

Inappropriate reading material distributed to schools

Subject: Inappropriate reading material distributed to schools

From: "James, Chandra" <cmjames2@cps.edu>

Date: 3/9/2013 12:54 AM

To: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>

CC: Denise Little <djlittle@cps.edu>

Hi Annette,

I've attached a copy of 2 pages from the book "Persepolis" that was sent to schools as a part of the 7th grade text set. In my opinion it is not appropriate at all. Please let me know if I can pull the book from my schools.

—
Chandra James, Interim Chief of Elementary Schools
Austin-North Lawndale Network
501 West 35th Street (3rd Floor)
Chicago, IL 60609
Telephone: 773 535-8034
Facsimile: 773 535-8049

— Attachments: —

Persepolis 2 (1).pdf	334 KB
Persepolis 1 (2).pdf	371 KB

Re: Inappropriate reading material distributed to schools

Subject: Re: Inappropriate reading material distributed to schools
From: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: 3/9/2013 10:13 AM
To: cmjames2@cps.edu
CC: djlittle@cps.edu

By all means, pull them. Did you meet with Cyndi to discuss?

From: James, Chandra [mailto:cmjames2@cps.edu]
Sent: Saturday, March 09, 2013 12:54 AM
To: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
Cc: Denise Little <djlittle@cps.edu>
Subject: Inappropriate reading material distributed to schools

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Fw: Inappropriate reading material distributed to schools

Subject: Fw: Inappropriate reading material distributed to schools
From: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: 3/9/2013 10:17 AM
To: ceslater@cps.edu

Plz call me 773 841-6911.
Annette

From: James, Chandra [mailto:cmjames2@cps.edu]
Sent: Saturday, March 09, 2013 12:54 AM
To: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
Cc: Denise Little <djlittle@cps.edu>
Subject: Inappropriate reading material distributed to schools

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Re: Inappropriate reading material distributed to schools

Subject: Re: Inappropriate reading material distributed to schools
From: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: 3/9/2013 10:32 AM
To: ceslater@cps.edu
CC: djlittle@cps.k12.il.us

Cyndi, call me when you get this email. I'm at the senior staff retreat. I need to know which schools received this title beyond the Austin-North Lawndale Network. My understanding is that it was one of the titles in the novel sets. They will need to be pulled immediately. My thinking is that we want the books pulled and taken to the network office so the chief can ensure that the books are out off the classrooms.

From: Annette Gurley [mailto:adgurley@cps.edu]
Sent: Saturday, March 09, 2013 10:17 AM
To: 'ceslater@cps.edu' <ceslater@cps.edu>
Subject: Fw: Inappropriate reading material distributed to schools

Plz call me [REDACTED]
Annette

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Fwd: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP

Subject: Fwd: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
From: "Slater-Green, Cynthia" <ceslater@cps.edu>
Date: 3/9/2013 11:08 AM
To: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>

FYI-it has been deleted from the sample unit and curriculum map on KC

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Secatore, Lauren <lsecatore@cps.edu>
Date: Sat, Mar 9, 2013 at 11:07 AM
Subject: Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
To: "Slater-Green, Cynthia" <ceslater@cps.edu>

yep- just did!

Lauren L. Secatore | Chicago Public Schools
Office of Teaching and Learning | Director of Knowledge Management
125 South Clark, 11th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60603
Phone: [773.553.5667](tel:773.553.5667) | Fax: 773.553.5430

[Visit the Knowledge Center!](#)

Hi,
Can you please go in and edit the 7th grade curriculum map and Unit plan and remove the following text

***Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi ASAP and re post??? WE have had complaints and need to get it off the tools. Let me know if you have any questions**

Also, do you manage the daily alert? I need to inform principals to remove the text if they purchased it

Cynthia Green
Director of Literacy
Chicago Public Schools
[773/553-1966](tel:773/553-1966)

Cynthia Green
Director of Literacy
Chicago Public Schools

Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP

Subject: Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
From: "Gurley, Annette" <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: 3/10/2013 10:32 AM
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> To: "Slater-Green, Cynthia" <ceslater@cps.edu>

> Thanks, let me know when it is also posted in the Daily Alert.

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> yep- just did!

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>>> Cynthia Green

>>> Director of Literacy

>>> Chicago Public Schools

>>> 773/553-1966

>>>

>>

>>

>>

>> --

>> Cynthia Green

Fw: Fwd: Need something removed from Literacy content framewor...

Subject: Fw: Fwd: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
From: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: 3/10/2013 10:58 AM
To: ozbyrdbennett@aol.com, djlittle@cps.k12.il.us, cmjames2@cps.edu

Chandra,

Thank you for reporting the inappropriateness of the content of the novel *Persepolis*. It was not included in the book sets sent to schools, but it was listed as recommended reading in the guide that was developed by the Office of Instruction. It has been removed from the 2.0 version of the guide. It has also been removed from the Knowledge Center.

