BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
RECONSIDERATION COMMITTEE CHECKLIST

Committee Number: 53 **Date** 5/11/23

Name of Novel Push by Sapphire

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:

Non-Discrimination. The BCSD affirms the right of all individuals to be treated with respect and to be protected from intimidation, discrimination, physical harm, and/or harassment. The BCSD is committed to nondiscrimination and equal opportunity for all students, parents/legal guardians, staff, visitors, applicants for admission and employment, personnel, and community members who participate or seek to participate in its educational programs or activities. Accordingly, the BCSD does not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, sex, pregnancy, childbirth, or any related medical conditions, color, physical or mental disability, age (40 or older), ancestry, genetic information, national origin, or any other applicable status protected by Title VI, Title VII, Title IX or any other local, state, or federal law.

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: There is value in teens knowing they are not alone as this really hits home for some. I think the book is significant, but I do not see its educational significance.	

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. Dialect	✓
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:

Novel includes bias towards race, ethnicity, and disability:"I didn't know crackers was addicts" (page 126)
"I cry for ugly baby, then I forget about ugly baby." (page 18)

Poetry
Different writing styles (i.e. narrative, journaling Prose).
Writing showed evolution of her writing style.
Readability was not easy.

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 book had clearly offensive sexual content:

"Daddy put his pee-pee smelling thing in my mouth, my pussy but never hold me" (page 18)
"This time I know mama know. Umm hmmm, she know. She bring him to me. I ain' crazy, that stinky hoe give me to him. Probably thas' what he require to fuck her, some of me." (page 24)
"Fat cunt bucket slut!" (page 19)
"I still got milk in my bresses but not for her but from Carl sucking. I give him tittie, Precious bottle." (page 135

Important for people to see themselves in books, BUT this level of vulgarity is NOT necessary to help kids.

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 would compare this book to an R rated movie, and due to that, I do believe that it exposes the harsh reality that some people live with, however, I do not think it is written appropriately for anyone under the age of 18. Do children under the age of 18 watch R rated movies, yes, and if they want to read this book I believe it should be their parents choice to get it from other avenues. I do not think that this book should be available to all students in the school library due to it vulgar content, language, and descriptive nature. I, as a Christian adult women had a hard time finishing the book due to the vulgarity. I fully understand that things like this happen in real life, but I do not believe that BCSD should expose to students to this level of mature text.

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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:	

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:

Push is written ~~first~~ using person narrative, journal entries, poetry

Written in the voice of main character

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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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:
This novel's main theme is that of learning ability and achieving a higher level of thinking and understanding. It reflects the interests of the culture of the community by giving readers a protagonist that they may identify with that they do not often see and they are provided a writing style (AAVE) which many students use but do not often see in literature.

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:

Regarding #5, the Point of the novel is to highlight bias and insensitivity relative to race, culture, ethnicity, socioeconomic status and arguably, disability, and to show why these biases may be formed, how they are often inaccurate, and how they are overcome. Numerous times throughout the novel, the protagonist makes statements similar to "This wouldn't be happening to me if I were white/pretty/thin/rich" and then the author puts her protagonist into situations where she realizes that her statements are false, that they are a product of bias and that people of many backgrounds face struggles similar to hers.

The novel is written in AAVE which is - and certainly was moreso - absent from much of literature despite being used widely and being valid linguistically when the novel was written

I would contend that no literature, certainly not good literature, can be completely objective. The reputation of the author goes without saying; the novel as well. The quality and style of this novel are high - refer to my second paragraph.

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: Of course, the inciting incident in this work is that the protagonist is pregnant with her second child as a result of rape by her father, but I wouldn't agree with the statement that this book has "graphic depictions of sexual activity". The novel makes it clear that rape is not sex and therefore, I would say that this work does not appeal to sexual interest nor does it describe sexual conduct in an offensive way. There are mentions of rape, and homosexual relationships that may be off putting to some but the novel makes it clear that these biases - against rape victims, HIV Patients and homosexuals - are biases that need to be overcome and "Posh"ed Past.	

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: While this novel is more appropriate for 9-12 students, some 8th grade students who read at higher levels, may get some benefit and find themselves challenged by this novel. I would say that this book is appropriate because young people do experience things that are addressed in this book, including teen pregnancy (More than 3000 in South Carolina in 2020), rape, discrimination based on race, weight, socioeconomic status, culture and educational level / ability. In the end, it is a good message that doesn't pander or dumb things down for younger readers that they can overcome these adversities, that all of those biases can be overcome, and that no person can be written off as beyond help.			

BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
RECONSIDERATION COMMITTEE CHECKLIST

Committee Number: 53 **Date** May 11, 2018

Name of Novel Push by Sapphire

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. WHAT is it?	
The novel directly supports the acquisition of related standards. (Educational Significance) WHAT Standards aligns WI this novel? Recreational	
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:	

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:	

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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Committee Number: 53 **Date** 5/11/2023

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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.	✓
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: Novel provides an unforgatable, raw perspective. Not clear if this would contribute to improved academic achievement given the readmentary nature of much of the writing. Poetry is good	

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 rudimentary nature of the writing makes the novel difficult to read at times. - Poetry is well done & B writing shows character evolution.	

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 ~~pervasive~~ pervasive references to sexual acts and course language do not meet community standards	

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: No			