BEAUFORT COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
RECONSIDERATION COMMITTEE CHECKLIST

Committee Number: 72 **Date** 9/13/2023

Name of Novel Leah on the Offbeat by Albertalli, Becky

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:

We need books ~~that read~~ in which they can see themselves.

EASY READ

INCLUSIVE

Relatable regardless of sexuality.

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. Kinda...	✓
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 main character could have been anyone. It was accesible and real.

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:

This book is mild - only kissing.

Some language

Kids have heard / seen worse on YouTube

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:

It's a coming-of-age story, perfect for teens and mild enough for middle schoolers. That said, if 6-8 media center specialists don't approve, I'm comfortable with that. But at least put this back in high schools.

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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:

diverse representation
acceptance
inclusivity

can be used to define/identify themes + central ideas
ELA target 2

English 7 / 6th 6 Reading Literary Text SC 5.1, 6.1, 8.1
analyze/identify characters, themes
summarize key details

11.1 "analyze + provide evidence how the POV + perspective shapes content"

"Windows + mirrors" students should have access to materials they can see themselves (in mirror) and learn about the lives of others and their experiences (windows) and/or

English 2 Inquiry Based 1.1 formulate questions based on interests and/or needs

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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.	✓
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The novel/material ensures a high degree of readability and/or comprehensibility.	✓

Evidence from the text relating to QUALITY:

Humor

★ Relatable + powerful messages

★ Relatable "Average" main character

True to Yourself (169)

characters who mess up GENUINELY apologize (118) (286)

★ stand up for yourself + others

P 75-77 standing up for Abby

Embracing/Accepting change (97)

★ Chooses not to drink with her underage peers

"I've never understood the appeal of drinking... Simon described it to me once. He said drinking let you do and say things without filtering or overthinking. But I don't get how that's a good thing"

★ Body Inclusivity/positivity (14)

"fat girl who doesn't diet. I love my body"

"crushes" tend to be based on personality + talents + not just appearance

positive role model

★ Good parent/child/teen relationship → mom calls her out, with compassion, about how she treats herself + others

"You know, you'd never talk to one of your friends the way you talk to me." (164)

"You've got to stop doing this... Burning everything to the ground whenever something goes wrong... I want you to let things be imperfect... Embrace the Suck. Let your guts hang out a little" (128)

- Leah does learn to embrace imperfect (336)

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:

MINIMAL sexual references/activity 2 kisses + some hand holding

|| liquids in bathroom "(86)

|| Katie rejecting Daniel "(111)

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:

"F" word used quite frequently, not suitable for k-5

Overall positive messages + Themes

NO ~~minimal~~ sexual activity

minimal sexual reference

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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
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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:	

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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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The novel reflects a clear, adequate, and broad presentation of the content.	✓

Evidence from the text or standards relating to EDUCATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE:

This would be categorized as recreational reading with significance to teens that struggle w similar issues to the characters

QUALITY, CONTENT, MANNER OF PRESENTATION	Check all that apply
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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: Good Reads choice award winner for Best Young Adult Fiction - engaging + well-written for grade level.	

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 sexual conduct is limited to PG-13 levels	

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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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:

Text is representative of many groups (LGBTQ+, races, ethnicities, genders, HS activity groups and body types). Easy read -- encourage people who maybe don't enjoy reading will pick it up.

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: Material is written much like a typical high school student would write a essay/journal entry. Easy to understand.	

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 most descriptive the text gets is describing kissing.	

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: The novel is written from the perspective of a high school senior who is bi-sexual, but has not told any of her peers. There is a variety of different types of characters and the situations depicted are normal high school experiences - prom, sports, college selection, friendship drama, relationships. The language is likely less vulgar than what you here in a high school hallway or even upper middle school. (f-word/s-word) Book may be appropriate for upper middle school, perhaps not both.			