

Mare B. Deckard

Emailed December 29, 2022

TO: Candace Bruder, Beaufort County School District Communications Officer
RE: RE – Reply to your email of December 28, 2022 re
Freedom of Information Request dated November 15, 2022

Dear Ms. Bruder:

My request for documents was straightforward; however, in your reply (attached) it appears BCSD is attempting to **parse** each of the numbered requests by compiling an [outrageous] estimate based upon each *word* of the submission. For example, I asked for:

1. Any/all emails, either to/from/between, any BCSD employee, and/or Board Member, as it pertains to [my] written challenge/appeal of the 97 Book Removal submitted to the District November 1, 2022

The District replied:

Item # 1

all: ("book" OR "books") AND all: ("challenge" OR "review" OR "97" OR "Deckard") AND Dates Nov 1-15

Search result: 20,922 emails

My FOIA request was clear and concise; therefore, I would appreciate the District responding in kind by supplying only copies of the specific emails germane to my challenge/appeal for the fifteen day period indicated. And do not include or charge for unnecessary duplicate threads of the same message mass copied. Further, copies can be downloaded onto a flash drive, thereby eliminating those egregious copy costs. And if there are any documents the District claims are privileged, kindly produce the privilege log, which the District should be maintaining along with all other documents, pursuant to Title 30 "**Public Records**". Also, please include a written explanation as to what provision of FOIA the District is relying on to redact any of the requested documents. Finally, as it pertains to this FOIA request, please consider this reply as pertaining to the *entirety* of the request.

Sincerely,



cc: Taylor Smith, Esquire
cc: Josh Malkin, ACLU



Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request

From: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L (candace.bruder-brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us)

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: wendy.cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us; gillian.rowland@beaufort.k12.sc.us

Date: Wednesday, December 28, 2022 at 04:33 PM EST

Dear Ms. Deckard,

As a follow-up to our November 29, 2022 response to your November 15, 2022 FOIA request, our IT department conducted searches for the public documents/emails associated with items #1, #3, and #4 of your request in order to fully determine the scope of work:

Item # 1

all:("book" OR "books")

AND

all:("challenge" OR "review" OR "97" OR "Deckard")

AND

Dates Nov 1-15

Search result: 20,922 emails

Item #3

all:("book" OR "books" OR "library")

AND

all:("challenge" OR "review")

AND

Dates August 15 - Nov15

Search result: 119,316 emails

Item #4

all:("IS-38.1" OR "PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING QUESTIONED OR CHALLENGED SCHOOL LIBRARY MATERIALS")

AND

Date June 1 - Nov 15

Search result: 315 emails

These searches have returned a total of 140,553 emails. In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. 30-4-30(B), the BCSD estimates search, retrieval, and redaction, if necessary, of documents to respond to your request will require 1,405 hours, for an estimated cost of \$63,193 plus 6 cents per copy for a total cost of \$71,626. Costs may increase or decrease. A 25% deposit of the total reasonably anticipated cost is required before work will begin on your request. Please make all checks out to the Beaufort County School District and send to my attention. As your request is extremely broad, in order to lower the cost you may wish to consider narrowing your request to be more specific to include information about each record sought, such as the date, title or name, author, recipients, and subject matter of the records and resubmit your request. Please indicate the specific terms you wish for us to search as part of your request.

Kind regards,

Candace

Candace Bruder, Ed.D.
Communications Officer
Beaufort County School District
843-322-2432 (office)
843-941-9178 (cell)
candace.bruder@beaufort.k12.sc.us



From: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L
Sent: Tuesday, November 29, 2022 4:35 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Cartledge, Wendy B <Wendy.Cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Rowland, Gillian C <Gillian.Rowland@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Subject: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request

Good afternoon, Ms. Deckard:

The district is in receipt of your November 15, 2022 FOIA request, which was hand-delivered to the District. For future reference, the District has an online form for submitting FOIA requests which can be found here: <https://www.beaufortschools.net/about-us/public-infofoia-request/foiafoia-requests/foia-online-request-form>. The online form process assists with tracking when requests are submitted and received by the District. As a professional courtesy, we are conducting searches for the public documents/emails associated with items #1, #3, and #4 of your request in order to fully determine the scope of work and will respond within the time allotted by South Carolina law pursuant to S.C. Code Section 30-4-30 (C).

