

BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Tally of Official Vote by Committee

Committee Number: 3

Date: 12/1/2022

Name of Novel: Speak by Anderson, Laurie Halse

All ballots are confidential and anonymous. Based on the rubric rating and evidence presented.

Official Tally of Votes	
<u>///</u>	Challenged material should be returned to school library circulation.
<u>1</u>	Challenged material returned to school library circulation, only for certain age groups, content areas, or grade levels. Tally of votes per grade level: <u>      </u> K-5 <u>  1  </u> 6-8 <u>  1  </u> 9-12
<u>1</u>	Remove the challenged material in its entirety



Attachment 3

BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
RECONSIDERATION COMMITTEE CHECKLIST

Committee Number: 3

Date 11/17/22

Name of Novel Speak by Anderson, Laurie Halse

Directions: After reading the selected novel, review the material using the below criteria. Note upon review of the book the following Beaufort County School District Non Discrimination will be taken into consideration:

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EDUCATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE	Check all that apply
The novel supports the BCSD's mission, vision, and goals.	no
The novel directly supports the acquisition of related standards. (Educational Significance)	no
The novel contributes to improved academic achievement for a variety of learners and learning styles.	no
The novel promotes the integration of higher-level thinking skills.	no
The novel reflects the needs/interests of the school and the culture of the school community.	no
The novel/material adds value to the library/school collection	no
The novel reflects a clear, adequate, and broad presentation of the content.	no
Evidence from the text or standards relating to EDUCATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE:	
<u>Author portrays school boards being bad. So, 62</u>	

There is no room for discussion of rape openly in an ELA class without approval & consent.  
This book does nothing for an ELA class.



QUALITY, CONTENT, MANNER OF PRESENTATION	Check all that apply
The novel is to be engaging and able to meet a variety of student needs. Meet high standards of quality in factual content and presentation to include, but not limited to: i. No errors, validity, accuracy; ii. Objectivity; iii. Well written; and iv. Strong visual appeal.	NO
Ensure reputation and significance of author and producer.	
The novel/material contains a value/currency commensurate with cost.	NO
The novel/material has high artistic quality, and/or literary style.	Aug, NO
The novel/material avoids bias and adheres to standards of sensitivity relative to student race, sex, religion, culture, ethnicity, disability, and socioeconomic status.	see below
Ensure that the novel/material contains clarity adequacy, and scope of text.	
The presentation of contents is organized in a manner that provides clarity and ease to the reader.	✓
The novel/material ensures a high degree of readability and/or comprehensibility.	✓
Evidence from the text relating to QUALITY: for 18+ Readers	

Author does not write in the language of a 13 yr. old.  
~~For 18+ Readers~~ p. 83 Tubercular gray?

does not avoid bias - against white athletic males



*Discussion Document - not in CA*

AVOIDANCE OF PERVASIVE VULGARITY	Check all that apply
When considered as a whole, the novel does not appeal to sexual interest in a shameful way.	✓
The novel does not depict or describe sexual conduct in a clearly offensive way.	NO <i>Language is offensive</i>
The novel abides by prevailing standards in the adult community in regard to suitable material for minors.	NO
The novel is free from graphic depictions of sexual activity.	NO
Evidence from the text relating to PERVASIVE VULGARITY: <i>repeated depictions = portrayal of words</i>	

APPROPRIATENESS	K-5	6-8	9-12
The novel is appropriate to the age and grade level of students.	<del>_____</del>	<del>_____</del>	<del>_____</del> JFC
The novel is appropriate to the maturity level of students.	<del>_____</del>	<del>_____</del>	<del>_____</del> JFC
The novel is appropriate to the content area.	<del>_____</del>	<del>_____</del>	<del>_____</del> JFC
The novel/material reflects the contemporary community standards.	<del>_____</del>	<del>_____</del>	<del>_____</del> JFC
Evidence from the text relating to APPROPRIATENESS: <i>The inside behavior refers to sexual assault survivor courses. Novel does not possess educational suitability for anyone under 18.</i>			

*This is a women's studies book  
SC Superintendent Spearman in a Nov. 2021  
Memorandum warned districts not to rely on  
a publisher's rating system.*



Elect

(1) Moderator -

(2) Recorder + tally vote



AVOIDANCE OF PERVASIVE VULGARITY	Check all that apply
When considered as a whole, the novel does not appeal to sexual interest in a shameful way.	
The novel does not depict or describe sexual conduct in a clearly offensive way.	
The novel abides by prevailing standards in the adult community in regard to suitable material for minors.	
The novel is free from graphic depictions of sexual activity.	
Evidence from the text relating to PERVASIVE VULGARITY:	