Denise, I will send you a separate communication to make the chiefs aware, as I will need them to assign an ISL lead to check to see what schools in the network purchased the books, and coordinate the effort to collect the books at the network office, so there is no danger of the books mistakenly getting assigned to students.

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From: "Slater-Green, Cynthia" <ceslater@cps.edu>
Date: 3/10/2013 11:00 AM
To: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>

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Director, Department of Literacy
Chicago Public Schools
773-553-1966

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Re: Fw: Fwd: Need something removed from Literacy content frame...

Subject: Re: Fw: Fwd: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
From: "Little, Denise" <djlittle@cps.edu>
Date: 3/10/2013 11:06 AM
To: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
CC: ozbyrdbennett@aol.com, djlittle@cps.k12.il.us, cmjames2@cps.edu

Annette,

I'll address the Chief's on tomorrow.

Denise

On Sun, Mar 10, 2013 at 10:58 AM, Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu> wrote:

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Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP

Subject: Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
From: "ozbyrdbennett@aol.com" <ozbyrdbennett@aol.com>
Date: 3/10/2013 11:18 AM
To: "Little, Denise" <djlittle@cps.edu>, "Annette Gurley" <adgurley@cps.edu>
CC: djlittle@cps.k12.il.us, cmjames2@cps.edu

We need to reach out. Tell Becky and have her get in front of this

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Who in the office approved this to be added to the list?

Sent from my HTC smartphone on the Now Network from Sprint!

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Subject: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
Date: Sun, Mar 10, 2013 10:58 am

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Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP

Subject: Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
From: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: 3/10/2013 1:19 PM
To: ceslater@cps.edu

Not sure what happened with previous email. Will resend. Cyndi, who approved the novel for our recommended list? I'd like to meet with them to discuss.
Thx

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> Visit the Knowledge Center!
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Date: 3/10/2013 1:24 PM
To: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>

This occurred while Elizabeth Cardenas Lopez was director and worked to develop the framework. Julia Emig' assisted with the development of the sample unit and I believe Elizabeth and Jen or someone in her office did final approval. Does that help?

Cynthia Green
Director, Department of Literacy
Chicago Public Schools
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6/3/2013 1:19 PM

Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP



773-553-1216 | adgurley@cps.edu

Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP

Subject: Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
From: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: 3/10/2013 1:39 PM
To: ozbyrdbennett@aol.com

I've asked the director to identify the person(s) so that I can meet with them. Will keep you posted. From what I've found out so far, this was brought to the attention of the office in the fall. Why it did not get thoroughly resolved is part of what I expect to get from the meeting, along with why it was selected in the first place

From: ozbyrdbennett@aol.com [mailto:ozbyrdbennett@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 11:18 AM
To: Little, Denise <djlittle@cps.edu>; Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
Cc: djlittle@cps.k12.il.us <djlittle@cps.k12.il.us>; cmjames2@cps.edu <cmjames2@cps.edu>
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Denise Little
Chief Officer of Networks
Office of Network Support
125 S. Clark, Chicago, IL.
773-553-3430

Fw: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP

Subject: Fw: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
From: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: 3/10/2013 1:41 PM
To: twalter@cps.edu

Terry, do you know who approved tge reading list? Were you here for this process?

From: ozbyrdbennett@aol.com [mailto:ozbyrdbennett@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 11:18 AM
To: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
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To: "Slater-Green, Cynthia" <ceslater@cps.edu>

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Subject: Re: Fw: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
From: "Walter, Teresa" <twalter@cps.edu>
Date: 3/10/2013 3:49 PM
To: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>

Hi Annette,

No, I don't know how this was done. This was done last year as part of the development of the first Content Framework. It is possible that this was developed with teachers in early adopters who made recommendations - but I really do not know. I will follow up with Cindy to find out -- and to also put in place a "second sweep" review of recommended titles.

On Sun, Mar 10, 2013 at 1:41 PM, Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu> wrote:

Terry, do you know who approved tge reading list? Were you here for this proce

From: ozbyrbennett@aol.com [mailto:ozbyrbennett@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 11:18 AM
To: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
Subject: Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP

Who approved for the reading list?

Sent from my HTC smartphone on the Now Network from Sprint!

----- Reply message -----

From: "Annette Gurley" <adgurley@cps.edu>
To: <ozbyrbennett@aol.com>, <djlittle@cps.k12.il.us>, <cmjames2@cps.edu>
Subject: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
Date: Sun, Mar 10, 2013 10:58 am

Chandra,

Thank you for reporting the inappropriateness of the content of the novel Persepolis. It was not included in the book sets sent to schools, but it was listed as recommended reading in the guide that was developed by the Office of Instruction. It has been removed from the 2.0 version of the guide. It has also been removed from the Knowledge Center.

Denise, I will send you a separate communication to make the chiefs aware, as I will need them to assign an ISL lead to check to see what schools in the network purchased the books, and coordinate the effort to collect the books at the network office, so there is no danger of the books mistakenly getting assigned to students.