Below are the Board of Education meeting agendas for the dates as requested in item #2:

- Oct. 18: <https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1666039030/beaufortk12scus/wipexshudclezyajw5c7/October182022BOEAgendaFinal.pdf>
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Responsive to item #5 of your request for the "written criteria for the review of the 97 challenged books" is Regulation 38.1 Procedures for Handling Questioned or Challenged School Library Materials: <https://boardpolicyonline.com/?b=beaufort&s=1303535>.

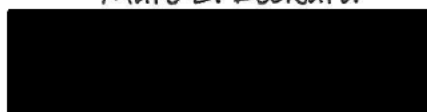
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Mare B. Deckard



COPY

Emailed December 29, 2022

TO: Candace Bruder - Beaufort County School District
RE: RE - **Freedom of Information Request**

Pursuant to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act 30-40-10 et. seq., please provide the following:

1. Any/all emails, either to/from/between, any BCSD employee, and/or Board Member, as it pertains to [my] written challenge/appeal of the 97 Book Removal submitted to the District November 1, 2022;
2. Copies of the Agendas for the October 18, 26 and November 1, 2022 Executive Sessions;
3. Copies of all emails to/from/between the following individuals, and/or groups, as it pertains to the subject of challenged school library materials, from August 15, 2022 – today:

Any/all School Board Members, Dr. Frank Rodriguez, any BCSD employee(s), Elisabeth Ivey Szalai, Joseph Castignino, and any member of any group, including, but not limited to, "Moms for Liberty";

4. Any/all documents and/or emails, to/from/between Dr. Frank Rodriguez, and/or any BCSD employee(s), and/or any School Board Member, as it pertains to any changes or proposed changes to the BCSD policy and procedure below, from June 1, 2022 – today:

Procedures for Handling Questioned or Challenged School Library Materials,

5. Copy of the written criteria for the review of the 97 challenged books;
6. Copy of the projected cost of reviewing these 97 challenged books.

Sincerely,

cc: Josh Malkin, ACLU

From: Mare Deckard [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 9, 2023 3:19 PM
To: Candace L. Bruder-Brasseur
Cc: Wendy B. Cartledge; Gillian C. Rowland; taylor@harrisonfirm.com; jmalkin@aclusc.org
Subject: Fw: Bruder reply to November 15 2022 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request
Attachments: BCSD - Reply to Bruder email of December 28 2022.pdf

WARNING: This email originated from outside of Beaufort County School District's email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Ms. Bruder,

I haven't yet received a reply to my email of December 29, 2022, thank you. Mare Deckard

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Mare Deckard [REDACTED]
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <candace.bruder-brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Cc: Cartledge, Wendy B <wendy.cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Rowland, Gillian C <gillian.rowland@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; taylor@harrisonfirm.com <taylor@harrisonfirm.com>; jmalkin@aclusc.org <jmalkin@aclusc.org>
Sent: Thursday, December 29, 2022 at 09:57:27 AM EST
Subject: Re: Bruder reply to November 15 2022 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request

Dear Ms. Bruder,

Please see my reply to your email from yesterday, attached, and please confirm receipt. Thank you,
Mare Deckard

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Responsive to item #5 of your request for the "written criteria for the review of the 97 challenged books" is Regulation 38.1 Procedures for Handling Questioned or Challenged School Library Materials: <https://boardpolicyonline.com/?b=beaufort&s=1303535>.

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Kind regards,
Candace



Candace Bruder, Ed.D.
Director of Communications
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843-941-9178 (cell)
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Mare B. Deckard



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4. Any/all documents and/or emails, to/from/between Dr. Frank Rodriguez, and/or any BCSD employee(s), and/or any School Board Member, as it pertains to any changes or proposed changes to the BCSD policy and procedure below, from June 1, 2022 – today:

Procedures for Handling Questioned or Challenged School Library Materials,

5. Copy of the written criteria for the review of the 97 challenged books;
6. Copy of the projected cost of reviewing these 97 challenged books.