APPROPRIATENESS	K-5	6-8	9-12
The novel is appropriate to the age and grade level of students.			
The novel is appropriate to the maturity level of students.			
The novel is appropriate to the content area.			
The novel/material reflects the contemporary community standards.			
Evidence from the text relating to APPROPRIATENESS:			



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BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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Committee Number: 3

Date 11/17/22

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EDUCATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE	Check all that apply
The novel supports the BCSD's mission, vision, and goals.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The novel directly supports the acquisition of related standards. (Educational Significance)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The novel contributes to improved academic achievement for a variety of learners and learning styles.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The novel promotes the integration of higher-level thinking skills.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The novel reflects the needs/interests of the school and the culture of the school community.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The novel/material adds value to the library/school collection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The novel reflects a clear, adequate, and broad presentation of the content.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Evidence from the text or standards relating to EDUCATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE:	

*Mood, Tone, sentence structure, character change, societal + social issues, and the experiences of a 9th grader.*



QUALITY, CONTENT, MANNER OF PRESENTATION	Check all that apply
The novel is to be engaging and able to meet a variety of student needs. Meet high standards of quality in factual content and presentation to include, but not limited to: i. No errors, validity, accuracy; ii. Objectivity; iii. Well written; and ✱ iv. Strong visual appeal.	✓
Ensure reputation and significance of author and producer.	✓
The novel/material contains a value/currency commensurate with cost.	✓
The novel/material has high artistic quality, and/or literary style.	✓
The novel/material avoids bias and adheres to standards of sensitivity relative to student race, sex, religion, culture, ethnicity, disability, and socioeconomic status.	✓
Ensure that the novel/material contains clarity adequacy, and scope of test.	✓
The presentation of contents is organized in a manner that provides clarity and ease to the reader.	✓
The novel/material ensures a high degree of readability and/or comprehensibility.	✓
Evidence from the text relating to QUALITY: The author writes from the mindset of a 14 year old beautifully. I love all the characters and the way this novel will appeal to multiple readers of all backgrounds. There is so much depth to the writing that would lead to wonderful classroom discussions and truly help students connect to this novel.	



AVOIDANCE OF PERVASIVE VULGARITY	Check all that apply
When considered as a whole, the novel does not appeal to sexual interest in a shameful way.	✓
The novel does not depict or describe sexual conduct in a clearly offensive way.	✓
The novel abides by prevailing standards in the adult community in regard to suitable material for minors.	✓
The novel is free from graphic depictions of sexual activity.	✓

Evidence from the text relating to PERVASIVE VULGARITY:

The novel did not go in to any extensive details of the rape. Those scenes were handled in a mature way that left room for inference by the reader

APPROPRIATENESS	K-5	6-8	9-12
The novel is appropriate to the age and grade level of students.		✓	✓
The novel is appropriate to the maturity level of students.		✓	✓
The novel is appropriate to the content area.		✓	✓
The novel/material reflects the contemporary community standards.		✓	✓

Evidence from the text relating to APPROPRIATENESS:

I feel these are issues all high schoolers talk about and deal with. The novel will help all our students to be prepared. I also feel that the book is suitable for middle schoolers. The hard topics are dealt with so delicately and lead to great discussion with students.



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EDUCATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE	Check all that apply
The novel supports the BCSD's mission, vision, and goals.	✓
The novel directly supports the acquisition of related standards. (Educational Significance)	✓
The novel contributes to improved academic achievement for a variety of learners and learning styles.	✓
The novel promotes the integration of higher-level thinking skills.	✓
The novel reflects the needs/interests of the school and the culture of the school community.	✓
The novel/material adds value to the library/school collection	
The novel reflects a clear, adequate, and broad presentation of the content.	

Evidence from the text or standards relating to EDUCATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE:  
*Theme - tree Middle school literary standard  
ELA standards*  
*Metaphors - a bull chasing thirty three red flag*  
*Similes - it looks like I arm wrestled*  
*Comparisons - it tastes like metal*



QUALITY, CONTENT, MANNER OF PRESENTATION	Check all that apply
The novel is to be engaging and able to meet a variety of student needs. Meet high standards of quality in factual content and presentation to include, but not limited to: i. No errors, validity, accuracy; ii. Objectivity; iii. Well written; and iv. Strong visual appeal.	✓
Ensure reputation and significance of author and producer.	✓
The novel/material contains a value/currency commensurate with cost.	✓
The novel/material has high artistic quality, and/or literary style.	✓
The novel/material avoids bias and adheres to standards of sensitivity relative to student race, sex, religion, culture, ethnicity, disability, and socioeconomic status.	✓
Ensure that the novel/material contains clarity adequacy, and scope of test.	✓
The presentation of contents is organized in a manner that provides clarity and ease to the reader.	✓
The novel/material ensures a high degree of readability and/or comprehensibility.	✓
<p>Evidence from the text relating to QUALITY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Finalist for National Book Award</li> <li>- Realistic to a high school experience</li> <li>- Realistic to mental health of a victim</li> <li>- Encourages empathy for classmates</li> </ul>	



