



## OLENTANGY SCHOOLS LITERATURE SELECTION REVIEW FORM

### LOCATION

**Building(s):** Hyatts Middle School

**Classes/Grade Level(s):** ELA 6

### ABOUT THE BOOK

**Selection Title/Author:** *Firegirl* by Tony Abbott

**Genre:** Realistic Fiction

**Lexile Reading Level:** 600L

**Total number of pages:** 160

<b>Book Summary</b> (abbreviated, bulleted list or link to a book summary)	<b>Potentially Objectionable Content</b> (list all categories and at least one example, referenced with a page or chapter number)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- "Firegirl" is a young adult novel that tells the story of a middle school boy named Tom who befriends a girl named Jessica who has been badly burned in a fire.</li><li>- The book explores themes of empathy, friendship, and the challenges of being different in a middle school setting.</li><li>- As Tom gets to know Jessica, he learns about her experiences and struggles, and the impact of her presence on his own life and the lives of those around him.</li></ul>	<p>Trauma- There are a couple scenes explaining the car fire that burned Jessica, on pages 98-99. Jessica's dad is explaining to Tom that Jessica was trapped in the burning car, after a truck rammed into the running car where Jessica waited while her mom was inside the store.</p> <p>Bullying- A few instances of bullying, for example on page #56, Jeff talks about why he refused to hold Jessica's hand in circle time, stating his mom is a nurse and told him that he could catch diseases from touching sick people. Jessica is burned, she does not have a disease. Jeff also refers to Jessica as "Firegirl," hence the title of the book.</p> <p>Trauma- A few instances of social isolation, including page 93 when Jessica tells Tom no one really touches her anymore (holds her hand, passes a pencil to her, etc.) because they are afraid of the way she looks. No one really talks to her either.</p>



**Book Reviews (2-3 links) Note: teacher is not responsible for broken links**

[From Common Sense Media:](#)

[From Goodreads](#)

## ABOUT THE CLASS

### Rationale for the Literature Selection (in addition to standards):

*Firegirl* offers opportunities for students to analyze the author's use of point of view, character development, and theme, aligning with reading comprehension and literary analysis standards. The themes and experiences in the book are relatable to many middle school students, making it engaging and relevant for classroom discussions. Overall, *Firegirl* provides a rich literary experience while also fostering important social and emotional learning opportunities for students.

### The Ohio Department of Education ELA Standards (list priority standards *only and* abbreviations of the main ideas of the priority standards) [Link to Ohio's ELA Standards](#)

- RL.6.3: Describe how a particular story's or drama's plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution.
- RL.6.6: Explain how an author develops the point of view of the narrator or speaker in a text.
- RL.6.9: Compare and contrast texts in different forms or genres in terms of their approaches to similar themes and topics.

## ALTERNATIVE TEXTS

### What alternative texts would allow students to meet the same objectives? (Title/author)

1. *Wonder* by Patricia Polacco
2. *Out of my Mind* by Sharon Draper

## SIGNATURES

Teacher: Amy M. Koons Date: 12/04/23  
Department Chair: [Signature] Date: 12/4/23  
Building Principal: [Signature] Date: 12-4-23  
District Curriculum Administrator: Justin Bowdage Date: 12-11-23