From: Slater-Green, Cynthia [mailto:ceslater@cps.edu]
Sent: Saturday, March 09, 2013 12:08 PM
To: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
Subject: Fwd: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP

FYI-it has been deleted from the sample unit and curriculum map on KC

Re: Fw: Need something removed from Literacy content framework...

Cynthia Green
Director of Literacy
Chicago Public Schools
773/553-1966

—
Terry Walter
Office of Curriculum & Instruction
Chief Officer for Curriculum & Instruction
Chicago Public Schools

Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP

Subject: Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
From: "ozbyrdbennett@aol.com" <ozbyrdbennett@aol.com>
Date: 3/10/2013 5:26 PM
To: "Annette Gurley" <adgurley@cps.edu>

Someone is in jeopardy bc if this
Need a name

Sent from my HTC smartphone on the Now Network from Sprint!

----- Reply message -----

From: "Annette Gurley" <adgurley@cps.edu>
To: <ozbyrdbennett@aol.com>
Subject: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
Date: Sun, Mar 10, 2013 1:39 pm

I've asked the director to identify the person(s) so that I can meet with them. Will keep you posted. From what I've found out so far, this was brought to the attention of the office in the fall. Why it did not get thoroughly resolved is part of what I expect to get from the meeting, along with why it was selected in the first place

From: ozbyrdbennett@aol.com [mailto:ozbyrdbennett@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 11:18 AM
To: Little, Denise <djlittle@cps.edu>; Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
Cc: djlittle@cps.k12.il.us <djlittle@cps.k12.il.us>; cmjames2@cps.edu <cmjames2@cps.edu>
Subject: Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP

We need to reach out. Tell Becky and have her get in front of this

Annette
Who in the office approved this to be added to the list?

Sent from my HTC smartphone on the Now Network from Sprint!

----- Reply message -----

From: "Little, Denise" <djlittle@cps.edu>
To: "Annette Gurley" <adgurley@cps.edu>
Cc: <ozbyrdbennett@aol.com>, <djlittle@cps.k12.il.us>, <cmjames2@cps.edu>
Subject: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
Date: Sun, Mar 10, 2013 11:06 am

Annette,

I'll address the Chief's on tomorrow.

Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP

Director of Literacy
Chicago Public Schools
773/553-1966

--
Cynthia Green
Director of Literacy
Chicago Public Schools
773/553-1966

--
Cynthia Green
Director of Literacy
Chicago Public Schools
773/553-1966

--
Denise Little
Chief Officer of Networks
Office of Network Support
125 S. Clark, Chicago, IL.
773-553-3430

for dissemination to network chiefs

Subject: for dissemination to network chiefs
From: "Gurley, Annette" <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: 3/10/2013 10:11 PM
To: Denise Little <djlittle@cps.edu>

Denise,

Please share the following with the network chiefs:

1. It has come to our attention that the novel "**Persepolis**" contains some graphic language and content that is inappropriate for children. While "**Persepolis**" was not one of the titles purchased by the district in the novel sets that were distributed, it was, in fact, a title that was recommended in the guide, so some schools purchased them, unaware of the inappropriate language.

What We Need from the Network Office

It is imperative that we remove the books from the classroom and from the school, to decrease the likelihood of the books getting into the hands of students.

- **Have your ISLs reach out to each school's principal to alert principals of the need to pull the novel**
- **Principals should designate a literacy lead to check for the book in the school's inventory**
- **The literacy designee is to count and collect copies of the book, and deliver them to the network office**
- **All copies should be collected and forwarded to the network office by EOB Wednesday, March 12th.**

2.. **Chiefs' Lecture Series** - In accordance with our resolve to increase student achievement, all network chiefs are expected to participate in the Chiefs' Lecture Series for Literacy. The workshops were intentionally designed as a series, To date 2 of 4 sessions have been hosted, with Doug Fisher as the presenter. Each session is part of a whole, and learning is cumulative, thus it is especially beneficial for the same people to attend all sessions. See below for a chart of attendance thus far. It is important to note that the next training is scheduled for **Friday, March 15th** for those who have attended one of more sessions. The final session is **April 19th**. **Because the April 19th session will highlight student engagement and the instructional shifts in Math, those who have not regularly attended the first three session can benefit greatly from participating.**

Fwd: for dissemination to network chiefs

Subject: Fwd: for dissemination to network chiefs
From: "Gurley, Annette" <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: 3/11/2013 7:40 AM
To: Gwynneth Jolliff-Blake <gjolliff-blake@cps.edu>, Cynthia Slater-Green <ceslater@cps.edu>, Teresa Walter <twalter@cps.edu>

fyi

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Gurley, Annette <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: Sun, Mar 10, 2013 at 10:11 PM
Subject: for dissemination to network chiefs
To: Denise Little <djlittle@cps.edu>

Denise,

Please share the following with the network chiefs:

1. It has come to our attention that the novel "**Persepolis**" contains some graphic language and content that is inappropriate for children. While "Persepolis" was not one of the titles purchased by the district in the novel sets that were distributed, it was, in fact, a title that was recommended in the guide, so some schools purchased them, unaware of the inappropriate language.