AVOIDANCE OF PERVASIVE VULGARITY	Check all that apply
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The novel does not depict or describe sexual conduct in a clearly offensive way.	✓
The novel abides by prevailing standards in the adult community in regard to suitable material for minors.	✓
The novel is free from graphic depictions of sexual activity.	✓

Evidence from the text relating to PERVASIVE VULGARITY:

*The descriptions of sexual activity are not in any way vulgar, but accurate from the perspective of a teenager/student*

APPROPRIATENESS	K-5	6-8	9-12
The novel is appropriate to the age and grade level of students.		X	X
The novel is appropriate to the maturity level of students.		X	X
The novel is appropriate to the content area.		X	X
The novel/material reflects the contemporary community standards.		X	X

Evidence from the text relating to APPROPRIATENESS:



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The novel contributes to improved academic achievement for a variety of learners and learning styles.	
The novel promotes the integration of higher-level thinking skills.	✓
The novel reflects the needs/interests of the school and the culture of the school community.	✓
The novel/material adds value to the library/school collection	✓
The novel reflects a clear, adequate, and broad presentation of the content.	✓

Evidence from the text or standards relating to EDUCATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE:  
*The novel is centered around high school culture. An outcast is afraid to speak out against an evil act that happens but gets the courage to do so. This could educate someone on the evil act that happened to them*



QUALITY, CONTENT, MANNER OF PRESENTATION	Check all that apply
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Ensure reputation and significance of author and producer.	✓
The novel/material contains a value/currency commensurate with cost.	✓
The novel/material has high artistic quality, and/or literary style.	✓
The novel/material avoids bias and adheres to standards of sensitivity relative to student race, sex, religion, culture, ethnicity, disability, and socioeconomic status.	✓
Ensure that the novel/material contains clarity adequacy, and scope of test.	✓
The presentation of contents is organized in a manner that provides clarity and ease to the reader.	✓
The novel/material ensures a high degree of readability and/or comprehensibility.	✓
Evidence from the text relating to QUALITY: Written in an easy paragraphed layout w/ subheadings. Divided based on marking period	



AVOIDANCE OF PERVASIVE VULGARITY	Check all that apply
When <u>considered as a whole</u> , the novel does not appeal to sexual interest in a shameful way.	✓
The novel does not depict or describe sexual conduct in a <u>clearly offensive</u> way.	✓
The novel abides by prevailing standards in the adult community in regard to <u>suitable material for minors</u> .	✓
The novel is free from graphic depictions of sexual activity.	✓
Evidence from the text relating to PERVASIVE VULGARITY: There is a short half page on the "rape". It is not graphic. "he hurts me"	

APPROPRIATENESS	K-5	6-8	9-12
The novel is appropriate to the age and grade level of students.		✓	✓
The novel is appropriate to the maturity level of students.			✓
The novel is appropriate to the content area.			✓
The novel/material reflects the contemporary community standards.			✓
Evidence from the text relating to APPROPRIATENESS: NOT suitable for K-5 (talk on alcohol, dating, family issues) 6-12 suitable but most suitable for 9-12 as the book is set in high school. I think students would find it very relatable			



BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Official Vote by Committee

Committee Number: 3

Date: 12/1/2022

Name of Novel: Speak

All ballots are confidential and anonymous. Based on the rubric rating and evidence presented.

- Challenged material should be returned to school library circulation.
- Challenged material returned to school library circulation, only for certain age groups, content areas, or grade levels. Select:
  - K-5
  - 6-8
  - 9-12

Remove the challenged material in its entirety



BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Official Vote by Committee

Committee Number: 3

Date: 12/1/2022

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  - K-5
  - 6-8
  - 9-12
- Remove the challenged material in its entirety



BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Official Vote by Committee

Committee Number: 3

Date: Dec 1, 2022

Name of Novel: Speak

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- Challenged material should be returned to school library circulation.
- Challenged material returned to school library circulation, only for certain age groups, content areas, or grade levels. Select:
  - K-5
  - 6-8
  - 9-12
- Remove the challenged material in its entirety



BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Official Vote by Committee

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  - 6-8
  - 9-12
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