Sincerely,

cc: Josh Malkin, ACLU

From: Mare Deckard [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 29, 2022 9:57 AM
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L
Cc: Cartledge, Wendy B; Rowland, Gillian C; taylor@harrisonfirm.com; jmalkin@aclusc.org
Subject: Re: Bruder reply to November 15 2022 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request
Attachments: BCSD - Reply to Bruder email ofDecember 28 2022.pdf

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Dear Ms. Bruder,

Please see my reply to your email from yesterday, attached, and please confirm receipt. Thank you,
Mare Deckard

From: Mare Deckard [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 30, 2022 2:30 PM
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L
Cc: Cartledge, Wendy B; Rowland, Gillian C; jmalkin@aclusc.org
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request

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Dear Ms. Bruder,

I am in receipt of this partial fulfillment of my request. However, kindly provide a copy of Regulation 38.1 *"Procedures for Handling Questioned or Challenged School Library Materials"* that was in effect **October 19, 2022**, the date the 97 challenged books were removed.

Also, pursuant to Section 30-4-30, upon fulfillment of this FOIA I wish to inspect the records at the District's office, to determine which ones I would like copied. Please inform me of the date and time, and where this inspection will take place.

Thank you, Mare Deckard

On Tuesday, November 29, 2022 at 04:35:26 PM EST, Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <candace.bruder-brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us> wrote:

Good afternoon, Ms. Deckard:

The district is in receipt of your [November 15, 2022 FOIA request](#), which was hand-delivered to the District. For future reference, the District has an online form for submitting FOIA requests which can be found here: <https://www.beaufortschools.net/about-us/public-infofoia-request/foiafoia-requests/foia-online-request-form>. The online form process assists with tracking when requests are submitted and received by the District. As a professional courtesy, we are conducting searches for the public documents/emails associated with items #1, #3, and #4 of your request in order to fully determine the scope of work and will respond within the time allotted by South Carolina law pursuant to S.C. Code Section 30-4-30 (C).

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Responsive to item #5 of your request for the “written criteria for the review of the 97 challenged books” is Regulation 38.1 Procedures for Handling Questioned or Challenged School Library Materials:
<https://boardpolicyonline.com/?b=beaufort&s=1303535>.

Additionally, the District does not have any documents that are responsive to item #6 in your request, which requests a “[c]opy of the projected cost of reviewing these 97 challenged books.”

Kind regards,

Candace

Candace Bruder, Ed.D.

Director of Communications

Beaufort County School District

843-322-2432 (office)

843-941-9178 (cell)

candace.bruder@beaufort.k12.sc.us

From: Mare Deckard [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2022 4:40 PM
To: candace.bruder-brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us
Cc: wendy.cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us; gillian.rowland@beaufort.k12.sc.us;
jmalkin@aclusc.org
Subject: (Still unfulfilled) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request

Dear Ms. Bruder:

Please see my reply to you from yesterday, regarding the lone document the District provided in response to my FOIA, below. To reiterate, I asked for:

Copies of each and every "Reconsideration Form" submitted by Elisabeth Ivey Szalai, and/or Joe Castignino, and/or any other individual, as it pertains to the 97 books removed by the district in toto, from October 1 - November 1, 2022.

The District only supplied Szalai's "*Reconsideration Form*". However, her singular form was in relation to a list of 96 books. I asked for a copy of the form relative to the list of 97 books.

Notwithstanding that the newspaper has already published the identity of the author as one Michael Covert, there still remains this outstanding request for a copy of any

"Reconsideration Form" or form(s) that accompanied Covert's list.

Given this list was the one accepted by the District, upon which commenced the removal of the 97 books, please provide a certified and notarized statement, on District letterhead, that the District either did not require, receive, nor have in its possession, any such accompanying form.