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Fwd: for dissemination to network chiefs

--

Annette Gurley, Chicago Public Schools
Chief of Teaching and Learning | 125 S. Clark Street, 5th floor
Chicago, IL 60603
773-553-1216 | adgurley@cps.edu

Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP

Subject: Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
From: "Gurley, Annette" <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: 3/11/2013 7:59 AM
To: "ozbyrdbennett@aol.com" <ozbyrdbennett@aol.com>

Good morning.

Yes, and I want to make sure that I identify the right someone. This office has had so many changes. It's looking as if Elizabeth Cardenas-Lopez was the director then. This was before Terry Walter (Chief of Curriculum and Instruction) and Cynthia Slater-Green (Director of Literacy) assumed their roles. I have directed Terry to meet with me, Elizabeth and anyone else connected with the Recommended Readings List. The meeting will occur some time today.

I will inform you of what I uncover, and actions that I will take as a result.

On Sun, Mar 10, 2013 at 5:26 PM, ozbyrdbennett@aol.com <ozbyrdbennett@aol.com> wrote:

Someone is in jeopardy bc if this
Need a name

Sent from my HTC smartphone on the Now Network from Sprint!

----- Reply message -----

From: "Annette Gurley" <adgurley@cps.edu>
To: <ozbyrdbennett@aol.com>
Subject: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP
Date: Sun, Mar 10, 2013 1:39 pm

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From: ozbyrdbennett@aol.com [mailto:ozbyrdbennett@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2013 11:18 AM
To: Little, Denise <djlittle@cps.edu>; Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
Cc: djlittle@cps.k12.il.us <djlittle@cps.k12.il.us>; cmjames2@cps.edu <cmjames2@cps.edu>
Subject: Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP

We need to reach out. Tell Becky and have her get in front of this

Annette

Who in the office approved this to be added to the list?

Sent from my HTC smartphone on the Now Network from Sprint!

Re: Need something removed from Literacy content framework ASAP

Hi,
Can you please go in and edit the 7th grade curriculum map and Unit plan and remove the following text

***Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi ASAP and re post???** WE have had complaints and need to get it off the tools. Let me know if you have any questions

Also, do you manage the daily alert? I need to inform principals to remove the text if they purchased it

Cynthia Green
Director of Literacy
Chicago Public Schools
773/553-1966

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Cynthia Green
Director of Literacy
Chicago Public Schools
773/553-1966

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Cynthia Green
Director of Literacy
Chicago Public Schools
773/553-1966

--
Denise Little
Chief Officer of Networks
Office of Network Support
125 S. Clark, Chicago, IL.
773-553-3430

Invitation: Persepolis Book Recommendation @ Mon Mar 11, 2013 1...

Subject: Invitation: Persepolis Book Recommendation @ Mon Mar 11, 2013 11:45am - 12pm (adgurley@cps.edu)

From: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>

Date: 3/11/2013 10:42 AM

To: "adgurley@cps.edu" <adgurley@cps.edu>, Elizabeth Cardenas-Lopez <ecardenas-lopez@cps.edu>, Teresa Walter <twalter@cps.edu>, Cynthia Slater-Green <ceslater@cps.edu>

[more details »](#)

Persepolis Book Recommendation

When Mon Mar 11, 2013 11:45am – 12pm Central Time

Where Annette's Office ([map](#))

Calendar adgurley@cps.edu

Who

- adgurley@cps.edu - organizer
- Kelly Donohoe - creator
- Elizabeth Cardenas-Lopez
- Teresa Walter
- Cynthia Slater-Green

Going? [Yes](#) - [Maybe](#) - [No](#) [more options »](#)

Invitation from [Google Calendar](#)

You are receiving this email at the account adgurley@cps.edu because you are subscribed for invitations on calendar adgurley@cps.edu.

To stop receiving these notifications, please log in to <https://www.google.com/calendar/> and change your notification settings for this calendar.

Attachments:

invite.ics

1.3 KB

For Review - Draft Book Recall Letter

Subject: For Review - Draft Book Recall Letter
From: "Hickey, Kathryn" <kmhickey@cps.edu>
Date: 3/11/2013 12:02 PM
To: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
CC: Kelly Donohoe <kdonohoe@cps.edu>

Hi Annette,

Attached is the draft letter re: recalled books.

Please review and highlight or track any changes/edits and send back my way.

Thanks very much!

