Olentangy Local School District Literature Selection Review

Teacher:	Daniel Horman	School:	OOMS
Book Title:	The Light In The Forest	Genre:	Historical Fiction
Author:	Conrad Richter	Pages:	120
Publisher:	Fawcett Juniper	Copyright:	1952, 1981(renewed)

In a brief rationale, please provide the following information relative to the book you would like added to the school's book collection for classroom use. You may attach additional pages as needed.

Book Summary and summary citation: (suggested resources include book flap summaries, review summaries from publisher, book vendors, etc.)

John Butler is kidnapped by the Delaware Indians at the age of four, and raised to become a member of the tribe. Suddenly, he is returned to his real parents and a way of life he never knew, causing him to be torn between his claims of blood and loyalty.

Provide an instructional rationale for the use of this title, including specific reference to the OLSD curriculum map(s): (Curriculum maps may be referenced by grade/course and indicator number or curriculum maps with indicators highlighted may be attached to this form) Reading Applications: Literary Text A-G #1-7

Include two professional reviews of this title: (a suggested list of resources for identifying professional reviews is shown below. Reviews may be "cut and pasted" (with citation) into the form or printed reviews may be attached to the form)

Review #1

School Library Journal

Gr 4-8-A classic in its own right, this novel by Conrad Richter (Knopf, 1953) lends itself well to the dramatic reading by Terry Bregy. John Butler, born in a small frontier town, was captured at age four by the Lenni Lenape Indians and raised by the great warrior, Cuyloga, who named the boy "True Son." He grew up thinking, feeling, and fighting like an Indian. Now rescued and restored to his family because of a treaty to return all white captives to their own people, John Butler rebels against this civilization and desires to return to the tribe. Escaping from the family farm in Pennsylvania, he discovers the eternal and irreconcilable conflict between the two worlds. "True Son"/John Butler asks, "Who am I? Where do I belong?" The narrative reading is replete with emotion; it reflects the harshness and the eloquence of the story as it is revealed. The benefits of listening to this moving tale are many; expression and dramatic reading aid understanding. For a sense of history and a sense of conflict between two different cultures, this novel is a masterpiece by one of America's finest writers. School and public libraries will want to make this a priority purchase.- Patricia Mahoney Brown, Franklin Elementary School, Kenmore, NY Copyright 2000 Cahners Business Information.]

Review #2 Publishers Weekly Richter's (The Awakening Land) classic tale of a boy torn between families and cultures makes for a compelling audio adaptation. When he was just four years old, John Cameron Butler was captured by the Lenne Lenape Indians. He has since been adopted by the Indians, who named him True Son, and has grown to love the only family he has ever known, as well as the ways of his people. But now it's 1765 and in order to make a land deal, the Lenne Lenape and other tribes have agreed to return all their captives to the white Army, including now-15-year-old True Son/John. When he arrives at the Butler home in Paxton, Pa., True Son chafes at his white family's speech, customs and clothing, acting defiant and depressed. He soon manages (with help from his cousin Half Arrow) a dangerous escape and rejoins his Indian relatives. But once back among his people, True Son commits an act of betrayal that forces the Lenne Lenape to disown him forever, leaving him a young man unsure of where he belongs. Bregy's assured, crisp delivery gives extra resonance to Richter's careful scene-setting, quickly transporting listeners to a distinct, long-ago era. Ages 10-up. (Jan.) Copyright 1999 Cahners Business Information.

The Dawn Country: A People of the W. Michael Gear Title: Author: Longhouse Novel (Iroquois, #2) Title: Ishi in Two Worlds: A Biography of the Author: **Theodora Kroeber** Last Wild Indian in North America Title: Author: Title: Author: Title: Author: Title: Author:

What alternate text(s) could also fulfill the instructional requirements?

Document any potentially controversial content:

Reference to Native American Indian Tribes (language, culture, people)

Keeping in mind the age, academic level, and maturity of the intended reader, what is the suggested classroom use: (check all that apply)

Gifted/Accelerated	Regular 🛛	At At	Risk [
GRADE LEVEL(S):	6	7🖂	8⊠	9⊠	10	11	12

Reading level of this title (if applicable):

Date Submitted to Department Chair: 10-23-12

Suggested Professional Literary Review Sources:

School Library Journal Horn Book Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books VOYA (Voice of Youth Advocates) Library Journal Book Links Publisher's Weekly Booklist Kirkus Review Wilson Library Catalog English Journal (and other resources of the National Council of Teachers of English) The Reading Teacher (International Reading Association) Literature for Today's Young Adults