Thank you and please confirm receipt. Mare Deckard

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From: Mare Deckard [REDACTED]
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <candace.bruder-brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Cc: Cartledge, Wendy B <wendy.cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Rowland, Gillian C <gillian.rowland@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Sent: Monday, November 21, 2022 at 03:27:19 PM EST
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

Thank you; however, my FOIA request is not completed. Kindly supply the form, per my request, below. There is only one attached, for Szalai (whose list was for 96 books):

....or any other individual, as it pertains to the 97 books removed by the district in toto, from October 1 - November 1, 2022.

Thank you. Mare Deckard

On Monday, November 21, 2022 at 02:38:43 PM EST, Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <candace.bruder-brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us> wrote:

Good afternoon, Ms. Deckard:

Please see the attached document responsive to your Nov. 7, 2022 FOIA request.

Kind regards,
Candace

From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Monday, November 7, 2022 8:54 AM
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <Candace.Bruder-Brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Cartledge, Wendy B <Wendy.Cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Rowland, Gillian C <Gillian.Rowland@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
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Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

Name: Mare Deckard

Address:



Work Phone Number:



E-mail Address:



Public Records Requested (Description of Documents or Information Requested):

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Please confirm receipt of this request.

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

From: Mare Deckard [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2022 4:40 PM
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Dear Ms. Bruder:

Please see my reply to you from yesterday, regarding the lone document the District provided in response to my FOIA, below. To reiterate, I asked for:

Copies of each and every "Reconsideration Form" submitted by Elisabeth Ivey Szalai, and/or Joe Castignino, and/or any other individual, as it pertains to the 97 books removed by the district in toto, from October 1 - November 1, 2022.

The District only supplied Szalai's "*Reconsideration Form*". However, her singular form was in relation to a list of 96 books. I asked for a copy of the form relative to the list of 97 books. Notwithstanding that the newspaper has already published the identity of the author as one Michael Covert, there still remains this outstanding request for a copy of any **"Reconsideration Form"** or form(s) that accompanied Covert's list.

Given this list was the one accepted by the District, upon which commenced the removal of the 97 books, please provide a certified and notarized statement, on District letterhead, that the District either did not require, receive, nor have in its possession, any such accompanying form.

Thank you and please confirm receipt. Mare Deckard

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Mare Deckard [REDACTED]
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <candace.bruder-brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Cc: Cartledge, Wendy B <wendy.cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Rowland, Gillian C <gillian.rowland@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Sent: Monday, November 21, 2022 at 03:27:19 PM EST
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

Thank you; however, my FOIA request is not completed. Kindly supply the form, per my request, below. There is only one attached, for Szalai (whose list was for 96 books):

....or any other individual, as it pertains to the 97 books removed by the district in toto, from October 1 - November 1, 2022.

Thank you. Mare Deckard

On Monday, November 21, 2022 at 02:38:43 PM EST, Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <candace.bruder-brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us> wrote:

Good afternoon, Ms. Deckard:

Please see the attached document responsive to your Nov. 7, 2022 FOIA request.

Kind regards,
Candace

From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Monday, November 7, 2022 8:54 AM
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <Candace.Bruder-Brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Cartledge, Wendy B <Wendy.Cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Rowland, Gillian C <Gillian.Rowland@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

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Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

Name: Mare Deckard

Address:



Work Phone Number:



E-mail Address:



Public Records Requested (Description of Documents or Information Requested):

Please provide the following:

1. Copies of each and every "Reconsideration Form" submitted by Elisabeth Ivey Szalai, and/or Joe Castignino, and/or any other individual, as it pertains to the 97 books removed by the district in toto, from October 1 - November 1, 2022.

Please confirm receipt of this request.

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

From: Mare Deckard [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 10:53 AM
To: Gwozdz, Christina S; Robine, Cathy G; Campbell, Earl; Smith, William C; Fidrych, Patricia; Geier, Richard P; Wisnefski, Rachel K; Campbell, Melvin P; Boatright, Ingrid D; Middleton, Angela D; Cushingberry, Robyn L; Mercado, Amelia B; Walton, Alice W; Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L
Cc: jmalkin@aclusc.org
Subject: Re: FOIA Request - November 18, 2022

Thank you for your reply; I just submitted it as instructed. Please confirm receipt. Mare Deckard

On Friday, November 18, 2022 at 10:22:09 AM EST, Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <candace.bruder-brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us> wrote:

Good morning,

Please submit any FOIA request(s) through the district website as to be logged accordingly in our system:
<https://www.beaufortschools.net/about-us/public-infofoia-request/foiafoia-requests/foia-online-request-form>.