Katie

*Katie Hickey
Deputy Press Secretary
Chicago Public Schools
Office of Communications
o. 773-553-1614 | c. 773-456-1139*

—Attachments:

3.11.13 BBB Book Recall Letter.doc

26.5 KB

Fwd: Inappropriate reading material distributed to schools

Subject: Fwd: Inappropriate reading material distributed to schools
From: "Gurley, Annette" <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: 3/13/2013 1:14 PM
To: Tony Howard <tthoward@cps.edu>

Tony -

Attached and below is email regarding the inappropriate reading materials which was brought to our attention. I will be forwarding the letter we sent to schools to you as well.

Annette

----- Forwarded message -----

From: James, Chandra <cmjames2@cps.edu>
Date: Sat, Mar 9, 2013 at 12:54 AM
Subject: Inappropriate reading material distributed to schools
To: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>
Cc: Denise Little <djlittle@cps.edu>

Hi Annette;

I've attached a copy of 2 pages from the book "Persepolis" that was sent to schools as a part of the 7th grade text set. In my opinion it is not appropriate at all. Please let me know if I can pull the book from my schools.

The first attachment you will see language such as, *bastards* and *push her against a wall to be fucked*.

The second attachment you see images of a man's penis urinating on another man's back and other torturous images, lashings, ideas...

--
Chandra James, Interim Chief of Elementary Schools
Austin-North Lawndale Network
501 West 35th Street (3rd Floor)
Chicago, IL 60609
Telephone: 773 535-8034
Facsimile: 773 535-8049

--
Annette Gurley, Chicago Public Schools
Chief of Teaching and Learning | 125 S. Clark Street, 5th floor
Chicago, IL 60603
773-553-1216 | adgurley@cps.edu

6/3/2013 1:21 PM

Fwd: For Review - Draft Book Recall Letter

Subject: Fwd: For Review - Draft Book Recall Letter
From: "Gurley, Annette" <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: 3/13/2013 1:15 PM
To: Tony Howard <tthoward@cps.edu>

Tony -

Attached is the letter which was distributed to schools regarding the removal of the book.

Annette

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Gurley, Annette <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: Tue, Mar 12, 2013 at 9:05 PM
Subject: Re: For Review - Draft Book Recall Letter
To: "Hickey, Kathryn" <kmhickey@cps.edu>

Please see attached with edits. Call with any questions.
Annette

On Mon, Mar 11, 2013 at 12:02 PM, Hickey, Kathryn <kmhickey@cps.edu> wrote:
Hi Annette,

Attached is the draft letter re: recalled books.

Please review and highlight or track any changes/edits and send back my way.

Thanks very much!

Katie

*Katie Hickey
Deputy Press Secretary
Chicago Public Schools
Office of Communications
o. 773-553-1614 | c. 773-456-1139*

Annette Gurley, Chicago Public Schools
Chief of Teaching and Learning | 125 S. Clark Street, 5th floor
Chicago, IL 60603
773-553-1216 | adgurley@cps.edu

6/3/2013 1:21 PM

Book Recall Letter

Subject: Book Recall Letter

From: "Howard, Tony" <tthoward@cps.edu>

Date: 3/13/2013 3:20 PM

To: Kathryn Hickey <kmhickey@cps.edu>, Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>

I have attached an edited version of the letter to ensure that the language is aligned to the CPS New Collection Development Policy for School Libraries (604.7).

--

Tony T. Howard, III

Director of Education Policy and Procedures

Chicago Public Schools

773.553.2131 (phone)

773.553-2151 (fax)

"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men." - Frederick Douglass

—Attachments:—

3.11.13 BBB Book Recall Letter (adg) (1).docx

15.3 KB

Re: ***Clarification*** Fwd: Book Recall Reminder

Subject: Re: ***Clarification*** Fwd: Book Recall Reminder

From: "Gurley, Annette" <adgurley@cps.edu>

Date: 3/13/2013 9:55 PM

To: "Kirby, Elizabeth" <eakirby@cps.edu>

CC: "Szymczak, Natalia" <nmszymczak@cps.edu>, Adrian Willis <agwillis@cps.edu>, Anna Alvarado <amalvarado@cps.edu>, arthur slater <aslater@cps.edu>, Chandra James <cmjames2@cps.edu>, Craig Benes <cebenes@cps.edu>, "Harrison A. Peters" <hapeters@cps.edu>, Jennifer Vidis <jdvidis@cps.edu>, John Price <jpprice@cps.edu>, Karen Saffold <kvsaffold@cps.edu>, Latanya Mcdade <ldmcdade@cps.edu>, Leslie Boozer <lboozer@cps.edu>, Luis Soria <lsoria@cps.edu>, Lynda Williams <lwwilliams1@cps.edu>, Shonda Huery <shuery@cps.edu>, Stephen Zrike <szrikejr@cps.edu>, Theresa Plascencia <taplascencia@cps.edu>, Victor Simon <vsimon@cps.edu>, Wanda Washington <wjwashington@cps.edu>, Cynthia Slater-Green <ceslater@cps.edu>, Denise Little <djlittle@cps.edu>, Matthew Glanzman <mpglanzman@cps.edu>, Ursula Fitzpatrick <umfitzpatric@cps.edu>, John Mellios <jsmellios@cps.edu>, Rebecca Carroll <bcarroll7@cps.edu>, Barbara Byrd Bennett <bbyrd-bennett@cps.edu>, Kathryn Hickey <kmhickey@cps.edu>, Sherry Ulery <sulery@cps.edu>, Tony Howard <tthoward@cps.edu>, Teresa Walter <twalter@cps.edu>

