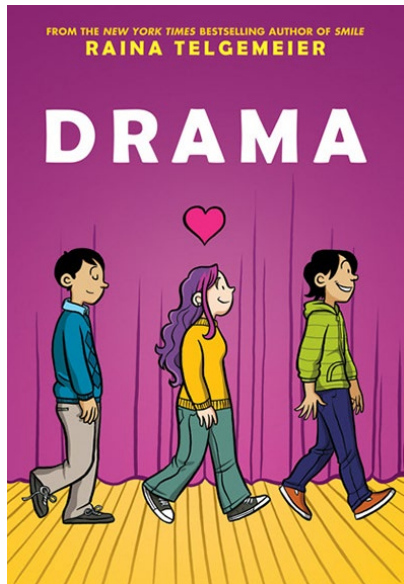
1. What brought this material to your attention? Public Records Request
2. Did you examine the entire material? No If not, what parts did you examine? Selected Excerpts
3. To what in the material do you object? (Please be specific. Cite pages, film sequence, etc.)
The introduction of gay characters to children of families that would not want that.
4. What do you believe is the theme or purpose of this material?
See attached report
5. What do you feel might be the result of a student using this material?
Exposure of the gay lifestyle to families that may not want to introduce that concept at this time.
6. For what age group would you recommend this material? 18+
7. In your opinion, is there anything of value in this material?
It may be a good book for a family that wants their own children to read this. (parental rights)
8. Have you read any critical reviews of this material? If so, what? Please be specific. No
9. What would you like the school or district to do about this material? Check your choice.
 Do not assign it to my child
 Other (Please explain) Tag the book to alert the parent to the potential objectionable nature of the book.

[REDACTED]

Signature of Objector

Date (M/D/Y)

Please submit to the school principal for review.



16 on the FLCA Report

“Drama” by Raina Telgemeier is considered a “graphic novel” meaning it is written as an illustrated book. Every page resembles a comic book, and the characters have dialogue bubbles over their heads as they communicate. This is attractive to younger folks and was written for the young reader.

The author of the describes the book; “Drama is the story of Callie, a girl in middle school who loves stage crew and theater and who has twin best friends who are gay. The characters in that story are based on real people, real friends of mine. In high school I had two best friends who were gay twin brothers, and our relationship pretty much mirrors what you see on the page, except I fictionalized it and made it for a young audience.”

In the course of the story, Jesse (a boy) ends up assuming a female role in the play, and he shares a kiss (with another boy) on stage with another male character. (pictured)