With much gratitude,
Candace

Candace Bruder, Ed.D.

Director of Communications

Beaufort County School District

843-322-2432 (office)

843-941-9178 (cell)

candace.bruder@beaufort.k12.sc.us



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Subject: FOIA Request - November 18, 2022

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To: Gwozdz, Christina S <Christina.Gwozdz@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Robine, Cathy G <Cathy.Robine@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Campbell, Earl <earl.campbell@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Smith, William C <William.Smith2@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Fidrych, Patricia <Patricia.Fidrych@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Geier, Richard P <Richard.Geier@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Wisniewski, Rachel K <Rachel.Wisniewski@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Campbell, Melvin P <Melvin.Campbell@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Boatright, Ingrid D <Ingrid.Boatright@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Middleton, Angela D <Angela.Middleton@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Cushingberry, Robyn L <Robyn.Cushingberry@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Mercado, Amelia B <Amelia.Mercado@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <Candace.Bruder-Brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Walton, Alice W <Alice.Walton@beaufort.k12.sc.us>

Cc: jmalkin@aclusc.org

Subject: FOIA Request - November 18, 2022

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Thank you for your reply; I just submitted it as instructed. Please confirm receipt. Mare Deckard

On Friday, November 18, 2022 at 10:22:09 AM EST, Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <candace.bruder-brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us> wrote:

Good morning,

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With much gratitude,
Candace

Candace Bruder, Ed.D.

Director of Communications

Beaufort County School District

843-322-2432 (office)

843-941-9178 (cell)

candace.bruder@beaufort.k12.sc.us



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Mare B. Deckard

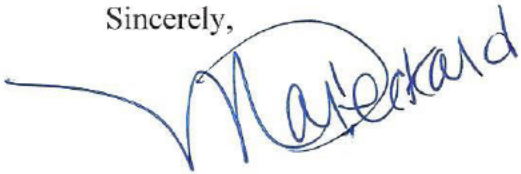
Emailed November 18, 2022

TO: Beaufort County School District
RE: **Freedom of Information Request**

Pursuant to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act 30-40-10 et. seq., please provide the following:

1. Copy(s) of Dr. Frank Rodriguez's calendar, from November 1, 2021 – today;
2. Copies of all Dr. Frank Rodriguez's speeches and/or presentations, from November 1, 2021 today;
3. Copy of any/all requests to remove books, from September 1, 2022 - today, to include any that lists the book "*Stamped*", along with a completed "**Request For Reconsideration Of School Library Materials Form(s)**".

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mare B. Deckard", with a large, stylized initial "M" and a horizontal line extending to the left.

cc: Josh Malkin, ACLU

From: Mare Deckard [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 10:17 AM
To: Christina.Gwozdz@beaufort.k12.sc.us; Cathy.Robine@beaufort.k12.sc.us;
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candace.bruder-brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us; alice.walton@beaufort.k12.sc.us
Cc: jmalkin@aclusc.org
Subject: FOIA Request - November 18, 2022
Attachments: FOIA November 18 2022 - BCSD.pdf

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From: Wisniewski, Rachel K <Rachel.Wisniewski@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Sent: Tuesday, November 8, 2022 11:47 AM
To: Gwozdz, Christina S; Emily Mayer; Robine, Cathy G; Middleton, Angela D; Campbell, Earl; Smith, William C; Fidrych, Patricia; Geier, Richard P; Campbell, Melvin P; Boatright, Ingrid D
Cc: Josh Malkin
Subject: Re: Book removal follow up