We are pulling the book Persepolis from classroom collections only at this time, as the policy that I forwarded in the previous email makes it very clear that librarians have the discretion to purchase controversial texts. That does not mean that the texts cannot be removed; it means that the procedure outlined in the policy must be followed in advocating for the removal of books deemed inappropriate, offensive, etc.

We will have someone review Black Robe.

On Wed, Mar 13, 2013 at 8:19 PM, Kirby, Elizabeth <eakirby@cps.edu> wrote:

Happy Wednesday everyone!

Are we pulling this book from high schools or just elem schools. Also, there is a book, **Black Robe**, that I think the district did purchase for Common Core that should probably be reviewed as well.

Liz

On Wed, Mar 13, 2013 at 8:15 PM, Gurley, Annette <adgurley@cps.edu> wrote:

Update: It appears that while we can collect the copies of the book from the classrooms, we **cannot** collect them from the school libraries without going through the process outlined in the policy for "New Collection Development Policy for School Libraries (604.7). Please accept my apology for the mixed signals, as I know that your plates are full. High School Chiefs, should you get push back from school librarians, please know that they have the rights outlined in the policy. It is advised that you adhere to the policy.

Again, we apologize. Call me with any questions. I've attached the policy for your review.

Re: ***Clarification*** Fwd: Book Recall Reminder

To: Adrian Willis <agwillis@cps.edu>, Anna Alvarado <amalvarado@cps.edu>, arthur slater <aslater@cps.edu>, Chandra James <cmjames2@cps.edu>, Craig Benes <cebenes@cps.edu>, Elizabeth Kirby <eakirby@cps.edu>, "Harrison A. Peters" <hapers@cps.edu>, Jennifer Vidis <jvidis@cps.edu>, John Price <jpprice@cps.edu>, Karen Saffold <kvsaffold@cps.edu>, Latanya Mcdade <ldmcdade@cps.edu>, Leslie Boozer <lboozer@cps.edu>, Luis Soria <lsoria@cps.edu>, Lynda Williams <lwilliams1@cps.edu>, Shonda Huery <shuery@cps.edu>, Stephen Zrike <szrikejr@cps.edu>, Theresa Plascencia <taplascencia@cps.edu>, Victor Simon <vsimon@cps.edu>, Wanda Washington <wjwashington@cps.edu>
Cc: Cynthia Slater-Green <ceslater@cps.edu>, Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>, Denise Little <djlittle@cps.edu>, Matthew Glanzman <mpglanzman@cps.edu>, Ursula Fitzpatrick <umfitzpatric@cps.edu>

Dear Chief of Schools,

Per the directive given during the Chief of Schools meeting on March 11, please instruct your Network's Instructional Support Leader(s) to collect the book titled *Persopolis* from your schools' classrooms and libraries.

Send collected books to Department of Literacy Attn: Cynthia Slater-Green.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Natalia

Natalia M. Szymczak
Chicago Public Schools
(773) 553-5754
nmszymczak@cps.edu

Annette Gurley, Chicago Public Schools
Chief of Teaching and Learning | 125 S. Clark Street, 5th floor
Chicago, IL 60603
773-553-1216 | adgurley@cps.edu

Annette Gurley, Chicago Public Schools
Chief of Teaching and Learning | 125 S. Clark Street, 5th floor

6/3/2013 1:21 PM

Re: ***Clarification*** Fwd: Book Recall Reminder

Subject: Re: ***Clarification*** Fwd: Book Recall Reminder

From: "Boozer, Leslie" <lboozer@cps.edu>

Date: 3/14/2013 3:44 PM

To: "Gurley, Annette" <adgurley@cps.edu>

CC: Cynthia Slater-Green <ceslater@cps.edu>, Denise Little <djlittle@cps.edu>, Matthew Glanzman <mpglanzman@cps.edu>, Ursula Fitzpatrick <umfitzpatric@cps.edu>, Lela Majstorovic <lmajstorovic@cps.edu>, Natalia Szymczak <nmszymczak@cps.edu>, Sherry Ulery <sulery@cps.edu>

Hi Annette,

I'm sorry to ask for clarification again. I'm getting some pushback from my schools as the ISLs are working to collect the text. This book is utilized in AP French, AP English Lit, and AP Comparative Government -- to just name a few courses. The AP College Board recognizes the book as a resource and many of my AP classes have class sets that they are using in preparation for the AP exam this May, including Northside College Prep and Lane Tech. Moreover, the book is specifically identified as one of the five short complex texts in our CPS Literacy Content Framework Q2, Unit 3 on page 93.

