

Dear Principal XXX,

This email is a formal request for further review of the gender identity unit in the 5th grade human growth and development curriculum that was added for the 2021-2022 school year. This request follows the format of the attached School Board policy section po9130 (Public Complaints).

1. Author:

The content in question is a gender identity slide show with two imbedded videos included

2. Title:

- a. Gender – explained: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PzGauky20tc&t=1s>
- b. Kids Explain Pronouns:
https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=64-WXswR_fA&feature=youtu.be
- c. Gender Identity Slide Show:
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1HrHZtM6c-gsL3iAFJ07MtazLpOlhEadKqyu_pC8Slu0/mobilepresent?slide=id.gceaed31706_0_0

3. Publishers:

- a. Gender – explained: CBC Kids News
- b. Kids Explain Pronouns: SoyHeat

4. Familiarity:

The slide show and both videos have been provided to families that requested it by school staff and were reviewed in full by the complainant prior to the filing of this request.

5. Material objected to:

The material objected to includes the entire gender identity slide show including both videos, as well as any formal or informal discussion of gender identity at any elementary grade level and in any school setting without prior parental consent.

6. Reasons for objection:

- a. According to the district's policy section po2240 (Controversial Issues in the Classroom), the material objected to does not meet the threshold for use:

For purposes of this policy, a controversial issue is a topic on which opposing points of view have been promulgated by responsible opinion or is likely to arouse both support and opposition in the community.

The Board will permit the introduction and proper educational use of controversial issues provided that their use in the instructional program:

- A. *is related to the instructional goals of the course of study and level of maturity of the students;*
 - B. *does not tend to indoctrinate or persuade students to a particular point of view;*
 - C. *encourages open-mindedness and is conducted in a spirit of scholarly inquiry.*
- b. There are a lot of district families that do not consider gender identity material as age-appropriate for elementary students.
 - c. The material objected to is not a state required part of the human growth and development curriculum (WI statue 118.019), and thus should be treated as a separate opt-in unit.
 - d. A letter sent to parents of 5th graders in the district lacked the transparency needed in order to make an informed decision regarding the removal of their child from the lesson.

The material objected to should be provided up front and not limited to those who make a request to view it.

- e. A committee made a recommendation for the inclusion of gender identity material at the elementary level for the 2021/2022 school year. It is unclear how this committee was formed or whether it accurately represents the diversity of families within the district.
- f. The material objected to does not provide an objective viewpoint on gender identity and does not represent the diversity of thought that exists among families in the district.
- g. Many families find the current opt-out approach inadequate for material that is objectionable for the reasons stated here. An opt-in approach would ensure all families proactively choose for their children to be exposed to optional, non-required content.

It is my understanding that the district administrator will be notified of this complaint and that a review committee will be appointed. Please let me know if further information is needed to proceed with this request.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

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