Thank you for your email. It is my understanding that the Administrative Regulation permits discretion to the district/superintendent to call for a review. To my knowledge, there has been no formal Board action regarding the review.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Gwozdz, Christina S <Christina.Gwozdz@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Sent: Monday, November 7, 2022 2:34:45 PM
To: Emily Mayer [REDACTED] Robine, Cathy G <Cathy.Robine@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Middleton, Angela D <Angela.Middleton@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Campbell, Earl <earl.campbell@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Smith, William C <William.Smith2@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Fidrych, Patricia <Patricia.Fidrych@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Geier, Richard P <Richard.Geier@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Wisniewski, Rachel K <Rachel.Wisniewski@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Campbell, Melvin P <Melvin.Campbell@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Boatright, Ingrid D <Ingrid.Boatright@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Cc: Josh Malkin <jmalkin@aclusc.org>
Subject: Re: Book removal follow up

Ms. Mayer,

Thank you for your email. If you live in district 9, I am happy to respond as your representative. If not, please direct your email/inquiry to the appropriate Board member who represents you.

Kind regards,

Christina Gwozdz, M.D.
Chair, Beaufort Co. Board of Education
District 9 Representative
Bluffton/Pritchardville/Daufuskie Island
C. 843-636-8555

From: Emily Mayer [REDACTED]
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Good afternoon,

First and foremost, I want to take you for your time last week and the attention you gave to hear from each speaker in regards to our concerns about the books that were removed from the shelves. I was impressed by the conversation you had after hearing from Dr. Stratos and the impact you have realized this decision to remove books has had on the district.

I am following up because I am still concerned and would like some clarification about where we go from here. If no formal complaint was filed, as Dr. Stratos repeatedly mentioned during her presentation, then where are we in this process? Why would we need to have a review committee for books without the formal policy and procedure being followed? Furthermore, the longer this process takes, the longer these books are off the shelves for our students to access.

I am requesting that you consider replacing the books on the shelves until 1) a formal complaint for each is received or 2) the committees are able to meet and make a decision regarding them. I am concerned that the absence of these books are sending a clear message that the process doesn't matter, that our students don't deserve access to these books, and that the board can make a blanket decision without the committee recommendations.

I have cc-ed the ACLU representative who came to Tuesday's meeting in hopes that you all can clarify for both of us what the status of these 97 books are.

Respectfully,
Emily Mayer

From: Gwozdz, Christina S <Christina.Gwozdz@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Sent: Monday, November 7, 2022 2:35 PM
To: Emily Mayer; Robine, Cathy G; Middleton, Angela D; Campbell, Earl; Smith, William C; Fidrych, Patricia; Geier, Richard P; Wisnefski, Rachel K; Campbell, Melvin P; Boatright, Ingrid D
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I am following up because I am still concerned and would like some clarification about where we go from here. If no formal complaint was filed, as Dr. Stratos repeatedly mentioned during her presentation, then where are we in this process? Why would we need to have a review committee for books without the formal policy and procedure being followed? Furthermore, the longer this process takes, the longer these books are off the shelves for our students to access.

I am requesting that you consider replacing the books on the shelves until 1) a formal complaint for each is received or 2) the committees are able to meet and make a decision regarding them. I am concerned that the absence of these books are sending a clear message that the process doesn't matter, that our students don't deserve access to these

books, and that the board can make a blanket decision without the committee recommendations.

I have cc-ed the ACLU representative who came to Tuesday's meeting in hopes that you all can clarify for both of us what the status of these 97 books are.

Respectfully,
Emily Mayer

From: Emily Mayer [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 7, 2022 2:05 PM
To: Christina.Gwozdz@beaufort.k12.sc.us; Cathy.Robine@beaufort.k12.sc.us; Angela.Middleton@beaufort.k12.sc.us; earl.campbell@beaufort.k12.sc.us; William.Smith2@beaufort.k12.sc.us; Patricia.Fidrych@beaufort.k12.sc.us; Richard.Geier@beaufort.k12.sc.us; Rachel.Wisnefski@beaufort.k12.sc.us; Melvin.Campbell@beaufort.k12.sc.us; Ingrid.Boatright@beaufort.k12.sc.us
Cc: Josh Malkin
Subject: Book removal follow up

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