Here is one of the links from the College Board website:

<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/Pageflows/TeachersResource/viewResourceDetail.do?source=tr&resourceId=7356>

Can we discuss this further or is it an absolute? My team was approached by a student reporter at Lane Tech (which regularly uses the text) and we are getting complaint calls at the Network office. I believe if we pull it, it will become very newsworthy at my schools. Could we allow schools to use it if parents sign a permission slip?

Thank you for your consideration,
Leslie

On Wed, Mar 13, 2013 at 9:55 PM, Gurley, Annette <adgurley@cps.edu> wrote:

We are pulling the book Persepolis from classroom collections only at this time, as the policy that I forwarded in the previous email makes it very clear that librarians have the discretion to purchase controversial texts. That does not mean that the texts cannot be removed; it means that the procedure outlined in the policy must be followed in advocating for the removal of books deemed inappropriate, offensive, etc.

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Re: ***Clarification*** Fwd: Book Recall Reminder

<wjwashington@cps.edu>

Cc: Cynthia Slater-Green <ceslater@cps.edu>, Annette Gurley
<adgurley@cps.edu>, Denise Little <djlittle@cps.edu>, Matthew Glanzman
<mpglanzman@cps.edu>, Ursula Fitzpatrick <umfitzpatric@cps.edu>

Dear Chief of Schools,

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Natalia M. Szymczak
Chicago Public Schools
(773) 553-5754
nmszymczak@cps.edu

Annette Gurley, Chicago Public Schools
Chief of Teaching and Learning | 125 S. Clark Street, 5th floor
Chicago, IL 60603
773-553-1216 | adgurley@cps.edu

Elizabeth A. Kirby
Chief of Schools
Southwest Side High School Network
Chicago Public Schools
eakirby@cps.edu

Southwest Side HS Network Sharepoint Link: <https://ocs.cps.k12.il.us/sites/hs/AIO/Southwhs/default.aspx>

6/3/2013 1:21 PM

Re: ***Clarification*** Fwd: Book Recall Reminder

Subject: Re: ***Clarification*** Fwd: Book Recall Reminder

From: "Gurley, Annette" <adgurley@cps.edu>

Date: 3/15/2013 7:35 AM

To: "Boozer, Leslie" <lboozer@cps.edu>, Barbara Byrd Bennett <bbyrd-bennett@cps.edu>

CC: Cynthia Slater-Green <ceslater@cps.edu>, Denise Little <djlittle@cps.edu>, Matthew Glanzman <mpglanzman@cps.edu>, Ursula Fitzpatrick <umfitzpatric@cps.edu>, Lela Majstorovic <lmajstorovic@cps.edu>, Natalia Szymczak <nmszymczak@cUps.edu>, Sherry Ulery <sulery@cps.edu>, Rebecca Carroll <bcarroll7@cps.edu>

Thank you, Leslie. Unless I hear otherwise from the CEO, the AP courses would be the exception, as those are college level courses. The book is however, developmentally inappropriate for many of our younger students, and was thus directed to be pulled.

My cell number is [REDACTED]. Please call me when you send me a time-sensitive message, as my email volume is high, and I want to make sure that I respond in a timely manner.

On Thu, Mar 14, 2013 at 3:44 PM, Boozer, Leslie <lboozer@cps.edu> wrote:

Hi Annette,

I'm sorry to ask for clarification again. I'm getting some pushback from my schools as the ISLs are working to collect the text. This book is utilized in AP French, AP English Lit, and AP Comparative Government -- to just name a few courses. The AP College Board recognizes the book as a resource and many of my AP classes have class sets that they are using in preparation for the AP exam this May, including Northside College Prep and Lane Tech. Moreover, the book is specifically identified as one of the five short complex texts in our CPS Literacy Content Framework Q2, Unit 3 on page 93.

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<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/Pageflows/TeachersResource/viewResourceDetail.do?source=tr&resourceId=7356>

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Fwd: ***Clarification*** Fwd: Book Recall Reminder

Chicago Public Schools
(773) 553-5754
nmszymczak@cps.edu

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Szymczak, Natalia** <nmszymczak@cps.edu>

Date: Tue, Mar 12, 2013 at 12:06 PM

Subject: Book Recall Reminder

To: Adrian Willis <agwillis@cps.edu>, Anna Alvarado <amalvarado@cps.edu>, arthur slater <aslater@cps.edu>, Chandra James <cmjames2@cps.edu>, Craig Benes <cebenes@cps.edu>, Elizabeth Kirby <eakirby@cps.edu>, "Harrison A. Peters" <hapeters@cps.edu>, Jennifer Vidis <jdividis@cps.edu>, John Price <jpprice@cps.edu>, Karen Saffold <kvsaffold@cps.edu>, Latanya Mcdade <ldmcdade@cps.edu>, Leslie Boozer <lboozer@cps.edu>, Luis Soria <lsoria@cps.edu>, Lynda Williams <lwwilliams1@cps.edu>, Shonda Huery <shuery@cps.edu>, Stephen Zrike <szrikejr@cps.edu>, Theresa Plascencia <taplascencia@cps.edu>, Victor Simon <vsimon@cps.edu>, Wanda Washington <wjwashington@cps.edu>

Cc: Cynthia Slater-Green <ceslater@cps.edu>, Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>, Denise Little <djlittle@cps.edu>, Matthew Glanzman <mpglanzman@cps.edu>, Ursula Fitzpatrick <umfitzpatric@cps.edu>

Dear Chief of Schools,

Per the directive given during the Chief of Schools meeting on March 11, please instruct your Network's Instructional Support Leader(s) to collect the book titled *Persopolis* from your schools' classrooms and libraries.

Send collected books to Department of Literacy Attn: Cynthia Slater-Green.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Natalia

Natalia M. Szymczak
Chicago Public Schools
(773) 553-5754
nmszymczak@cps.edu

Annette Gurley, Chicago Public Schools
Chief of Teaching and Learning | 125 S. Clark Street, 5th floor
Chicago, IL 60603

6/3/2013 1:22 PM

Re: VIP - Persepolis

Subject: Re: VIP - Persepolis
From: "Gurley, Annette" <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: 3/15/2013 9:27 AM
To: Tony Howard <tthoward@cps.edu>

The directive was to pull the books in Grades K-12 when we discovered it on the List of Recommended readings for Grade 7. After viewing graphic illustrations and sexually explicit language, the decision was made to pull the book from all classroom libraries for Grades K-12 for concern that some students would not be developmentally capable of handling the mature content. However, upon being informed that Persepolis is being used in AP courses, the CEO has consented that AP classes would be the exception, and the book would be approved for usage, as these students are expected to be developmentally capable of maturely interacting with the content.

The intent is to avoid exposing students to sensitive content that some may not be developmentally mature enough to handle. We do not look at this as a "bad" book. However, the language content is graphic for adolescents

On Fri, Mar 15, 2013 at 8:39 AM, Kathryn Hickey <kmhickey@cps.edu> wrote:

Hi Annette,

Can you please send me one or two talking points about the high school side piece of this book issue? Barbara mentioned to me last night that 11th and 12th graders have had classes on how to deal with sensitive material like this so now I just need a bit of clarification. Please let me know asap as we have to respond to reporters this morning.

Thanks!

Katie

Sent from my iPhone

Annette Gurley, Chicago Public Schools
Chief of Teaching and Learning | 125 S. Clark Street, 5th floor
Chicago, IL 60603
773-553-1216 | adgurley@cps.edu

6/3/2013 1:23 PM

Fwd: libray assn contact

Subject: Fwd: libray assn contact
From: "Carroll, Rebecca" <bcarroll7@cps.edu>
Date: 3/15/2013 11:51 AM
To: Annette Gurley <adgurley@cps.edu>, Tony Howard <tthoward@cps.edu>

see contact below for American Library Assn

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ziegler, Robyn <raziiegler@cps.edu>
Date: Fri, Mar 15, 2013 at 11:45 AM
Subject: libray assn contact
To: Rebecca Carroll <bcarroll7@cps.edu>, Kathryn Hickey <kmhickey@cps.edu>

see they are having a presser at 1 p.m.

Macey Morales

Manager Media Relations, ALA

312-280-4393

mmorales@ala.org

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Burnett, Sara <SBurnett@ap.org>
Date: Fri, Mar 15, 2013 at 11:44 AM
Subject: FW: TODAY 1 p.m. , CPS Book Ban Media Availability
To: "raziiegler@cps.edu" <raziiegler@cps.edu>

From: Macey Morales [<mailto:mmorales@ala.org>]
Sent: Friday, March 15, 2013 10:51 AM
To: Macey Morales
Subject: TODAY 1 p.m. , CPS Book Ban Media Availability

***BREAKING NEWS ***

Fwd: libray assn contact

#####

Contact:

Macey Morales

Manager Media Relations, ALA

312-280-4393

mmorales@ala.org

Follow me on twitter at #MaceyALA

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[IP_US_DISC]

msh dccc60c6d2c3a6438f0cf467d9a4938

Persepolis

Subject: Persepolis
From: "Gurley, Annette" <adgurley@cps.edu>
Date: 3/15/2013 12:56 PM
To: dstone@ala.org

Ms. Stone,

Thank you for expressing your concerns during our conversation earlier today. Below is the essence of the communication that was sent out to principals to correct the misconception that the book *Persepolis* is to be banned in our classrooms.

Earlier this week, you received an email from the Office of Network Supports about removing *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi from the schools. Please disregard it.

--

Annette Gurley, Chicago Public Schools
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